

WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14 March 2006 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Witcham

Present: D A Bamforth (Chairman), P Chambers (Vice-Chairman), D J Saberton, D K Saberton
C Watson

In attendance Mrs S J Bell (Clerk)
Mrs B Daters (ECDC)
Mr A White (ECDC)

Members of the public 3 members of Witcham Cricket Club regarding provision of nets
1 member of the parish regarding planning application Woodland Burial, Hive Road

The meeting opened at 7.30 pm to allow members of the public to speak.

The Chairman closed the open session to allow commencement of Council business, and confirmed the issues raised by members of the public would be considered under item 248 and 247 respectively.

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| | | <i>Action</i> |
| 243 | Apologies for Absence were received from Mr M Wilkin. | |
| 244. | Declaration of Interest: Minute 248 Mobile Cricket Nets: Mr Don Saberton, as President of the Cricket Club, declared an interest and took no part in discussion and decision. | |
| 245. | Minutes of the meetings of 14 February and 28 February 2006 had been circulated, and were approved and signed. Proposed by Chairman and agreed unanimously. | |
| 246. | Matters Arising | |
| | 233 <i>P3 Parish Paths Scheme:</i> Outcome of application awaited. | |
| 247. | PLANNING APPLICATIONS | |
| | 06/00223/FUL Fen View, Hive Road, Witcham proposed Woodland Burial Site. Further details required regarding environmental issues, traffic and access to site, practical issues. | <i>Clerk</i> |
| 248. | RECREATION GROUND | |
| | Annual safety inspection by RoSPA planned for April. | |
| | Application for registration of recreation ground as Village Green deferred by County Council. Chairman proposed letter be sent to owner of adjacent land in Martins Lane to explain delay. Seconded Mr P Chambers and agreed unanimously. | <i>Clerk</i> |
| | Mr David Saberton reported that there were no issues to report on play equipment. | |
| | Chairman proposed maximum of £1250 funding for cricket nets, subject to Witcham Cricket Club arranging for costs of transport and assembly (£250) and to working with the Council to secure any funding available. Seconded Mr P Chambers and agreed unanimously. (see Minute 244) Chairman to contact Russell Dole for advice on grant availability | <i>Clerk</i> |
| 249. | PARISH PLAN | |
| | Clerk reported successful outcome of application for grant of £1500 towards Parish Plan. Proposed plan of action to be implemented with public meeting to be held on 25 April to form a steering group. First steering group meeting planned for 8 May. Notices to be issued and letters to be sent to each village organisation. | <i>Clerk</i>

<i>Chairman</i> |

250. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Notices for invite to tender published. Closing date for receipt of tenders noon on 30 March 2006. An extra-ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 30 March 2006 at 6.30 pm in the Cricket Club room adjacent Village Hall to open tenders and select. Proposed by the Chairman and agreed by all. *All*

251. CEMETERY

Further details awaited from Diocese regarding arrangements for consecration. *Clerk*

Clerk confirmed she had not received a response regarding request to purchase additional land to extend cemetery.

Clerk reported on letter from Association of Burial Authorities dated 6 January 2006 regarding provision of cemeteries by parish councils.

Burial fees were reviewed and re-set with effect from 1 April 2006. Grant of Burial Rights to remain at 99 years. Proposed Mr Don Saberton, seconded Mr C Watson and agreed unanimously. *Clerk*

10 (No.) paving slabs at £2.00 each to be purchased and laid as temporary markers at the Garden of Remembrance. Proposed by Chairman and agreed by all. Date to be set for meeting at Cemetery to review layout in next few weeks. *DKS All*

Letter received from family member regarding query of damage to temporary burial marker; Mr Don Saberton advised he believed this looked like damage sustained by a mower. *Clerk*

Application for additional inscription for Ivy Baker from T L Cobbold received and approved. Proposed by Chairman and agreed by all. *Clerk*

252. CAMBRIDGESHIRE YOUTH SERVICE

Clerk had received no further communication from parishioners regarding provision of youth facilities at the Village Hall. Cambridgeshire Youth Service had advised that they do not experience problems with neighbours in other villages and would want to hear of any disturbances the next day in order that issues could be dealt with.

In the meantime the Youth Service Manager had written to advise that he was hoping to operate a Junior Sports Leadership Course using the recreation ground and village hall toilets on a Wednesday evening as there was no staff available to run a Monday evening facility in the hall.

253. COMMUNITY POLICE AND COUNTRYSIDE WATCH

No issues to report to the Community Beat Officer. It was decided not to take membership of the Countryside Watch Scheme but the Council would be happy to facilitate promotion, eg host session for marking up of kit. Proposed Mr P Chambers, seconded Mr D A Bamforth and agree by all. *Clerk*

254. CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLANT

Councillors comments received and discussed. Consultation period extended to 13 April, 2006. *Clerk*

255. ECDC DRAFT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

To be circulated to Councillors. *Clerk*

256. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Scheduled for 16 May 2006. Clerk to enquire if Countryside Watch representatives would attend as speaker. Chairman's Annual Report to be prepared. *Clerk*

257. REPORTS OF MEETINGS

Chairman reported on the Neighbourhood Panels Consultation meeting he attended on 25 January 2006.

258. STREET LIGHTING AND HIGHWAYS

Streetlight CCC2 Silver Street not working.

Clerk

CCC Street lighting 05/06 maintenance charge £80.80 and energy charge £76.75, invoice awaited.

Clerk

ECDC Vehicle Amnesty commencing 23 February noted.

CCC Public Path Order Applications, Highways Act 1980, 'pre-application consultation' with statutory user groups and parish councils now required prior to submission to Countryside Access Team. Sole extinguishment applications will need to provide evidence that that the path is not needed for public use.

259. FINANCE

a) Bank signatories. Meeting at Bank on 18 March 2006 at 9.30 am.

b) & c) The following Receipts and Payments were presented, checked and approved

			£	£	£
Receipts	Nil				
Payments	000750	CALC ABA membership	55.50		55.50
	000751	S Bell salary Jan- Mar £525.60 & reimbursement expenses £165.33	682.00	8.93	690.93
	000752	Mepal Office Stores Whats On (S142) Feb/Mar & Winter newsletter	42.00		42.00
	d/d	Vartec	2.67	0.46	3.13
		Data Protection Fee (to be confirmed) Invoice for Village Hall hire awaited	35.00		35.00

260. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 11 April 2006 commencing at 7.15 pm for monthly check of payments and receipts and 'open to the public' time. Business to commence at 7.30 pm. All business 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 9.35 pm

Signed

Dated