

WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL *NEWSLETTER*



May 2011

Local Elections

5 nominations were received for seats on the Parish Council which gives us an uncontested election. The Council is quorate and so the remaining vacancy will now be filled by the Council by co-option.

At the District Council, Tony Goodge and Anna Bailey won back their seats to serve us as the representatives of the Downham villages. We look forward to continuing our working relationships with them over the coming term of office.

Public Rights of Way

The County Council's contractors will be undertaking the annual grasscutting of some of the droves during May and July. This will include Footpath No.2 between Back Lane and High Street. The Parish Council will be undertaking some improvements under the County Council's P3 scheme.

Consultation Issues

The County and District Councils are consulting with parishes to set up protocols for delegating services for those wishing to take up the opportunities expected under the Government's Localism agenda. Consultations are also ongoing on the future of local public audit following plans to disband the Audit Commission.

Mobile Library Service

**1st Wednesday of every month
Village Centre
2.15pm to 2.35pm**

Recreation Ground

Dogs are not permitted on the recreation ground. Dog owners are requested to use the dog bins provided for disposal of dog waste please. These dog bins are located by the bus shelter, at the end of High Street/Headleys Lane, and by the concrete road on The Slade. Please do not use the normal street litter bins.

Thank you for helping us make Witcham a better place.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

PARISH COUNCIL OF WITCHAM

NOTICE OF VACANCY

IN OFFICE OF

PARISH COUNCILLOR

Applications are invited to fill the vacancy on the Council following the uncontested election arranged for 5 May 2011. This vacancy will be filled by the Council by co-option at the June meeting.

COULD YOU SPARE A COUPLE OF HOURS A WEEK TO HELP YOUR COMMUNITY

Interested persons should submit a letter of application to the Parish Clerk **by noon on Monday 6 June 2011** setting out their interest, skills and abilities to contribute to the role of the Council (approx 100 words).

To qualify to serve on the Parish Council you need to be

- a) A British citizen, or a citizen of the Commonwealth or the European Union
- b) 18 years old or older
- c) free of either a criminal record or bankruptcy
- d) on the list of electors for Witcham or during the whole of the previous 12 months have either
 - i) occupied land as owner or tenant within the parish
 - ii) had a principle place of work within the parish
 - iii) lived within 3 miles of the parish boundary

Disqualification from being elected a member is set out in Section 80 of the Local Government Act 1972.

As a Parish Councillor you would –

Attend a monthly meeting of the Full Council where Councillors decide on strategies, what activities to support and on what to spend money locally;

Participate in monitoring and ensuring effective provision of services from local authorities;

As a **local representative** of the community, work with local authorities and local organisation, and have responsibilities towards local people and organisations

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT THE
PARISH CLERK – 01353 778147**

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are held in the Village Hall

Next dates:

14 June 2011
12 July 2011
13 September 2011

Any items for the agenda should be placed with the **Clerk** at least **1 week prior to the scheduled meeting**.

Agendas and approved Minutes are posted on the website each month.

Agenda and Minutes of latest meeting on the noticeboards at the crossroads.

There is an opportunity for the electorate to attend these meetings and provision is made for public participation/question time, (15 minutes) at each meeting. Contact the Clerk prior to the meeting.

Please see the noticeboard to view agendas and minutes, and any changes to proposed meeting dates.

Additional meetings may be called to consider planning applications as required by the planning authority.

RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

Please put your refuse and recycling items out by 7.00am on day of collection. (please be aware the earliest is the evening before, otherwise you are deemed to be committing an offence!)

Additional bags available – phone VEOLIA 01353 863864
(Max 4 brown garden bags will be replenished per household)

STREET CLEANING

(*early* Friday mornings)

Unfortunately the ECDC contractor is unable to give us a definitive list of dates because they say they have to re-schedule according to needs. However, it should continue basically on a 4 weekly cycle.

It really does help if as many vehicles as possible can be removed from the highway on the morning the road sweeper is expected.

FAULTY STREET LIGHTS

If you notice a faulty street light please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk or any member of the Council quoting street light number and name of street.

2011/12 MEMBERS OF WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

NAME	CONTACT
CHAIRMAN Ashley Bamforth	01353 777453
VICE-CHAIRMAN David Saberton	01353 778309
COUNCILLORS	
Allistair Berry	01353 778081
Karl Mackender	01353 777640
Julia Bibby	01353 777267
VACANCY	
COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS	
Philip Read Cambridgeshire County Council	01353 778603
Anna Bailey East Cambridgeshire District Council	01353 663253
Tony Goodge East Cambridgeshire District Council	01353 664491

Clerk: Susan Bell
17 Astley Close, Sutton,
Ely, Cambs CB6 2PG
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Email Witchamparishc@btinternet.com