

OFFTON AND WILLISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th January 2008
at 7.30 pm in Offton and Willisham Village hall.

Present	Cllr M Bolton (Chairman)	Cllr. A Cox
	Cllr. C Pinson Roxburgh	Cllr. D Tingley
	Cllr. D Cattermole	Cllr. N Coleman
	Cllr. K Earl	Cllr L Seddon
	Cllr C Storey	P Sands Clerk

County Councillor J Truelove, and PC.CD. Clark attended
Mr & Mrs J Hitchcock and Mrs & Miss Pinson Roxburgh were present.

- Apologies for absence
Cllr. Rumsey's apologies were accepted
District Councillor S Wright also sent apologies.
AC/LS
- Declaration of Interests, with respect to items on the agenda
None were declared
- Public Participation Session with regard to items on the agenda
The Chairman invited comments from those present but none were made
- Minutes of the previous meeting.
The minutes had been circulated, were approved, and signed by the Chairman
KE/CPR
- Matters arising from the minutes
K6 telephone box. English Heritage had acknowledged Council's request for preservation which was receiving its attention.
- Correspondence
MSDC. Parish Plan adoption. Adoption was considered to perhaps be appropriate particularly for Offton. Details passed to the Chairman and the matter is to be on next month's agenda. Clerk
MSDC. Local Development Framework. No market housing will be allowed in the two villages
SCC. Rail and Bus strategies The document will be studied by Cllr Rumsey. AR
SCC Report received for information on speeding issues involving Wattisham.
Post Office Closures. There are to be no new closures near to our villages.
Wattisham.liaison group. Cllr. Bolton confirmed as Council's representative.
SALC. Licensing Act 2003. Relaxation of rules for dispensing alcoholic drinks at village halls etc. Details passed to Cllr Storey, Council's representative on the VHMC. CS
Suffolk Preservation Society. Council decided to discontinue its membership of the Council for the Protection of Rural England and join the Suffolk Preservation Society. Clerk
Claydon and Barham Support Meeting. No involvement by Council intended.

<p>7. <u>Planning</u> 0910/07 Adj Mt Pleasant farm. Granted by MSDC . 0654/07 8 Middlewood Cottages. Members ratified the Council’s support. 3809/07 Castle Lane Offton. Council noted severe problems associated with the housing density, access, and parking provision. Clerk to check the public file with a view to an informal meeting with the Case officer. Proposed by Cllr Storey and seconded by Cllr Cattermole, it was unanimously agreed to engage, subject to SCC’s Highways response to the application, a Highways consultant at a fee not exceeding £2000 MSDC. Specific Site Allocations. In keeping with Policy CS1 in the Core Strategy, no market housing will be permitted in Offton and Willisham. MSDC. Planning Application Draft Local Requirements document is available on MSDC’s Website. (67 pages of it!)</p>	Clerk
<p>7. <u>Footpaths</u> SCC are producing a digital map of Suffolk which will enable individuals to print out footpath details Offton and Willisham diversions. The Chairman invited Mr Hitchcock to comment. He outlined the intentions behind his proposals namely to provide secure and well maintained paths similar to those effected by changes undertaken in Ringshall. The Chairman exhorted Cllr Storey to complete his enquiries and to enlist the help of other Willisham Councillors if Expedient. Willisham paths 10 and 18. Offton path 11. Mr Verlander SCC confirmed that Council’s requests would be acted upon viz to waymark Offton 11, waymark Willisham paths 1, 10 and 18 and remove tree stumps in Willisham path 1 at Tye Lane SCC Countryside Access Scheme. Clerk has informed SCC of Council’s interest and will receive details when available. .</p>	Clerk
<p>9. <u>Parish Property</u> Nothing to report.</p>	CS
<p>10. <u>Highways</u> Willisham 30mph speed limit. Council’s request for an extension will be considered at SCC’s meeting in February. Road closure. The closure of U5409 and U4414 is extended from 2nd to 18th January</p>	
<p>11. <u>Village Hall</u> Promising developments were reported but problems remain with MSDC regarding the transfer of land ownership and the release of retained money. Councillor Wright is seeking to expedite matters.</p>	
<p>12. <u>Parish Website</u> The site is now fully operational and well received by members of the public. Recognition and thanks were afforded to Mrs Pinson Roxburgh for her participation</p>	
<p>13. <u>Representatives Reports</u> County Councillor Truelove spoke to her written report particularly noting the extra Government funding of £7,000,000, and the resetting of the target date for 60% recycling from 2010 to 2015. “Alternative Unitary proposals” may result from the rejection of Ipswich</p>	MB Clerk

Borough's bid. .

P.C Clarke noted only a small level of crime mainly thefts of tools and metal and gave details of a credit card scam being operated.

14. Finance

Balances. Cheque £401.43 Community £4624.86 Deposit. £18794.40 Petty cash £7.79

Authorisation of cheques. Village hall £500 AC/NC Offton PCC £600 CPR/DT Willisham PCC £600 DC/LS Clerk's pay £1868 KE/CPR Clerk's expenses £150 CPR/AC Petty cash £30 NC/KE Chairman' allowance £250 LS/AC .

Estimates and Precept for 2008/9. Prior to setting the figures the clerk summarised the 2007/8 finances. The estimates were prepared and the precept set at £7727, an increase of only £2.

15. Date of next meeting

10th March 2008

Mm11.08