

WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 April 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)

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

- | | | Action |
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| 11/60 | <p>Apologies for Absence were received from Mr C Watson (as in previous months due to work commitments), Mr P Read, County Councillor, and Mr T Goodge and Anna Bailey, District Councillors (previous commitments to meetings)</p> <p>Chairman reported that Mr C Watson had advised that with regret he would not be standing for re-election due to work commitments.</p> | |
| 11/61 | <p>Declaration of Interest: There were none</p> | |
| 11/62 | <p>Minutes of the meeting of 22 March 2011 approved and signed. Proposed by Chairman and agreed unanimously.</p> | |
| 11/63 | <p>Matters Arising</p> <p><i>11/041 Martins Lane Flooding</i> – Hereward had promised to advise details of site meeting with Council very soon.</p> <p><i>11/048 Best Kept Garden Competition</i> – Judging planned for May so as to include vegetables. Mr D Saberton to finalise arrangements with judges.</p> <p><i>11/050 Football Goals</i> – Chairman confirmed the goals had been rotated around recreation ground.</p> <p><i>11/051 Quality Parish Council Status</i> – Council considered deferring decision for reaccreditation until after new Council in office mid-May. Clerk advised that with her current workload for Annual Parish Meeting, Annual General Meeting, year-end accounts and audit preparation, Annual Reports, newsletter, elections, etc she would really struggle now to get the portfolio completed by May for submission to the June meeting of the panel. She was checking to see when the next panel meeting would be and whether a break before reaccreditation would be acceptable. Also advice from CPALC on Clerk’s contract still awaited.</p> <p><i>11/057 Publications – Neighbourhood Panels – funding</i> - Clerk presented letter from ECDC. A significant proportion of parish councils had committed to provide funding but other public sector partners, ie major funders, had not yet made the commitment which would secure the future of the Neighbourhood Panels. Therefore the District Council had had to make arrangements to finance the Panels without partner contributions. Parishes will not now be asked to fund.</p> | <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Clerk</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>DJS</i></p> |
| 11/64 | <p>REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES</p> <p>There was none.</p> | |
| 11/65 | <p>ECDC CORE STRATEGY REVIEW</p> <p>The review was discussed.</p> | |

11/66 STREET LIGHTING

Agenda paper and CCC correspondence of 21 March 2011 regarding future arrangements for street lighting maintenance and energy had been circulated. Chairman proposed acceptance of Option 1 as the basis for the maintenance agreement which included structural and electrical inspections with bulk clean and change regime at £20.05 per lamp for 5 lamps, up to and including 31.3.12. Agreed unanimously. *Clerk*

11/67 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

P3 Scheme: Mr Berry confirmed he had asked the County Council for a quote to treat the surface of Bury Road drove. He reported that the County Council had been erecting the wooden finger posts on the local droves and it was part of their annual programme, however, the Rights of Way Officer had been unsure as to whether or not the task had been completed on all the droves yet. *AB*

11/68 RECREATION GROUND

Annual Inspection report from Wicksteed had been circulated. Discussed and agreed to monitor. Proposed Chairman, seconded Mr K Mackender and agreed unanimously.

Mr Saberton reported there was nil to report on the weekly inspections of play area but slat on seat at recreation ground by village hall roadway broken. Chairman proposed Mr Saberton contact Mr Giles to get quote for repairs and executed subject to ceiling £100. *DJS*

11/69 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 26 April 2011

Draft agenda agreed. Clerk to ask Community Youth Team representative to attend. Draft Annual Report and Summary of Accounts 2010/11 circulated. *Clerk*

11/70 COMMUNITY POLICE

March crime report circulated. Nil to report to Police

11/71 REPORTS OF MEETINGS

Nil to report

11/72 STREET LIGHTING AND HIGHWAYS

Nil to report

11/73 CORRESPONDENCE

The following were received and noted
CCC Outcome of Consultation regarding Bus Service Changes for 17.4.11

11/74 FINANCE

2010/11 Year End Accounts. Copies of receipts and payments, reconciliations, summary of receipts and payments had been previously circulated. Clerk presented Risk Assessment and Fixed Asset Register for 2010/11. The Annual Return for 2010/11, sections 1 and 2, accounting statements and notes, and annual governance statement were reviewed and completed, and signed off by the Clerk and Chairman. Proposed Chairman and agreed unanimously.

The Notice of Appointment of Date for the Exercise of Electors' Rights had been prepared for the noticeboard. Inspection period is 5 May to 2 June 2011.

11/74 **FINANCE (cont)**

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

			£	£	£
Receipts		Nil			
Payments	001057	P Walker Wages& Expenses March	204.00		
			11.95	2.39	218.34
	001059	Witcham Village Hall hire	212.00		212.00
	001062	J Phillips Reimbursement			
		What's On copying s.142	38.69	7.51	46.20
	001063	Wicksteed Annual Inspection fee	45.00	9.00	54.00
	001064	Clerk expenses Toner	51.88	10.38	
		and stationery	5.77		68.02
	001065	SLCC	72.00		72.00

11/75 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday 10 May 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: Request to use recreation ground

Any business and payments, to be considered at 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 8.50pm

Signed Dated