

# GREAT WAKERING PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes** of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2018, in the Parish Council Offices, Little Wakering Hall Lane, Great Wakering, SS3 0HH, commencing at 7.40 p.m.

Present: - Councillors L. Blunden, V. Brandon, D. Efde, M. Flynn, T. Goodwin, R. Green, N. Hookway, T. Hughes, R. Loding (Vice Chair), L. Rodger, M. Sawyer (Chair) and B. Wilkins.  
In attendance: - S. Hyatt (Parish Clerk)

1. **The Chairman to declare the meeting open.**  
Meeting declared open at 7.40pm.
2. **To receive apologies for absence.**  
County Councillor Steptoe prior apology for late arrival, Wheeler – prior appointment.
3. **To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct and with Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.**  
Declarations of interest received from Councillor Loding – allotment holder. Councillor Sawyer – Memorial Hall Secretary, Councillor Rodger – Friends of Wakering Common.
4. **To sign as a correct record the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018.**  
*Resolved* that the minutes be approved.
5. **Financial Matters.**
  - a. To approve Payment Schedules for January 2018. *Carried.*
  - b. To approve Receipt Schedules for January 2018. *Carried.*
  - c. To approve the Financial Statement for the 10 months to 31st January 2018. *Carried.*
6. **To receive the Chairman's report.**
  - Star Lane – newly installed barrier appears to be preventing fly-tipping.
  - Grant obtained to replace east allotment fencing where abuts Little Wakering Hall Lane.
  - Common consultation delayed due to lengthy wait for requested ECTU document. RDC claiming confidentiality clause causing delay. Friends of Wakering Common update.
  - Grounds maintenance contracts for 2018/19 awarded. Contract for churchyard undertaken as donation and goodwill gesture
  - Hopeful sports centre amenity collection to continue for 2018/19.
  - Parish Council arranged and paid for repairs to Parish Clock.
  - Streetlights – Parish Council replacement of two columns in Shoebury Road and Townfield Walk.
  - Public Toilet Committee update.

**7. To receive reports from the County Councillor and the District Councillors on County and District matters.**

District Councillor Efde:

- RDC Council Tax increase of 2.98%.
- Public meetings re library service.

District Councillor Hookway:

- Attended Review Committee Meeting, recommendations overturned at Full Council. Extraordinary and Full Council Meetings re setting of Budgets/Council Tax. Development Committee Meetings.
- Held public open day re RDC Issues and Options document – nine District Councillors attended. Follow up notices printed. Document previously mentioned but no information available re event at last Parish Council Meeting as organised quickly by District Councillors due to RDC deadline.

District Councillor Hughes:

- Positive feedback re Issues and Options public open day. Councillor Flynn thanked District Councillor Hughes for organising event.
- RDC voluntary sector grant – Great Waking Playscheme awarded money. Chairman deferred part of item 7 to allow the arrival of Councillor Steptoe.

**8. To approve and re-adopt Financial Regulations.**

*Resolved that the existing Financial Regulations be approved and re-adopted.*

**9. To receive correspondence from D Compton – Royal Mail Delivery Manager.**

Clerk had received correspondence re Royal Mail staff suffering abuse over the public toilets which the Delivery Manager requested be brought up at a Council Meeting to remind all present and more widely that this will not be tolerated and may result in criminal proceedings or suspension of mail to certain addresses.

**10. Councillor Green's proposal that all Parish Council meetings in future start at 7.00pm/7.30pm.**

Shift workers and personnel issues involved. No Full Council Meetings were held during the day. Proposal amended to Councillor Green proposes that all Full Council Meetings commence at 7.30pm and all Committee Meetings to commence at 7pm.

*Resolved that the proposal not be carried.*

**11. Councillor Rodger proposes that when a Councillor is proposing to carry out an activity which involves the Parishioners in this village that could reflect on GWPC, that they as a courtesy inform the Clerk/Full Council officially. This to apply, whether they are acting as GWPC/RDC or Parishioner.**

Councillor Rodger appreciated people had different strings as Essex County Councillor, District Councillor or Parishioner. Felt lack of communication re Open day, a courtesy to inform Clerk when organising an event so could inform Parish Councillors. District Councillors had spent time and money informing wider community of event. Felt courtesy to keep all informed but for individuals to decide what relevant, positive idea to improve communication.

Noted that Parish Council had no power over Parishioners, District or County Councillors as acting on behalf of their Councils.

Councillor Brandon called for named vote. For Councillor Rodger's proposal – Councillors Sawyer, Efde, Goodwin, Green, Brandon, Wilkins. Rodger. Against – Councillor Hookway, Abstentions – Councillors Loding, Flynn, Blunden and Hughes.

*Resolved* that Councillor Rodger's proposal be carried.

**12. At the Chairman's discretion the exchange of relevant Council information.**

Councillor Rodger – Red Lion development site, RDC treasure map.  
Councillor Wilkins – Requested Clerk write letter of thanks to Parishioner.  
Councillor Goodwin – 1972 LGA. Late Royal Mail delivery of pack. Requested written answer from Chair. Accusation of bringing Council into disrepute.  
Councillor Loding – accompanied Chair to RDC Issues and Options event.  
Thanked District Councillor Hughes for organising Wakering event. Resurfacing of Beach and Mariners Court underway. Thanked Clerk for acquiring funding for allotment fencing.

**7. (cont) To receive reports from the County Councillor and the District Councillors on County and District matters.**

- Introduction of 20mph speed limit Sandy Crescent.
- Fairglen consultation and 2050 organisation re A127.
- SEPP and Flood Forum meetings.
- Potholes and Highway Rangers.
- Provision to Clerk of signed ECTU agreement.

Parish Councillors raised Little Wakering Road resurfacing issues and Shoebury Road snow clearance.

**13. The meeting will stand adjourned to permit Parishioners of Great Wakering to address the Council only once in respect of business itemised on the agenda (3 minutes each at Chairman's discretion).**

C. Seagers – Councillor and Parishioner behaviour at Meeting.  
C. Wells – public toilets, footpath parking.

P. Hitchman – Issues and Options document. Noted this was the first stage in process.

B. Cross – pavement parking.

J. Whately – Common Consultation Committee meeting.

**14. Exclusion of the Press and Public.**

**To agree that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining business on the grounds that exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed.**

Councillor Brandon called a named vote. For exclusion – Councillors Sawyer, Efde, Loding, Hughes, Hookway, Blunden and Flynn. Against – Councillors Rodger, Goodwin, Brandon, Green and Wilkins.

*Resolved* that the public be excluded.

**15. To consider the Clerk's recommendation that the fees in the Parish Council Burial Ground be increased as from beginning of April, 2018 and to approve the proposed increase.**

*Resolved* that the Clerk's recommendations for fee increases in the Parish Council Burial Ground for the 2018/19 financial year be approved.

**16. The Chairman of the Public Toilet Committee recommends to Full Council that;**

- i) the condition that RDC pay Great Woking Parish Council's legal costs be removed.**
- ii) any public liability insurance increase be borne by the Parish Council and not by RDC.**
- iii) subject to the above being agreed by the Parish Council, the Parish Council agree the lease terms subject to approval by the Parish Council solicitor.**

Chair of Committee read report. PC responsible for maintenance and decoration as repairing lease and toilets needed to be handed back in same condition as received. If handed back RDC will close so felt moot point. Vandalism covered by RDC insurance. RDC budget for all items as defined in condition survey plus those requested by Parish Council. Some Councillors felt generic lease did not appertain to us. *Councillor Goodwin stated Anchor public house interested in using their toilets as public toilets.* Cleaning to be dealt with by Parish Council at later stage.

- i) the condition that RDC pay Great Woking Parish Council's legal costs be removed.**

Councillor Goodwin called named vote. For removal of condition – Councillors Sawyer, Loding, Hughes, Hookway, Blunden, Flynn and Efde. Against removal – Councillors Goodwin, Green, Brandon, Wilkins and Rodger.

*Resolved* that the condition that RDC pay Great Woking Parish Council's legal costs be removed.

- ii) any public liability insurance increase be borne by the Parish Council and not by RDC.**

Insurance company had informed Clerk there would be no increase in premium.

For removal of condition – Councillors Sawyer, Loding, Efde, Hughes, Hookway, Blunden and Flynn. Against removal – Councillors Goodwin, Green, Brandon, Wilkins and Rodger.

*Resolved* that any public liability insurance increase be borne by the Parish Council and not by RDC.

- iii) subject to the above being agreed by the Parish Council, the Parish Council agree the lease terms subject to approval by the Parish Council solicitor**

For proposal – Councillors Sawyer, Loding, Hughes, Hookway, Blunden, Flynn and Efde. Against – Councillors Goodwin, Green, Brandon, Wilkins and Rodger.

*Resolved* that the Parish Council agree the lease terms subject to approval by the Parish Council solicitor.

**17. To award the contract for the new Parish Council streetlighting contractors.**

*Resolved* that the contract be awarded to W & H (Romic) Ltd. With permission for Clerk to proceed to second candidate in case of need.

**Meeting Closed 10.35pm. Date of next Full Council meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> April**

The italicised statement at item 16.3 has been proven to be false with the landlords of the Anchor public house having no interest in their toilets being used as public toilets.