

## WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 July, 2005 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Witcham

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**Present:** D A Bamforth (Chairman), D J Saberton, D K Saberton, M Wilkin

*In attendance:* Mrs S J Bell (Clerk)

Action

109. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Mr P Chambers, Mr P Bailey, Mrs B Daters and Mr A White.

110. **Declaration of Interest:** There were none.

111. **Minutes of the meeting** of 21 June 2005 had been circulated, and were approved and signed. Proposed by Mr David Saberton, seconded by Mr Don Saberton and agreed unanimously.

112. **Matters Arising**

*Groundsman* had cut grass etc immediately following the last meeting prior to Chairman having opportunity to contact him. However he had not been back since to cut grass or empty bins. Clerk instructed to write expressing Council's dissatisfaction and ascertain his willingness to continue. Clerk to contact ECDC for supply of bin bags.

*Clerk  
Clerk*

*BOATS* Chairman reported on correspondence with Smiths Gore who did not support proposals. He proposed writing to tenant regarding installation of gates and stiles and this was agreed.

*Use of Recreation Ground:* Chairman had checked public liability for Pea Shoot prior to use.

*Best Kept Garden Competition:* Mr Don Saberton advised judging was on-going. He will collect salvers and shields from last year's winners and arrange for engraving at Littleport.

*DKS*

113. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

05/00768/FUL Hillcrest, Mepal Road, Witcham. 2-storey side extension and single store rear extension. No objection subject to matching materials used.

*Clerk*

114. **RECREATION GROUND**

Chairman awaiting response from Cricket Club. Mr Don Saberton to pursue with members.

*DKS*

Mr David Saberton reported the multiplay grips had been re-fixed. No other issues to report.

Problems with vandalism and damage were reported around recreation ground area: trees and branches broken down and play dens made against Hall wall, bus shelter tiles removed, football stakes bent and mis-used, square hole dug out on recreation ground over by bus shelter – to be filled in with soil. Item to go in "What's On".

*DJS/DKS  
Clerk*

115. **VILLAGE HALL FACILITIES**

No further progress on registration of recreation ground as village green and exchange of land.

116. **CCC REVIEW OF LIBRARY ROUTES**

Consultation - proposals to amend Witcham stop: 1.00 pm to 1.40pm on Fridays. Chairman proposed support of this proposal. Agreed by all.

*Clerk*

117. **BT TELEPHONE KIOSK REVIEW**

BT proposed to remove cash box from kiosk in High Street and convert for emergency, operator controlled, reverse charge, credit card and Chargecard calls. Local authorities may fund upgrade to broadband enabled multimedia kiosks. Chairman proposed Clerk arrange for note to be placed on "What's On" for public to comment. Agreed by all. BT require Council's response by **30 August 2005**.

*Clerk*

**118. INSURANCE REVIEW**

Chairman proposed defer to September meeting to allow feedback from Mr Chambers. Agreed by all.

**119. EAST CAMBS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK AND CAMBS AND PETERBOROUGH MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Clerk had previously distributed document with questionnaires. Not all Councillors had yet seen. Questionnaires to be returned to Clerk for return to CCC by **15 July** latest.

*All/Clerk***120. SPEEDWATCH SCHEME**

Chairman proposed item be deferred to September meeting and in the meantime a note be placed in "What's On" seeking support from parishioners to lead.

*Clerk***121. TRAFALGAR WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS – OCTOBER 2005**

Chairman was making enquiries for parishioners to lead.

*Chairman***122. CORRESPONDENCE**

ECDC Witcham Conservation Area – to note proposals to prune 3 Horse Chestnut trees, The Hall

**123. REPORTS OF MEETINGS**

There were no meetings to report.

**124. STREET LIGHTING AND HIGHWAYS**

No issues to report.

**125. FINANCE**

a) Appointment of Internal Auditor: Clerk advised fees for next period would be in line with existing, plus annual cost of living award. Chairman proposed acceptance, seconded by Mr Don Saberton and agreed by all.

b) Bank Mandate: Mr Wilkin advised that the documents were now with Mr Watson.

c) & d) The following receipts and payments were presented and approved

*Clerk  
CW*

	£	£	£
Receipts	Nil		
Payments			
000727 CALC Annual Subscription (paid following previous meeting)	96.99		96.99
000728 Garden Works Tree Surgery	750.00	131.25	881.25
000729 Groundsman Wages (May/June) (withheld)			
000730 Mepal Office Services (Jun/Jul)	28.00		28.00

**126. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 13 September 2005 subject to an extraordinary meeting for planning applications or urgent business if required.

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*