

WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 January 2010 at 7.45 pm in the Village Hall, Witcham

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

In attendance Mrs S J Bell (Clerk)

Public question time opened at 7.30 pm – nil members of the public

Full Council business commenced at 7.45pm

No members of public present during meeting

The Chairman opened the meeting and recorded the sad loss of Mr Donald Saberton, a past Vice-Chairman and long-serving member of the Council, who had dedicated his services to the benefit of the village through his activities and support of many of the organisations in the village throughout his life. On behalf of the Council he had contributed £25 towards the memorial fund for Don, the proceeds of which are to go to the Village Hall

- Action
- 10/001 **Apologies for Absence** were received from Mr C Watson.
- 10/002 **Declaration of Interest:** There were none.
- 10/003 **Minutes of the meeting** of 1 December 2009 had been circulated, and were approved and signed. Proposed by Chairman and agreed unanimously.
- 10/004 **Matters Arising**
- 09/422 Matters Arising – Public Rights of Way/Droves.* Details for meeting with CCC Rights of Way Manager awaited. Chairman proposed Mr Berry be asked to raise drove problems at next Neighbourhood Panel meeting to seek views and information from other parishes. *Clerk/
AB*
- 10/005 **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**
- There were none.
- 10/006 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**
- The following ECDC decision was noted:
- 09/00784/FUL land adjacent 10 The Slade, 4 bed house - approved.
- 10/007 **RED TELEPHONE KIOSK – OFFER OF ADOPTION**
- Clerk had investigated the 3 main options and gave report. Chairman proposed members of the parish should be consulted and Clerk to write to BT accordingly to request more time. Chairman to prepare note for next “What’s On”. Mr Mackender proposed Clerk contact ~~Pymoor~~ Prickwillow Parish Council for further information on how they had dealt with adoption of their red kiosk. Mr David Saberton to make further enquiries about charges for disconnection of electricity supply. Seconded Mrs J Bibby and agreed unanimously. *Clerk
Chairman
Clerk
DS*
- 10/008 **PURCHASE OF LASER PRINTER/COPIER/SCANNER**
- Chairman proposed approval for Clerk to purchase HP1312 from Staples or PC World, obtaining best deal at around £221.27 plus VAT. *Clerk*
- 10/009 **APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR**
- Clerk presented up-date. Mr Mackender proposed appointment of Mr G Whitfield at £15 per hour. Estimated audit time 2-3 hours. Seconded Mr David Saberton and agreed unanimously. *Clerk*

10/010 REVIEW OF CEMETERY FEES AND MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Clerk presented proposed revision of fees, based on approximately 5% increase. Proposals adopted. Proposed Mr D Saberton, seconded Mr D A Bamforth and agreed unanimously. *Clerk*

Clerk presented paper on proposed Guidelines. These were examined and Chairman proposed adoption. Agreed unanimously. *Clerk*

10/011 RECREATION GROUND

Mr Saberton reported that there were no issues to report on play equipment

10/012 COMMUNITY POLICE

There were no issues to report.

10/013 REPORTS OF MEETINGS

Mr Mackender reported that he had a new contact for the Speedwatch scheme. Another session would be held in the coming months, after additional people had been trained to operate the equipment and carry out the checks. *KM*

P3 Parish Paths Scheme. Clerk to contact representative, Mr Berry, to check on how work was progressing with this year's scheme. The Groundsman had undertaken clearance work at the bottom of Headley's Lane. *Clerk AB*

10/014 STREET LIGHTING AND HIGHWAYS

Chairman reported that dog bins had not been kept regularly emptied over the holiday period. He had reported the matter to ECDC on 6 January and was promised they would be emptied on 7 January. However, they had still not been emptied on the 11 January and he would pursue the issue. *Chairman*

10/015 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

CCC Countryside Advisory Freight Map: Chairman proposed support for changing A1123 between St Ives and Soham from a strategic route to a local route. Agreed unanimously. ECDC Draft Shop Front Design Guide noted *Clerk*

10/016 CORRESPONDENCE

The following were received and noted:

ECDC Parish Code of Conduct Training. Clerk to inform ECDC of suitable dates. *Clerk*

ECDC Woodland Creation – note to go in next Council Newsletter *Clerk*

ECDC Local Development Scheme (formerly Local Plan) *Clerk*

CCC Jointly Funded Minor Highways Improvement Programme 2010/11 confirmation of provision of additional passing places at Jerusalem Drove

CCC Option to purchase additional salt bins. No funds in Parish budgets but Clerk to enquire if County Council could provide receptacle at Hive Road junction as this gets missed on gritting route. *Clerk*

10/017 PUBLICATIONS – circulated

ACRE Community Action

NHS Keeping in Touch

Cambs Constabulary – Policing East Cambs *All*

10/018 FINANCE

Clerk presented receipts and payments, reconciliation and report on budget for period ending 31 December 2009. Councillors noted street light maintenance and energy charge estimate for 2010/11 at £94.65 and £145.61 respectively. The Precept for 2010/11 was confirmed at £10,250. *Clerk*

10/018 **FINANCE (cont)**

The following receipts and payments were presented, checked and approved. Chairman proposed renewal of ACRE subscription at £25 per annum. Mrs J Bibby proposed increase to £8 for Joshua Lucas for delivery of the Council's quarterly newsletter. Seconded Mr David Saberton and agreed unanimously. *Clerk*

The following Receipts and Payments were presented and approved. Proposed by Chairman and agreed unanimously.

		£	£	£
Receipts	EDF Lease	50.00		50.00
Payments	000996 Cambridgeshire ACRE	25.00		25.00
	000997 Joshua Lucas Newsletter distribution	8.00		8.00
	000998 FJ Wells reimbursement 1&1 internet for Witcham.org	41.31		41.31
	000999 DA Bamforth reimbursement (Chairman's Allowance) Memorial contribution for Mr D Saberton	25.00		25.00
	d/d Talk Talk/One Tel Communication (Nov)	2.24	0.33	2.57

10/019 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 9 February 1010 commencing at 7.30 pm for monthly check of payments and receipts and 'open to the public' time. Business to commence at 7.45 pm.

All items to be considered at this meeting must be placed with Clerk for inclusion on agenda by *All* Monday 1 February, 2010.

Signed Dated