

WETHERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
REPRESENTING WETHERSFIELD, BLACKMORE END & BEAZLEY END



**MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held at Blackmore End Village Hall on
Wednesday, 18th September 2019 commencing at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllr N Godley (Chairman)
Cllr J Barker
Cllr Mrs A Phillips
Cllr Mrs S Short
Cllr D Wilson
Mrs M Baker (Clerk and RFO)

In Attendance: Members of the Public: 6

83/19-20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs S Booth (Vice Chairman), Cllr M Stuckey, Cllr A Varney, Cllr J Pearce. Apologies received.

84/19-20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None.

85/19-20 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 17th OF JULY 2019

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2019, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

86/19-20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

- A resident raised the issue of the lawn being eroded at Bennets Island, Blackmore End and suggested the one way system may help but not alleviate the issues with the junction.

87/19-20 REPORT FROM THE CLERK

The following update on matters arising, together with correspondence received was approved:

Parking at Syers Field, Blackmore End

Will be discussed at the next highways meeting on the 25th of September. The agenda states

the cost is £6500 per household for individual access.

One Way System at Bennets Island, Blackmore End

Will be discussed at the next highway meeting on the 25th of September.

Introducing Bollards at Dogs Chase, Wethersfield

The following statement was issued by Highways: A survey was undertaken to determine how many vehicles travelled the incorrect way along Dog Chase there was only 6 vehicles therefore we would not install a bollards. Vehicles travelling the wrong way along a one way road would be an enforcement issue that should be raised with Essex Police.

Tree Planting to Combat Carbon Emissions

The Trees will be delivered on the 1st of November. Volunteers to adopt a tree will be requested after the October meeting.

Update on Planning Applications Listed in the Minutes dated 17th of July 2019:

1. **18/02057/FUL: Codham Park Equestrian, Codham Little Park Drive, Wethersfield, CM7 5JQ**
To permit competitive events (being a competition advertised and operated as a single event) to take place for the period of 1 March to 30th November, the competitive events being restricted to 0900 hours to 1800 hours
STATUS: PENDING CONSIDERATION
2. **19/00167/TPO: The Mews Saffron Close Wethersfield**
Notice of intent to carry out works to trees with a Tree Preservation Order 3/19 - (T1) - Reduce 2 overhanging limbs from a Horse Chestnut.
STATUS: GRANTED
3. **19/01134/LBC: Hyde Farm Hyde Lane Blackmore End Wethersfield**
Thatched roof to a plain clay tiled roof and the Corten steel flat roof of the link building to a pitched zinc roof
STATUS: PENDING CONSIDERATION
4. **19/01155/FUL: Brook Cottage, Blackmore End, Wethersfield**
Proposed detached dwelling and associated cart lodges.
STATUS: GRANTED
5. **02/00423/TPO: 21 Saffron Gardens, Wethersfield**
Notice of intent to carry out works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order No. 2/92 - 15% crown reduction and thinning to one oak tree
STATUS: WITHDRAWN

Correspondence Received:

- (i) A letter from Essex & Herts Air Ambulance requesting funding assistance for 2019.
- (ii) A letter from Braintree University of the Third Age requesting we display a poster on our notice boards.
- (iii) Email from Robin Road, asking if we would be interested in their service

88/19-20

REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

None.

89/19-20 **PLANNING**

RESOLVED that Braintree District Council be informed of the comments as set out below for the following application:

Application No: **19/01359/LBC**
Location: Post Office Cottage 3 High Street Wethersfield Essex
 CM7 4BY
Proposal: 1. Replacement of existing conservatory 2. Dry ice
 blasting of brick wall to remove emulsion paint 3.
 Replacement of three single glazed windows 4.
 Repair/replacement of roof tiles to kitchen roof 5.
 Repair/replacement of guttering
NO OBJECTION

90/19-20 **VE DAY 2019**

RESOLVED It was agreed to re-word the proposal to ‘a donation up to £1000 towards VE Day’ and then agreed. Proposed by Cllr Barker and Seconded by Cllr Short.

91/19-20 **ADOPTION OF DOCUMENTS**

RESOLVED It was agreed to adopt the following revised documents: Standing Orders, Code of Conduct and Complaints Procedure. Proposed by Cllr Barker and Seconded by Cllr Short.

92/19-20 **DFPFA:**

It was agreed that the DFPFA should be asked to provide more detailed information and quotes before the decision could proceed.

93/19-20 **PLANTERS FOR BEAZLEY END**

No further progress has been made in obtaining the forms.

94/19-20 **HIGHWAYS ISSUES UPDATES**

Syers Field – Being discussed at the next Highways meeting, however it appears there have taken a preference to individual drive access.

Bakers Farm Junction – Being discussed at the next highways meeting. No plan yet implemented

Dog Chase – Highways have issued the following statement documented in the clerk’s report. There will be no further action.

95/19-20 **LAWS REGARDING SEPTIC TANKS**

RESOLVED It was agreed that information will be posted on the website regarding the laws involving septic tanks.

- 96/19-20** **SMARTENING UP WETHERSFIELD**
It was agreed to identify individual issues and cost then discuss further. Implementation of a Facebook campaign to encourage community help. Any highways issues should be forwarded to them.
- 97/19-20** **THE REACH OF SUPER-FAST BROADBAND**
It was agreed to investigate the issue, after discussion it became clear that there may be 3 different companies servicing the area not just super-fast Essex.
- 98/19-20** **THE BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN**
It was agreed that there were insufficient councillors present to make a decision on whether to object to the plans.
- 99/19-20** **REINSTATING PARISH COUNCIL SURGERIES**
A proposal was made that a test surgery be run in each village. It was agreed to wait till the next meeting as there were insufficient councillors present to further discuss this matter.
- 100/19-20** **WETHERSFIELD VILLAGE HALL**
- i) **DEFER** The decision of a councillor to represent the council on the Village Hall Trust.
 - ii) **DEFER** Further investigation into how the policies are linked to contents is required before any decisions can be made to pay Wethersfield Village Hall insurance.
 - iii) **DECLINED** It was agreed that parking restrictions in the village hall car park would not be appropriate.
- 101/19-20** **CHRISTMAS TREE**
- i) It was agreed that the parish council would fund the Christmas Tree. Proposed by Cllr Barker and seconded by Cllr Phillips.
 - ii) **DECLINED** It was agreed that a permanent tree would not be suitable.
- 102/19-20** **WETHERSFIELD CONSERVATION AREA CONSULTATION**
DEFER There was no news regarding the consultation.
- 103/19-20** **CROWS**
There has been no further communication from CROWS. It was agreed to pursue communication and the public response to recent meetings.

104/19-20 FINANCE

(i) The list of payments due were received.

RESOLVED that the following payments be made:

Item No.	Cheque No.	Cheque Date	Payee	Description	Column1
1	102207	30/08/2019	D Hart	Verge Trimming	£130.00
2	102208	18/09/2019	Mr E Butcher	Litter picking for July & August 2019	£215.00
3	102209	18/09/2019	Mrs M Baker	Postage Costs	£1.40
3	102209	18/09/2019	Mrs M Baker	Salary for Clerk & RFO (34.5 hrs @ £10.37 per hour)	£357.77
4	102209	18/09/2019	Mrs M Baker	Clerks ILCA Level 2 Course	£118.80
5	102210	18/09/2019	Brambles	Tree Trimming on the Green	£450.00
6	102211	18/09/2019	EALC	Invoice Numbers: 11664,11729,11727,11769,11767,11805	£618.00
7	102212	18/09/2019	Community Hearbeat	Defibrillator Pads	£99.60
TOTAL					£1,990.57

105/19-20 ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS TO BE ADDED TO THE NEXT AGENDA

- Blackmore End Representatives

Councillors are asked to inform the clerk of any items by 4th October 2019.

106/19-20 STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Godley read the following statement:

Recently two parishioners sent an email to some, but not all, parish councillors inviting them to tour a planning application site about which the council has already made its representations. In the email there is a strong suggestion that certain councillors have an improper undisclosed interest in the application site.

I contacted the parishioners and asked them to let me know which councillors they believed to be involved so that I could take the appropriate action under our code of conduct.

In reply they advised me to speak to all of the councillors and declined to give any names.

I replied saying that if they had information about wrong doing by a councillor they should reveal it. If they would not or could not do so then the allegation would be treated as mischievous. I have had no reply.

I am making this statement as I wish the matter to be formally recorded together with copies of the emails concerned so that, in the event of further accusations there is a record of the action taken. This is a statement and will not be the subject of questions or discussion.

107/19-20 NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL: The next meeting of Wethersfield Parish Council will take place at Wethersfield Village Hall on Wednesday, 9th October 2019 commencing at 7.30pm.

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8:30pm.

Signed:
Chairman

Date:

DRAFT