

WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 11 October 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Witcham

Present: D J Saberton (Vice-Chairman, in the Chair), J Bibby, M Housden, K Mackender

In attendance Mrs S J Bell (Clerk)

Members of the Public – Nil

Mr Brendan Troy – Forward Planning Officer, East Cambs District Council – Village Visions (11/169)

Mr Mick Oliver and Miss Charlotte Wenn Community CARS (11/172)

Action

11/165 **Apologies for Absence** were received from Mr D A Bamforth (illness), Mr A Berry (work commitments) District Councillor A Bailey and County Councillor P Read.

11/166 The Chairman, Mr Saberton, welcomed Mr Housden to his first meeting of the Council. The Clerk confirmed that the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Code of Conduct had been completed, together with the Notification of Interests which had been despatched to ECDC.

11/167 **Declaration of Interest:** There were none

11/168 **Public Participation:** No members of the public present

11/169 ECDC VILLAGE VISIONS

Mr Troy presented the results of the questionnaires distributed during the consultation period (27 June to 18 July). 8 questionnaires had been returned to ECDC (of 190 dwellings) giving a response rate of only 4%. (attached). As the results were inconclusive he sought guidance from the Parish Council.

Mr Saberton reported that in the past the Council had seen a need for affordable homes. A plan of the village was examined and possible areas for development were discussed, which Mr Troy undertook to take away to put together proposals for the next stage of consultation.

Mr Troy stressed the proposals for developing outside the village development envelope were separate to any proposals for development coming forward from within the current development envelope.

(Mr Mackender arrived)

Mr Troy reported that the questionnaires revealed 75% of respondents did not want to see opportunities for small businesses in the village and sought the Council's opinion. The Council did not specifically want to see areas of land set aside in the new Local Plan for this. Mr Troy said that this would not preclude consideration for consent for individuals to put an application forward on an individual basis.

The questionnaires revealed some support for improvements to the Village Hall, play facilities, improved footpaths and cycle route to Ely. Mr Troy said that if development took place this would help provide funds for infrastructure.

Clerk and Mr Troy to liaise to arrange follow-up meeting for next stage of consultation. Mr Troy left the meeting.

Clerk

Clerk reported on email of 27 September from Mr A Berry regarding proposals for development at garage site and it was noted there had been an increase from 8 to 11 dwellings on this site. There was no further discussion.

The Chairman proposed moving to item 11/173 and this was agreed.

11/173 WITCHAM YOUTH CLUB PROVISION – CARTS

Charlotte Wenn, Secretary, reported that the CARTS charity had been set up in May to provide Community facilities following the difficulties which had arisen under the management of Sutton Parish Council. Mr Oliver would be taking up post in December. Reports of activities and attendances at the Witcham facility were circulated and discussed. The Service Level Agreement between Witcham Parish Council, CARTS and Mepal Youth Club Adult Management Committee was presented. This will run to the end of the current financial year, September 11 to March 2012. The Charity is run by Trustees comprising staff, youth workers, local businessmen and representatives from Mepal and Sutton Parish Councils.

The Council had been pleased with the provision of youth services in the past and wished to keep up the service. Mr K Mackender proposed acceptance of the service at £1005.75 for period 26 Sept 2011 to 26 March 2012 and £1035.92 for 2012-13. Seconded Mrs J Bibby and agreed unanimously. Fees payable on termly basis. Mr Oliver to arrange for invoices including £330 to be reimbursed to Mepal Parish Council for term to September. Noted, provision of a summer holiday scheme was available for £536 per week.

Ms Wenn and Mr Oliver left the meeting.

11/170 **Minutes of the meeting** of 13 September 2011 had been circulated, and were approved and signed. Proposed by Mrs J Bibby, seconded Mr D Saberton and agreed unanimously.

11/171 Matters Arising

11/149, 154 Noise Nuisance Silver Street. Nothing further to report since last meeting.

11/148, 152 Development adj 19 Westway Place: Acknowledgement of letter to Head of Planning ECDC received together with report from Mr Goodge.

11/172 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

There were none

11/174 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following ECDC decision was noted:

11/00699/CLP Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed use for single storey extension to rear 15A High Street Witcham

11/175 RECREATION GROUND AND VILLAGE HALL FACILITIES

Mr Saberton reported there was nothing to report in respect of the inspections of the play area equipment.

Mr Housden reported that the football goal nets were in a poor state. Agreed Clerk to obtain quotes for renewal and in the meantime the old nets would be removed. Proposed Mr D Saberton, seconded Mr M Housden and agreed unanimously. Clerk

Mr Housden reported that one of the lines of drainage at the top of the recreation ground was sinking. Mrs Bibby to examine and advise what could be done to re-level. JB

11/176 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Clerk confirmed the limestone had been ordered and paid for. Arrangements for delivery to be confirmed with Mr D Saberton who would spread as soon as practicable. DJS

Up-date from Alison Finn regarding CCC proposals for cutting at Bury Road in coming months was presented and noted.

Clerk reported that Ms Haggett was finalising her report on the registration of the width of this drove.

11/177 CEMETERY

Applications from RS Memorials for removal of kerb set and replacement with new memorial for L and E Saberton, and additional inscription and attachment of wings to existing stone for S Saberton received and approved. Proposed K Mackender, seconded J Bibby and agreed unanimously.

Clerk

11/178 ADOPTION NEW STANDING ORDER NO. 32 REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.

Clerk had amended and re-issued Witcham Parish Council Standing Orders. Adoption proposed by Mr D Saberton, seconded Mrs J Bibby and agreed unanimously.

11/179 COMMUNITY POLICE

September report from PC Humble, previously circulated, received and noted. No issues to raise.

11/180 REPORTS OF MEETINGS

Mr Saberton gave a report of the Mepal Outdoor Centre Trustees meeting and informed the meeting the Centre was doing well.

11/181 STREET LIGHTING AND HIGHWAYS

The Clerk presented details of the CCC gritting routes. A grit bin had been ordered for top of Martins Lane/Hive Road. Clerk to arrange for siting on the Mepal side by the road sign.

11/182 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

ECDC Draft Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document. Details previously circulated to Councillors. No comment
Boundary Commission for England – review of Parliamentary constituencies in England – changes for Eastern region. Details previously circulated to Councillors. Noted Newmarket to be part of Ely/East Cambs.
CCC Removal of all subsidised bus service funding. The Council disagreed with the proposal to withdraw funding. Proposed Mr K Mackender, seconded Mr D Saberton and agreed unanimously.

11/183 CORRESPONDENCE

Addenbrooke's Hospital, opportunities for Governors to engage with the public, meetings, newsletters, noted
Neighbourhood Panel Teams Terms of Reference. Previously circulated. Noted
CCC Annual Budget consultation commenced

11/184 DIARY DATES

Cambridgeshire Renewables Infrastructure Framework 18 October 2011, 5 – 7pm The Maltings, Ely
A142 Cycleway 16 November 2011, 7.30pm Witcham Village Hall AB
CPALC Annual Meeting 3 December 2011, 10.00 – 12.30 Bluntisham Village Hall DAB/AB

11/185 FINANCE

The Clerk reported that the External Audit had been completed and presented the report which was accepted by the meeting.

The following Receipts and Payments were presented, checked and approved. Proposed by Mr D Saberton and agreed unanimously.

		£	£	£
Receipts	Precept (2 nd)	5300.00		5300.00
Payments	001111 Bullimores Limestone (confirmed)	215.00	43.00	258.00
	001112 Groundsman	120.00		120.00
	001113 Reimburse FJ Wells 1+1internet	25.16		25.16

11/185 **FINANCE** (cont)

001114	Clerk salary Oct	205.00		205.00
001115	Balfour Beatty St Light Mntnce	100.25	20.05	120.30
001116	Moore Stephens	141.00	28.20	169.20
d/d	Talk Talk		2.16	2.16

Clerk to check when payment was made for Village Hall planning application submission.
 Opportunity to amend plans without incurring extra fees is limited to one year. To inform
 Mrs J Bibby, Village Hall representative.

Clerk

11/186 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Clerk to arrange interim meeting for some time in the next two weeks to consider :
 Planning application, received after issue of agenda for this meeting,
 Village Visions review proposals for next stage of consultation
 Obtain quotation for replacement of football goal nets

Next ordinary planned meeting 8 November 2011 commencing 7.30 pm

ITEMS for next agenda: Neighbourhood Watch and Budget Review/preliminary Precept setting

All business, including requests for payments, to be considered 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 9.35pm

Signed Dated