

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF WICKHAM ST PAULS PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023, AT 7.30pm**

In the Chair: Cllr. M. Cooper  
Present Cllrs. Cllr. J. Barlow, Cllr. C. Groom, Cllr. P. Snazell  
Clerk: Mrs D. Jacob

Also, present one member of the public

**23/099 Welcome and Apologies for Absence.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone, apologies for absence received and accepted from County Cllr. Schwier and District Cllr. Holland (due to work commitments).

**23/100 Declaration of Interests.**

None.

**23/101 Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.**

A member of the public attended the meeting to ask the following: - What is the charitable purpose of the "Consolidated Trust", it must have an identifiable benefit, and secondly, what benefit will be available to a sufficient section of Wickham St Pauls?  
The Chairman replied to contact the Charity Commission for any information relating to the Wickham St Pauls Consolidated Trust and could the Christmas lights please be turned off by 10pm, Chairman replied that they would be.

**23/102 District and County Councillors to address the members if present.**

Not present, regular updates and reports received.

**23/103 Minutes.**

To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.  
Proposed by Cllr. Snazell, seconded by Cllr. Barlow, all in favour, resolution passed.

**23/104 Planning Matters.**

**Ref:** 23/02058/HH

**Location:** Stonehouse Farm Park Road Wickham St Paul Essex CO9 2PX

**Description:** Erection of 3-bay cart-lodge and machine store with new entrance from the public highway and associated landscaping.

To send a Natural comment.

Braintree District Council to consider application and to make the decision.

Proposed by Cllr. Barlow, seconded by Cllr. Groom, all in favour, resolution passed.

**23/105 Internal Auditor 2023/24.**

Refer to minute number 23/095 decision already made.

**23/106 Matters Arising – Updates**

There were a number of long-term items beyond our control and decisions that have not progressed and these are only being discussed at the meeting where there is a development.

**Item 1.** Previous minute Number 21/085 30mph zone extension Park Road – no further action by Highways. However, Parish Council to continue to pursue this item, next update by Cllr Snazell.

**Item 2.** Previous minute Number 21/085 'Beware of Horses' signs – no further action by Highways. However, Parish Council to continue to pursue this item, next update by Cllr Snazell.

**Item 3.** Old Road – 'Unsuitable for Heavy Vehicles' sign, submitted 25 Aug. 2021 – no further action by Highways, see item 23/085 above. However, Parish Council to continue to pursue this item, next update by Cllr Snazell.

**Item 4.** Previous minute number 21/039 Verges. To discuss erosion to verges on Old Road – no further action by Highways, see item 23/085 above. However, Parish Council to continue to pursue this item, next update by Cllr Snazell.

**Item 5.** Previous minute number 21/117 Manhole covers – ongoing.

**Item 6.** Previous minute number 22/079 The circular bench under the oak tree on the village green – to consider moving it near the large pond next to the village hall. Ongoing.

Signed (Chairman).....

28<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**Item 7.** Previous minute number 22/083 Water Leak in road. Water leakage in the road near the Village Hall - Anglian Water have confirmed that this is a Highway issue and has been reported to Highways ref; 2784998 on 5 July 3033 at 16.35pm. Cllr. Snazell has spoken to the Environmental Agency, Norfolk & Suffolk Water and agricultural team – Letter received from Highways that they are going to inspect the area, but no on-site meetings will take place – Cllr Snazell to contact Cllr Schwier for help and advice on all Highway issues – ongoing.

**Item 8.** Previous Minute number 22/085 Extend the concrete post and iron rail where the fallen oak tree was. To protect the corner of the pond and stop erosion by traffic to install oak posts, only at this stage. Budget cost £100.00 ongoing.

**Item 9.** Previous minute number 21/117 Manhole covers update ongoing.

**Item 10.** Previous minute number 23/017 Circular Bench – update work to be carried out, ongoing.

**23/107 Wickham St Pauls Consolidated Trust.**

The Chairman reported that signatories have now been updated and confirmed by the bank, to allow funds to be invested in interest bearing accounts when decided.

**23/108 Local Bus Service.**

Essex County Council, Bus Network Consultation 2023, deadline date 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023 everyone urged to complete and return the survey to Essex County Council. The National Bus Strategy was discussed and Essex County Council should seriously consider to maintain a bus service. Letter to be sent to Cllr Kevin Bently, Cllr Lee Scott and Cllr Peter Schwier at Essex County Council. Proposed by Cllr. Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Snazell, all in favour, resolution passed.

**23/109 Financial Matters.**

- 1) Financial Statement (Items to be approved for payment and signed as per payment schedule).

	CHEQUE NO.	TOTAL
JPB Landscapes Ltd Inv. No. 253 and 277	002507	660.00
Wickham St Pauls Village Hall Inv. 2343	002508	10.00
Dynamic Fireworks (Inv. 23-77147)	000004	492.15
Richard Edwards Group (Inv. 51057 Payroll July-Sept)	002509	88.06
D. Jacob (Salary for September)	SO	460.00
D. Jacob (Salary adjustment for September)	002510	31.82
Lee Sear (Salary for September)	002511	104.52
HM Revenue & Customs (For September)	002512	130.40
D. Jacob (Expenses for August/September)	002513	79.42
D. Jacob (Salary for October)	SO	460.00
D. Jacob (Salary adjustment for October)	002514	31.62
Lee Sear (Salary for October)	002515	104.52
HM Revenue & Customs (For October)	002516	130.60
EALC (Inv. No. 16960 Training for Cllr Groom)	002517	288.00
Wickham St Pauls Cricket Club (to replace lost cheque No. 002482 dated 23 May 2023)	002518	1,100.00

Proposed by Cllr. Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Snazell, all in favour, resolution passed.

- 2) Monthly Budget Statement – Received and noted.

**23/110 Items for next agenda.**

Please note that no decisions can be lawfully made under this item, LGA 12 10 (2) (b) states that business must be specified therefore the council cannot lawfully raise matters for decision. Any new items that Cllrs want to raise to be sent to the Clerk.

**23/111 Date of next Meeting.**

Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (7.30pm)

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed (Chairman).....

28<sup>th</sup> November 2023