

Wimbish Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
7th April, 2021 at 7.30 p.m.
Remote Zoom meeting

Present: Edward Browne, Philip Northern, Ray Searle, Lindy Scanlan, Lynne Ward-Booth
Mike Young and Mike Cargill.

In attendance: Tracy Coston (Clerk), Cllr Stewart Luck, Cllr Simon Walsh

Public: 1

1. Apologies for Absence: None

2. Councillors to declare pecuniary interests: None

3. Public Participation (15 minutes):

Thanks for the sports facilities at Carver Barracks.

Solar Farm: The member of the public expressed that it was disappointing that the District Councillor doesn't have an opinion on Solar Farm and hopefully he will read the information and form an opinion.

There was concern about the quality of the ecology report and ECC have asked for refusal because of it. The heritage statement is unsatisfactory, and the solar farm is proposed on prime agricultural land and will have a massive impact on a Grade I listed property.

The PC were asked to refuse the application and for UDC to come up as a coherent policy for where solar farms/panels can be installed.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd March, 2021: The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair (remotely).

5. District Councillor and County Councillor Report:

County Councillor: The lateral flow tests are being made available in the libraries.

30mph Howlett End – UDC Highways panel met yesterday and agreed the 30mph with the main part being covered.

Any comments made will slow the whole process up as they are taken as objections.

The legalities need to be formalised. 30mph signs with repeaters will be installed.

District Councillor:

Sewage Works: The Chairman of Uttlesford is sorting out the issues.

Funds donated from Carver Barracks to Debden Village Hall: Debden need to send the money back asap.

The UDC audit is unlikely to be sorted out by September when audit figures have to be sent to Councillors.

Redeployment of UDC staff is being discussed. Two floors of the UDC offices are being let to other offices due to people working from home.

A request for an extraordinary meeting has been made by Councillors to UDC.

After 7th May no more remote meetings are allowed to take place.

The elections are being held on 6th May – Elections ECC/Police/Crime Commissioner.

Rural crime still a problem and report to the police.

6. Matters arising

- a) **Letter to Mr Rayner regarding use of commonland:** A letter has been sent by the PC and a response has been asked for by 30th April.
- b) **No 22 Tye Green hedgecutting:** UDC has cut the hedge back.

7. Planning

a) Applications:

UTT/21/0933/FUL Pepples Farm, Pepples Lane, Wimbish

Extension and alterations to existing stable buildings and change of use to 2 no. holidays lets

PC Decision: No objections

UTT/21/0688/FUL Land at Cole End Farm Lane

Construction and operation of a ground mounted solar farm together with associated infrastructure, including inverters, customer switchgear, DNO substation, medium voltage power station, security cameras, perimeter fence, access tracks and landscaping.

PC Decision:

The PC would like to object to the proposed plans for the following reasons:

- The ecology statement is very poor quality, and it was only a one-day assessment.
- The solar farm is proposed on top quality farmland and it should be on non-agricultural land.
- The PC are concerned about the disposal of the solar farm after the site is obsolete. Solar farms are not recyclable, and it would be a huge cost to dismantle and decommission.
UDC needs to have a clear and consistent approach regarding solar farms in the area.
- Concerns about the impact of the solar farm on the Grade 1 listed property at Tiptofts, Wimbish.

b) **Decisions:** None

c) **Appeal:** Manor Nursery, Thaxted Road

Outline application with all matters reserved for the demolition and removal of existing buildings and the erection of 4 no residential properties with associated landscaping and parking.

8. Roads, Highways and Footpaths:

- a) **Speed Limit Howlett End:** ECC Highways have approved the 30mph speed limit in Howlett End from the White Hart for a stretch of Howlett End.
- b) **Signs around the Parish:** Elder Street signs still missing and the chevron signs at Gunters Corner. Clerk to chase up with Highways.

9. Accounts

a) Approval of cheques:

Payments	
Tracy Coston (April)	£ 200.03
E-ON (April)	£ 75.00
Ray Searle (Cutting back hedges/weeding/around pavilion)	£ 120.00
Castle Water	£ 35.97
Play Inspection Company	£ 90.00
Alex Smith	£ 375.00
HMRC	£ 358.89
Total	£ 1,254.89

10. Pavilion and Recreation Ground Maintenance:

a) **Water at entrance to the recreation ground:** The issue hasn't returned as the weather has been so dry.

b) **Hedgecutting at the recreation ground and commonland:** The hedges have been flailed.

c) **Condition of the play equipment:** Edward Browne is organising the repair of the aerial runway and four new swing seats will be ordered and fixed.

d) **New seats:** The seats have been put in and have been used by the public.

e) **Football teams:** The PC agreed to invoice the football team for half a season as they are replacing the goals.

11. General Correspondence:

a) **Discussion regarding remote meetings not allowed after 7th May, 2021:** The Government has ruled that remote meetings cannot take place after 7th May. The PC have agreed to meet remotely on 5th May and then not meet again until the beginning of July. The PC agreed to delegate responsibility to the Clerk to report any decisions that the PC make via email until the beginning of July.

12. Area Report:

a) **Car park extension at the pavilion:** The PC agreed to obtain quotes to extend the car park to the right of the drive to try and relieve some of the parking issues. The soil will be dug out and type 1 with gravel will be put on the top. The top soil will be taken to Lucy May field.

13. Date of the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting on 5th May, 2021 at 7.30 pm

The meeting finished at 9.30 pm.

Signed

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Date

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