

# GREAT WAKERING PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes** of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2018, in the Parish Council Offices, Little Wakering Hall Lane, Great Wakering, SS3 0HH, commencing at 7.00 p.m.

Present: - Councillors L. Blunden, V. Brandon, D. Efde, M. Flynn, R. Green, P. Hitchman, 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 7.00pm.

**2. To receive apologies for absence.**

Councillor Goodwin. District Councillor McPherson also sent apologies.

**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 Sawyer Secretary of Memorial Hall, Councillor Hitchman – trustee of Friends of Wakering Common. Councillors Efde and Hookway as District Councillors re item 19.

**4. To receive a presentation from Les Hawkins/Mark Squire re Special Constable scheme.**

Les Hawkins the Police Co-ordinator of the scheme and Mark Squire Clerk of Witham Town Council addressed the Council and answered questions on the scheme. Special Constables part-time fully warranted volunteer police officers with independent patrol status and full powers of arrest. Minimum 16 operational hours each month with duty allowance and mileage paid by Parish Council. Sign in point Rayleigh police station due to local policing districts. Recruitment and training can take a long time. Can be re-deployed in emergencies, not tasked by Council but by Police Community Team sergeant, Clerk designated liaison with police.

**5. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 14th November 2018.**

*Resolved* that the minutes be approved.

**6. Financial Matters.**

- a. To approve Payment Schedules for November 2018. *Carried.*
- b. To approve Receipt Schedules for November 2018. *Carried*
- c. To approve the Financial Statement for the 8 months to 30th November 2018. *Carried*
- d. To note the auditor's report. *Noted.*

**7. To receive the Chairman's report.**

- Re ECC request for pothole information – High Street/Crouchmans Avenue, sinking trench Alexandra Road and Conway Avenue/Shoebury Road all reported. High Street/Crouchmans and Alexandra Road now repaired. Conway/Shoebury Road works scheduled.

- Planning application and Committee update re 43 Victoria Drive change of use.
- Public Toilet Committee update.
- Thanks offered to Clerk.

**8. Councillor Efde's proposal to decide if the Parish Council wants to start the process to engage a Special Constable.**

Pros and cons of scheme discussed including police presence, length and cost of travelling time/mileage from home to Rayleigh. Specials not under Parish Council control and no control over times spent patrolling. Already significant increase to police precept through Council tax. Councillor Green called for a named vote. For commencing the process to engage a Community Special Constable – Councillors Sawyer, Loding, Hitchman, Efde, Brandon, Wilkins, Rodger, Flynn. Against – Councillors Green and Hookway. Abstentions – Councillors Blunden and Hughes.

*Resolved* that the Parish Council commence the process to engage a Community Special Constable.

**9. Councillor Sawyer proposes that if the Parish Council decides to start the process of joining the Community Special Constable Scheme then the following should be decided:**

**a) A maximum budgetary spend per annum.**

*Resolved* that the maximum budgetary spend be £1000 per financial year.

**b) The length of the trial period.**

*Resolved* that the trial period be one year from when Special confirmed in post.

**10. Barling Magna PC would like to propose to Great Wakering PC that the two neighbouring parishes share the cost of a single special constable, each parish to benefit from half the available time of the officer concerned. We understand this would require a commitment of £500 per annum, per parish.**

Generally felt there may be too many issues combining the two parishes and may diminish benefit to Great Wakering. Councillor Green called for a named vote. For proposal – none. Against – Councillors Sawyer, Loding, Hitchman, Efde, Green, Brandon, Wilkins, Rodger, Flynn and Blunden. Abstentions – Councillors Hughes and Hookway.

*Resolved* that the proposal not be carried.

**11. Councillor Efde proposes that the Parish Council purchases hi-vis vests or jackets with the Parish emblem to give Councillors an identity when on Parish Council business.**

Concerns re spending public money and Parish Council already possessed hi-vis jackets.

*Resolved* that the proposal not be carried.

**12. Councillor Flynn's proposal to agree format/reporting procedures for the Parish Council surgeries.**

Office prepare posters for event to be distributed by Office and/or volunteers. Enquiry form to be completed and returned to Parish Council Office for further action/forwarding/response from Clerk.

*Resolved* that format be agreed and reporting procedures acknowledged.

**13. To allow the Clerk to obtain quotes for vegetation clearance for the village pond.**

*Resolved* that the proposal be carried.

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

Councillor Loding – offered thanks to Clerk. Inspected footpath 15, visited burial ground, churchyard, reported to Clerk and removed tree branch from Office footpath. Reported Poynters Lane streetlights.

Councillors Hitchman/Green – Twyford Avenue issues.

Councillor Efde – Planning matters.

Councillor Wilkins – Crisp packet recycling scheme.

Councillor Rodger – Attended RDC Development Committee Meeting with Councillor Wilkins. Arriva bus issues. Lollipop lady retirement.

Councillor Flynn – Poynters Lane streetlight.

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

County Councillor Steptoe:

- Libraries consultation – vitally important each individual responds.
- Potholes, Brougham Close footway works. LHP request from County Safety team re junction Poynters/Wakering Road. Speed limit reduction Wakering Road being investigated.
- Hedges New Road/Stairs Road trying to encourage landowners to cut back.
- School 3PR scheme.
- SEPP proposed fund to pick up low level issues LHP not doing.
- Bring planning concerns early to Essex Highways before make decision.

District Councillor Hookway:

- Recycling leaflet.
- RDC Development Committee received updated planning on Barrow Hall Road site.
- Footways – Estuary, Goldsworthy, New England completed.
- RDC –Conway Park vegetation issue. Councillor Hookway had spoken to RDC Open Spaces Officer issue re liability as between fences.

District Councillor Efde:

- Development Committee
- RDC play spaces S106 money.
- Library consultation.
- Barrow Hall Road /no left turn condition removed.

**16. 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).**

Parishioners – support for Special Constable scheme, Anchor passageway works.

**17. 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.**

*Resolved* that the public be excluded.

**18. To decide whether to proceed with works for the Anchor passageway and award the contract if so.**

*Resolved* that works be carried out to the entire length of the PROW and that the contract be awarded to Wallakers.

**19. To agree the Public Toilet Committee recommendation regarding the award of the contract for cleaning services.**

Report and recommendation received from Public Toilet Committee Meeting. Named vote called. For Committee recommendation - Councillors Sawyer, Loding, Hitchman, Efde, Brandon, Wilkins, Flynn, Blunden, Hookway and Hughes. Against – Councillors Green and Rodger.

*Resolved* that the Committee recommendation be approved and the contract be awarded to Prior Cleaning Services for three years/3 day with supply of consumables and emergency call-out.

**Meeting Closed 9.40 pm.**

**Date of next Full Council meeting – 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019**