

# WENHASTON WITH MELLS HAMLET PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk Richard Day

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Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.30pm. in the Village Hall.

Present; Cllr. P Wildish, (Chair) Cllr. A Musk, Cllr. M. Wilkinson, Cllr. D Stammers, Cllr. K Canham, Cllr. T Cushion, Cllr. S Mann, Cllr. G Leech. Cllr. J Townsend, County Cllr. R Smith District Cllrs. B Keys Holloway and G. Wakeling, 14 Parishioners and Clerk Richard Day.

1. Chair welcomed all to meeting. Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs. Way and Welby.
2. There were no declarations of interest expressed.
3. There were no requests for dispensation to vote.
4. The minutes to the meeting held on 20/12/23 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Wilkinson, seconded by Cllr. Musk and unanimously approved.
5. Clerk Report. All matters covered within agenda.
6. There were were no matters arising from previous minutes.
7. A copy of the County Cllrs. report is available from Clerk
8. A copy of District Cllrs. report is available from Clerk. This had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.
9. (i) Progress has been made with cemetery maintenance and general grass cutting requirements. Clerk will hold final meetings with interested parties and request approval to proceed at next meeting. (ii) No date confirmed by SCC Highways for site meeting regarding possible parking restrictions in The Street, Wenhaston. Carry forward to next meeting.
10. Letter of concern to be forwarded to Planning Dept. regarding the access to footpath from new development at ex Wootens site. This is extremely close to the road junction to Blackheath Rd.
11. No response to the request for Parishioner volunteer for the role of Village Historian. Chair will arrange for existing material from previous holder of the post to be archived.
12. Clerk confirmed all risk management reviews were finalised and a summary of findings and actions will be provided to members prior to next meeting.
13. No planning correspondence.
14. No reports from committee members/group representatives,
15. CORREPENDENCE. (i) A parishioner suggestion for an EV charging point at the Village Hall had been discussed with a member the VH Management Committee who referred to a previous decision made and this will not proceed further at this stage. (ii) A letter of concern had been received concerning the possibility of parking restrictions in The Street, Wenhaston. This was circulated to members pre meeting. The matter remains under consideration (See agenda item 9ii) but it is in the early stages of a feasibility study and

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parishioner to be advised that no decision to proceed will be made without full consultation with affected persons. (iii) Flooding in the Village. 3 Parishioners had written outlining the impact on their properties following heavy and repeated rain. 14 Parishioners also attended the meeting to voice concerns and request action/guidance. County Cllr. Smith summarised the support available and the size and scope of the problem faced by the County in terms of cost and resource. The Parish Council with the input of affected parishioners will prepare a summary report to SCC and advise the former of the immediate actions taken. The first objective being to ensure that an investigation into the causes is undertaken by SCC and that Wenhaston is placed on the priority list as a prelude to preventative measures being implemented. Appreciation was expressed for the clearance work undertaken at the time of the flooding by Cllrs. Musk and Stammers.

16. RFO REPORT. Balance at Bank is currently £52804.45 prior to authorisation of payments totalling £3633.50 this month. Qtr3 expenditure vs budget analysis has been completed with no areas of concern. Areas outside tolerance levels been investigated and the document updated with explanation. Bank statements have been reconciled and made available for member audit. RFO Report proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Wildish, seconded by Cllr. Musk and unanimously approved.
17. Meeting Closed 9.00pm. Date of next meeting 21/2/24. Agenda items to include report to Water Authority regarding the condition of and security at the pumping station, Narrow Way, Wenhaston.

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