

WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14 June 2011 at 7.45 pm in the Village Hall, Witcham

Present: D A Bamforth (Chairman), D J Saberton (Vice Chairman), A Berry, J Bibby, K Mackender

In attendance Mrs S J Bell (Clerk)
Cllr P Read (CCC)

Members of the Public – none

Action

11/105 **Apologies for Absence:** None

11/106 **Declaration of Interest:** None

11/107 **Public Participation:** None

11/108 **Minutes of the meeting** of 10 May 2011 had been circulated, and were approved and signed. Proposed by Mr K Mackender, seconded by Mrs J Bibby, and agreed unanimously.

11/109 **Matters Arising:** None

11/110 **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

Councillor P Read reported that the guided bus route (Cambridge) was about to open.

Correspondence had been circulated about 2012/13 Capital Maintenance Scheme Bids. Councillor Read suggested completion of the A142 cycleway as a project between all the villages. There had been no further news about progressing this project through the Neighbourhood Panels as discussed earlier in the year, in part because the panel meetings had been deferred due to elections and funding. AJCs were being set up again and it was hoped a representative from Witcham could serve. Additional passing places along the Hive Road/Wardy Hill had been submitted under the Joint Minor Highways Improvement schemes bid for last year but the AJC had then been disbanded so no work had taken place. Councillor Read advised that the points system was being reviewed to allow more weighting for smaller parishes.

Chairman proposed Council respond to the 2012/13 Capital Maintenance Scheme bid supporting completion of A142 cycleway in conjunction with other parish councils, and also re-submit last year's bid for passing places Hive Road/Wardy Hill. Agreed unanimously.

Clerk

Westway Place encroachment of highway verge to be reported to County Highways Surveyor.

Clerk

11/111 **COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

Clerk reported no applications received. To be re-advertised.

Clerk

11/112 **RECREATION GROUND**

Monthly report on weekly inspections of play equipment: Mr Saberton advised there was nil of note. The seats had been repaired and painted, and re-mounted on the recreation ground.

Chairman had received applications and associated documents for use of the recreation ground and presented for consent as follows:

11 June 2011 Church Fete (for retrospective consent)

9 July 2011 Peashoot (use for bottle stall outstanding)

Thursday evenings 6-7pm fitness and health classes (N Housden) (consent until 31.5.12)

Mr K Mackender proposed consent, seconded D A Bamforth and agreed unanimously.

Clerk

11/113 ECDC MANAGING GROWTH – VILLAGE VISIONS

ECDC's draft questionnaire for circulation to parishioners was reviewed and suggested wording should reflect parish's views on if and how Witcham should change. Proposed A Berry, *Clerk*
seconded D A Bamforth and agreed unanimously.

11/114 BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION

Mr Saberton had discussed arrangements with judges and it had been deemed better to *DJS*
defer until 3 July in order for vegetable crops to be properly included. Judges had suggested
splitting judging into two inspections next year, one for spring flowers and plants, and then
vegetables later in the year. Also suggested considering an "open garden's weekend". *Clerk*

11/115 2012/2013 CAPITAL MAINTENANCE SCHEME/JOINTLY FUNDED MINOR IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

Mr Berry reported that he had heard nothing further about formation of a working party to
progress cycleway under Neighbourhood Panels. (See Minute 11/110)

11/116 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

P3 Scheme: Mr Berry confirmed he would order lime for repairs to Bury Road and liaise *AB/DJS*
with Mr Saberton to make arrangements for laying.

Chairman reported on correspondence from landowner adj Bury Road regarding County Council
maintenance of the drove and ownership. Clerk confirmed no further information from County *Clerk*
Council regarding measuring width of drove.

11/117 CEMETERY

Application for erection of memorial from Jones, Stonemason, received and approved. *Clerk*
Proposed Chairman, agreed unanimously.

11/118 COMMUNITY POLICE

Monthly police report, previously circulated, noted.

11/119 REPORTS OF MEETINGS

Village Hall Committee: Chairman reported that the task of dealing with the plans and liaison *Chairman*
with ECDC had been placed in alternative hands. The Business Plan was being prepared and
a copy would be made available to the Council as part of the grant.

11/120 STREET LIGHTING AND HIGHWAYS

Nil to report.

11/121 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

ECDC Delegated Services Protocol (proposals) - Localism. Deferred from previous meeting.
Councillors expressed some concern about any proposals to move responsibilities to parishes
without adequate resources, including finance. Chairman proposed he review again and make
response on behalf of the Council. Agreed unanimously. *Chairman*

CPALC Future of Audit. Deferred from previous meeting. Chairman proposed Clerk respond *Clerk*
on behalf of the Council. Agreed unanimously.

11/122 DIARY DATES

21 June 2011 Ouse Wash Habitat. Chairman gave his apologies.
29 June 2011 Councillor Training at ECDC. Clerk asked all Councillors to attend (Quality *All*
Parish Council)
9 July 2011 A142 Ely Railway Crossing Seminar St Mary's Church Hall, St Marys. Street,
Ely 9.30am to 1.00pm. No representative available

11/123 **FINANCE**

The following Receipts and Payments had been checked by the Chairman and were presented and approved. Proposed Chairman and agreed unanimously.

			£	£	£
Receipts	Nil				
Payments	001086	E Lucas May newsletter & Annual Report S142	16.00		16.00
	001088	ECDC Election Admin	100.00		100.00
	001089	Groundsman wages	72.00		72.00
	001090	Cancelled			
	001091	Groundsman cemetery wages	24.00		24.00
	001092	Reimburse J Wells Witcham.org fee 3m	25.16		25.16
	001093	SLCC Parish Councillor Guide 20 th edition	14.75		14.75
	001087	Salary Clerk 102.75 hours including Additional hours extra meetings, year end accounts and annual report, elections, Quality Parish Council, March – June Approved. Cheque to be raised on completion PAYE			

Clerk requested permission to purchase new 2-drawer filing cabinet. Approx £75. Chairman proposed consent, agreed unanimously.

11/124 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 12 July 2011

Any business to be considered at this meeting must be delivered to the Clerk for inclusion on the agenda at least 6 clear days prior to the meeting.

All

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed Dated