

WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 11 November 2008 at 7.45 pm in the Village Hall, Witcham

Present: D A Bamforth (Chairman), D J Saberton (Vice Chairman), C Watson

In attendance Mrs S J Bell (Clerk)
Cllr T Goodge (ECDC)

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

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| | | Action |
| 08/181 | Apologies for Absence were received from Mr A Berry, Mr K Mackender and District Councillor A Bailey. | |
| 08/182 | Declaration of Interest: There were none. | |
| 08/183 | Minutes of the meeting of 14 October, 2008 had been circulated, and were approved and signed. Proposed by Mr D Saberton, seconded by Chairman and agreed unanimously. | |
| 08/184 | Matters Arising | |
| | <i>08/160 Speedwatch Scheme.</i> Clerk had forwarded Mr K Mackender's contact details to Alan Williams, Neighbourhood Panel Co-ordinator. | KM |
| | <i>08/160 Recreation Ground and Village Hall Facilities:</i> Chairman was still waiting for volunteers to help install new goalposts. | Chairman |
| | There had been problems with getting the new dog bins emptied fast enough which had led to an incident. Councillor Goodge said he would pursue with the District Council. | TG |
| | Hall Ennion & Young had confirmed the builder had paid the legal fees and the Council confirmed they would pay the £40 for Search Fees. Proposed Chairman and agreed unanimously. | Clerk |
| | <i>008/160 Mepal and Witcham Primary School – Governors.</i> Chairman had received no response for this role. Clerk to inform Chairman of School Governors. | |
| | <i>08/165 Cemetery Management:</i> Chairman signed revised copy of table of fees. Copy to be circulated to local funeral directors. | Clerk |
| | <i>08/166 Youth Team:</i> Clerk still awaiting review information for previous year from Office of Children and Young People Service. | Clerk |
| | <i>08/170 Noise Nuisance:</i> Nothing further to report at present. | Clerk |
| | <i>08/176 Sanctuary Hereward Garage Lettings:</i> Mr Watson reported that the garages had been inspected but no further information on letting empty one. | Clerk |
| 08/185 | COMMUNITY POLICING | |
| | Clerk advised that PCSO J Halls would now attend December meeting. | |
| 08/186 | REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES | |
| | Councillor Goodge reported on County Council's proposals for reviewing and renewing bus contracts which included service 106 serving Witcham. Chairman brought forward agenda item 08/194 b) and the three proposed options were discussed. The Council preferred options which included services to and from City of Ely College, and possibly Tesco/railway station. Councillor Goodge to further these issues. | TG |

08/187 CASUAL VACANCY (Co-option)

The vacancy had been advertised and letters from interested candidates were presented and considered. The candidates were put to ballot.

Result: Julia Bibby was co-opted (2 votes, 1 abstention)

Clerk

08/188 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

08/00963/FUL Construction 2 storey building (demolish existing) – minor changes to windows and dormers. No objection.

Clerk

08/189 2009/10 PRECEPT

Draft budget presented at previous meeting. Mr D Saberton proposed the Precept by held at £10,000 for 2009/10. Seconded Mr C Watson and agreed unanimously.

Clerk

08/190 VILLAGE HALL FACILITIES

Chairman reported that the Village Hall Committee was taking steps with regards to improving facilities and was still working out costs and searching for grants.

008/191 RECREATION GROUND

Mr David Saberton had completed weekly checks and reported that sometimes there are patches in the multiplay area that are a bit slippery when it is wet. He will purchase new broom and take steps to clean surfaces. Clerk asked for the copy of the weekly checks for the archives.

DS

08/192 REPORTS OF MEETINGS

Role of Town and City Councils in Cambridgeshire Together with Local Strategic Partnerships 10 November. Representatives had been unable to attend due to other commitments but Clerk to try to get notes and any handouts.

Clerk

P3 Parish Paths Scheme – deferred to next meeting

AB

Heavy Commercial Vehicles Group – deferred to next meeting

KM/AB

Neighbourhood Panel 27 Oct – deferred to next meeting

AB

08/193 STREET LIGHTING AND HIGHWAYS

Clerk to contact County Council to report tree overhanging new lamp in The Slade.

Clerk

08/194 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

Communities in Local Government – Codes of Conduct for Councillors and Employees. Previously circulated. Any comments to be forwarded to Clerk for collation by 17 December.

All

08/195 CORRESPONDENCE

ECDC Pathfinder grants for play area improvements noted.

CCC Joint Funded Minor Highway Improvement 2009/10 bids unsuccessful. County Council advised the cost of providing cycle path between Witcham Toll and Wentworth was estimated to be around £240,000, whilst the maximum cost of a proposal was limited to £35,000 each. Details to be published in next Parish newsletter.

Clerk

MAGPAS First Responder Scheme. The Scheme Manager had advised that the group covering Witcham had been operating since 2002, and the volunteers had provided 10,000 hours covering Sutton, Mepal and Witcham, and so far there had been 5 patients from Witcham who had been treated under the scheme.

Resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure. To contribute £100 towards annual cost of providing a team covering Witcham. Proposed by Chairman, seconded Mr C Wilson and agreed unanimously.

08/195 **CORRESPONDENCE** (cont)

Inland Revenue advice on treatment of payment of wages and salaries, ie employee notifies tax office of expected annual income from the Parish Council and Clerk continues to issue statement at end of year for employee to pass to tax office so that these additional earnings may be coded out

Grounds
Clerk

08/196 **PUBLICATIONS**

CCC Inside Trade
Local Government Review

08/197 **DIARY DATES**

CALC AGM Saturday 6 December 2008

08/198 **FINANCE**

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

			£	£	£
Receipts		Nil			
Payments	000938	Clerk's Salary	191.40		191.40
	000939	RDM Design & Print – notice for recreation ground – kites	35.00	6.13	41.13
	000940	P & A Johnson - groundworks	489.00	85.58	574.58
	000941	C Walker Groundsman 11hrs & expenses	132.00		
			10.47	1.83	144.30
	000942	Hall Ennion & Young	40.00		40.00
	000943	MAGPAS LGA72 s.137	100.00		100.00
	d/d	Talk Talk	3.23	0.56	3.79

08/199 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 2 December 2008 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 business and payments to be considered at this Parish Council 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 9.30pm

Signed Dated