

## WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 8 February 2011 at 7.45 pm in the Village Hall, Witcham

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

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

Public question time opened at 7.30 pm – nil members of the public  
Verification of payments and receipts took place by the Chairman  
Full Council business commenced at 7.45pm  
No members of public present during meeting

- Action
- 11/018 **Apologies for Absence** were received from Mr K Mackender (work commitments)  
Mr C Watson (work commitments) and District Councillor A Bailey and County  
Councillor Read.
- 11/019 **Declaration of Interest:** There were none.
- 11/020 **Minutes of the meeting** of 11 January 2011 had been circulated, and were approved and signed.  
Proposed by Mrs J Bibby, seconded by Mr D Saberton, and agreed unanimously.
- 11/021 **Matters Arising**
- Clerk gave update on the following items from previous meetings:
- Martins Lane Flooding* - Hereward now arranging meeting with CCC highways. Mrs Bibby  
offered to represent Council. Date to be advised. JB/PR
- Burst Water main Silver Street* - Anglian Water apologised for delay; visited several times to  
assess and get specialised equipment to find and deal with problem.
- Droves* - No further response following the comments submitted on the County Council's  
proposal for measuring the width of Bury Road. Noted that some farmers had not been issued  
with new keys when the gates and/or locks replaced. Farmers were finding the replacement  
gates unsatisfactory for access to some of the droves for long farm vehicles and equipment. Clerk  
Other parishes were reported to have had similar complaints. Chairman proposed Rights of  
Way Officer and County Councillor be informed.
- 11/022 **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**
- Report on ECDC matters received from Councillor T Goodge. Discussion ensued on proposed  
flooding of land to create a new wetland habitat by the Environment Agency. Councillor Anna  
Bailey lead on representing local views. There were strong views for and against the proposals.  
Chairman proposed local meeting be held so that local people could attend to express views. Clerk
- 11/023 **QUALITY PARISH COUNCIL RE-ACCREDITATION**
- Clerk presented and circulated details for re-accreditation. Portfolio would be required for  
submission for June meeting of the QPC panel. Chairman proposed he contact the Quality  
Parish Council Project Officer (CPALC) to discuss merits of renewing. Agreed unanimously. DAB

**11/024 VILLAGE HALL FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT**

Chairman reported that the Village Hall Committee representatives, including the Parish Council representatives, would be attending a meeting with ECDC to discuss modifications within the next few days. Grant application forms, second signature required. *DAB/JB*

**11/025 RECREATION GROUND AND VILLAGE HALL FACILITIES**

Three quotations received TNS (£550 Stiga), Does (£450 Hayter) and Pecks (£394 Honda). Mrs Bibby proposed acceptance of the quote from Pecks. Seconded Mr A Berry and agreed unanimously. Chairman to arrange for purchase. *DAB*

Monthly report on inspection of play equipment received from Mr D Saberton. No problems.

Clerk confirmed the annual inspection fees, including report, was £45 by Wicksteed and £72 by Play Safety Ltd (RoSPA). Chairman proposed accept Wicksteed to carry out 2011 annual inspection. Seconded Mr D Saberton and agreed unanimously. *Clerk*

**11/026 2011 ELECTIONS**

District and Parish elections planned for 5 May 2011. Nomination period 25 March to 4 April 2011. Clerk to publish details. *Clerk*

**11/027 EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT**

Chairman proposed deferring this item as response on guidance for payment of expenses/allowances from CPALC still awaited. *DAB*

**11/028 ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS**

The NALC 2010 model had been examined by the working party in December. The proposed Orders were presented by the Clerk. Mr Berry proposed the new Standing Orders be adopted. Seconded Mr D Bamforth and agreed unanimously. Effective with effect from 1 March 2011. Signed by Chairman. Procedure for dealing with the Press etc to be drafted by Clerk. *Clerk*

*Clerk*

**11/029 COMMUNITY POLICE**

Nil

**11/030 REPORTS OF MEETINGS**

Nil

**11/031 STREET LIGHTING AND HIGHWAYS**

Outtage CCC6 High Street. *Clerk*

Pothole approx 50 feet from junction in High Street (crossroads) *Clerk*

**11/032 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS**

The following were previously circulated for consideration:

ECDC Draft Sex Establishments and Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy.  
No comments.

CCC Budgets and Localism Chief Executive's proposals on the County's Integrated Plan and Budget Proposals for the coming 5 years. Chairman proposed respond stating concerns on how the cuts will affect local people, particularly the vulnerable, eg loss of bus services in rural areas and proposed other options be put forward to help deal with these cuts. Agreed unanimously. *DAB/ Clerk*

Ouse Washes Habitat Creation Project. Previously discussed item 11/022

11/033 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Spinal Injuries Association – Great British Fish and Chip Supper 20May2011. *Clerk*  
 Note on noticeboard, copy to go to website.

CPALC/Addenbrooke's Hospital – opportunity for local people with type 2 diabetes to participate in research trial across Cambridgeshire Communities (RAPSID). Note on noticeboard and copy to go on website. *Clerk*

Cambridgeshire Community Services – consultation on becoming a community NHS Foundation Trust, a call for Members. Proposed new management strategy. Questionnaires circulated at previous meeting. Councillors to respond individually if wished. Copies available for parishioners if required although this document had been widely circulated by Cambridgeshire Community Services. *All*

ECDC Review of Core Strategy. Chairman presented letter. Responses required by 28 February, DAB/ results will be presented at future series of Neighbourhood Panel meetings *Clerk*

11/034 **PUBLICATIONS**

CPALC Winter newsletter circulated

11/035 **FUTURE MEETINGS**

A142 cycleway. Witchford Parish Council organising brainstorming session. Date to be advised *AB*

HCV New Lorry Strategy- 2 March 2011 Swavesey College, 7 – 9pm *AB/KM*

11/036 **FINANCE**

Clerk circulated quarterly accounts. Bank statements and reconciliations, receipts and payments signed off by Chairman. Clerk confirmed £12000 had been transferred to 1 year fixed term deposit at Lloyds plc.

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

			£	£	£
Receipts	Nil				
Payments	001049	E Lucas	8.00		8.00
	001050	Clerks salary and overtime to 31.1.11			
		expenses and internet Sept-Dec	496.14		496.14
	001051	CCC Street light energy& mntnce	240.26		240.26

11/037 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 22 March 2011, 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.

**Items for next agenda:** Closure of village clubs: Friendship Club and Produce Show (Chairman)

***Any items of business for the agenda, including motions requiring written notice, and payments and receipts must be delivered to the Clerk 7 clear days before the meeting: 14 March 2011. (Section 4, Standing Orders 2011)***

*All*

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed ..... Dated .....