

# Wrabness Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017 in Wrabness Village Hall at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Mr H. Jones (Chairman), Mr R Colley (Vice Chairman), Mr C Cole, Ms R Thornton, Mr F McGowan, Mrs J. Cole.

**In attendance:** Mrs C Greenwood (Parish Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

**2438: Apologies for absence:** Mr T Harvey and Councillor Zoe Fairley

**2439: Declarations of interest:** - None

**2440: Public Forum:** The meeting was opened and Mr H Jones invited comments from those present.

**The public forum was closed and the meeting opened.**

**2441: Minutes of the meeting held on 15th March 2017:** The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed.

## **2442: Matters Arising and Actions:**

2430: Increase in train noise – Parish Clerk gave an update: Network Rail have informed the Parish Council the Ballast Cleaning Train will cease running the end of June 2017. The work along the Anglian route will be completed. **No Further Action.**

2430: Blackboy Inn Telephone Kiosk – Parish Clerk gave an update: TDC Planning have no objections to the adoption of the Kiosk and therefore BT payphones are happy to process this adoption. A final agreement has been received, BT payphones have asked the Parish Council to sign and return the contract with £1.00 to complete. All agreed. **Action: Parish Clerk**

2430: Wrabness Playing Field Fencing – It was agreed at the January meeting the Parish Council would proceed with the best value quote, £6558.84. W.P.F.A have offered to contribute £2000.00 towards the project, the Parish Council have some additional funding available. Tendring District Council hold Section 106 funds for the Wrabness area amounting to £2,832.00. As agreed at the last meeting Mr R Colley has made an application comprising a report, maps, photos and 3 quotes to Tendring District Council, in order to release these funds for the Playing Field fencing project. TDC will make a decision following internal consultations including Leisure, Planning and Finance. If the Application is successful the funds will be released to Wrabness Parish Council. The application was submitted in February. Mr R Colley asked for an update and is waiting for a response. **Action: Mr R Colley**

2432: Wrabness Community Shop Grant: Mr H Jones read out a letter from Mr Chris Orlopp, thanking the Parish Council for their grant of £999.00. The grant went towards a new Till system for the shop.

2436: Wrabness Playing Field Rent: Mr H Jones read out a letter from Mrs Woollard, thanking the Parish Council for the annual cheque for rental of playing field. Her son visited the area in March and was pleased to see children and parents using the playing field and the playing field looking very good.

**2443: Electoral Review of Tendring:** The draft recommendations for Tendring District Council is a proposal to reduce District Councillor numbers from 60 to 48 and the recommendations also propose new electoral ward boundaries across the district.

Wrabness will change to Stour Valley, which will include Bradfield and Ramsey.

The ward boundaries drawn up must adhere to the following: 1: To deliver electoral equality where each district councillor represents roughly the same number of electors as others across the district. 2: The pattern of wards should as far as possible reflect the interest and identities of the Local communities. 3: Electoral arrangements should provide for effective and convenient local government.

The Parish Council does not support the proposed ward. Wrabness has the most links with Wix, due to the connections with the Church, Nursery School and Primary School. All agreed that the new ward boundaries do not comply with item 2. **Action: Parish Clerk.**

**2444: Parish Council Independent Remuneration Panel Review for 2017/2018:** It was proposed the Parish

Council will continue with their policy of not paying allowances, but to follow the recommendation for travel expenses and training allowance. All agreed.

**2445: Network Rail and Works Act, Closure of Wrabness Level Crossing (see minutes 2415): Applications and Objections Procedure to Department of Transport.**

Network Rail are proposing to close the pedestrian level crossing near Brakey Grove and replacing it by extending the footpath along the corner of Wheatsheaf lane, adjacent to the railway, along Church Road and adjacent to the Old School House. The new proposed route does not link up to the Essex Way.

The Parish Council sent in their objections to Network Rail in October last year and gave the following reasons:

*'Wrabness Parish Council strongly objects to the proposed closure of E48 Wheatsheaf Crossing. The proposed closure of this well-used crossing will lead to the loss of an important through footpath route linking the north and south sides of our civil parish which is bisected by the rail line. This is an important feeder footpath route linking to the Essex Way Long Distance Footpath to the north of the rail line. It will diminish the recreational potential of our locality and leave us with two lengthy cul-de-sac footpaths, which do not connect to anywhere. The E48 Wheatsheaf crossing was recently upgraded at considerable expense to meet modern safety requirements; it enjoys good visibility due to the alignment of the railway and there is no record of a safety incident or loss of life at this crossing. We urge you not to close E48 crossing.'*

The Parish Council has the opportunity to make representations to Department Of Transport by the 12<sup>th</sup> May. All agreed.

**Action Mr R Colley.**

**2446: Station Master garden, Metal Sculpture for Wildlife:** Community Art Cooperative are working with the Essex and South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership and Councillor Zoe Fairley to erect a metal sculpture with pods for wildlife, involving Wix and Wrabness Primary School children. District Council have advised Planning Permission is required, however the Parish Council enjoys permitted development rights which may be applicable in this case. It was proposed to invite a representative from the Community Art Cooperative once the drawings have been completed. **Action: Parish Clerk.**

It was proposed to invite a representative from the Community Art Cooperative once the drawings have been completed.

**Action: Parish Clerk.**

**2447: Review of Wrabness Parish Council Asset Register:** The update of the Asset Register including Parish Stamp and storage container for the Playing Field was discussed and approved. All Agreed.

**2448: ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS.**

**2449: Reports.**

**Highways: Mr M Cole gave an update.** 1: The next Highway Panel meeting is provisionally booked for 5<sup>th</sup> June; Mr M Cole will be attending. 2: Signpost at the crossroads, photos have been taken and a report has been submitted to Highways.

**Neighbourhood Watch:** - Outbuildings at the Old Rectory were broken into. 1<sup>st</sup> April disturbance in the Station Car Park, 6 cars revving their engines at 1 a.m

**Footpaths:** Stone Lane, a large amount of rubbish has accumulated since the yearly litter pick in March.

**Parish Plan:** A village questionnaire will take place in the autumn.

**Village Hall:** Mr H Jones gave a report on the AGM. No increase in Hall Hire rates. Financial status is good. Village Hall has decided to invest in a water boiler (Large catering kettle). Mrs J Truscott retired as Chairman of Wrabness Village Hall. Mr H Jones was elected as Chairman.

**Station Garden:** See 2446.

**TALC/EACL:** Nothing to report.

**Public Health:** The First aid course is booked for 19<sup>th</sup> May and is fully booked.

**Foreshore Liaison:** Nothing to report.

**Public Transport:** Nothing to report.

**W.P.F.A:** See 2442. 1: The Football Tournament is on **17<sup>th</sup> June** at the Playing Fields. 2: AGM, **25<sup>th</sup> May** at Wrabness Church.

**Kiosk:** See item 2442.

**2451: Accounts and money received:**

<u>RECEIVED</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
NONE	

<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>CQ</u>
	<u>T</u>	<u>No.</u>
Wrabness Village Hall Rental (15/3/17)	£15.00	991
EALC Affiliation Fee	£103.35	992
NALC Affiliation Fee	£22.68	993
BT payphones (adoption of Blackboy Inn Kiosk)	£1.00	994
Travel Expenses (TDC Planning Training workshop, 7 <sup>th</sup> April: Mr T Harvey & Ms R Thornton)	£9.00	995

**2452: Confirmation of Account Balances:**

The Parish Clerk reported balances as follows:

Current Account: 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017: £3,490.84

Deposit Account: 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017: £8550.36

The meeting closed at: 9.21pm

The next Council meeting and Wrabness Council Annual Assembly will be on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Carol Greenwood: Wrabness Parish Clerk  
2 Fredricks Close, Wix, Manningtree, Essex, CO11 2AY.  
Email: Wrabness.parishclerk@gmail.com