

Widdington Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 1st December 2022 at 8.00pm

Present Chair Ian Southcott, Cllr Maggs Webb, Cllr Chris Firmin, Cllr Teresa Petchey, Cllr. Lynn Harris, Cllr. Steve Smith

In Attendance District Cllr. Emanuel, 5 members of the public and Katrina Levy, Clerk to the Council.

12.22.01 CHAIR`S WELCOME

Chair Ian Southcott welcomed those present to the meeting.

12.22.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Cllr. Edwards, District Cllr. Hargreaves.

12.22.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None

12.22.04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

Resident was recording the meeting from the start of the meeting

Resident asked question regarding item 12.22.09.1 and the crowd funding.

Chair responded that WPC would be as open as possible but constrained due to legal proceedings about to be issued to high court and the Judicial review would be considered at each stage as agreed in the November meeting.

Widdington Pit – resident has made a formal complaint to ECC regarding management of the site over a number of years - Chair response minuted 12.22.12.

12.22.05 COUNTY COUNCILLOR`S REPORT

None

12.22.06 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR`S REPORT

All major applications now going through committee, the planning committee has been very busy this month. Back to once per month but full days, new issues are coming up regularly. Newport news – one of the lanes gone from 12 houses to 70+, the surface of the lane has been badly affected. Two further applications that went to appeal have been refused by the inspectorate. Cllr Emmanuel felt that implementation of the neighbourhood plan was part of this success in controlling further building on this lane.

12.22.07 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the November Parish Council Meeting were approved by Councillors as an accurate representation and Chair Southcott signed the minutes.

12.22.10 CLERK`S REPORT

The Clerk reported;

1. Barclays bank access to reserve account achieved and all funds transferred to unity bank. New savings account opened with unity for reserves.
2. Arrange bags and pick up for the village litter pick.
3. Paperwork pertaining to judicial review.
4. Local highways form completed and sent to County Cllr Gooding, for quiet lane.
5. Flooding at various locations in the village reported to Essex Highways.
6. Potholes on Hollow Road reported to Essex Highways – copy in T. McCarthy & Cllr Gooding.
7. Short list put together for the commemorative tree.
8. Logged Widdington PCs objection to UTT/22/2825/OP (south of Cornell's lane).
9. Clerk attended two training sessions at EALC – Roles & Responsibilities and Law & Procedures.

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10. With volunteers from council and residents the filing cabinets of old records nearly completely sorted.

2 members of the public left the building

12.22.09 PLANNING

1. Update on planning Appeal and Judiciary review actions and finances (applications UTT/21/2137/FUL (APP/C1570/W/22/3296928) and UTT/22/2278/FUL) – covered in public participation.
2. To consider making representation to the [Uttlesford District Council](#) in response to planning application matters arising since November 2022 meeting.

9.2i. UTT/22/3029/HHF/UTT/22/3056/LB - Mount House High Street Widdington Saffron Walden Essex CB11 3SG - Proposed single storey side and rear extensions and garden room. [Deadline for comments: 8th December 2022. No comments from the council.](#)

9.2ii. UTT/22/3050/DOC - Mole Hall Mole Hall Lane Widdington Essex CB11 3SS - Discharge of condition 3 (biodiversity enhancement layout) 4 (wildlife sensitive lighting scheme) attached to UTT/21/2477/FUL [Determination deadline – 3rd January. No comments from the council.](#)

9.2iii. UTT/22/3111/HHF - High Ridge House Spring Hill Widdington Essex CB11 3SB - Two storey and single storey rear and side extensions, replacement windows, insulated render to the existing house and landscaping to the rear. [Deadline for comments – 15th December 2022. No comments from council.](#)

9.2iv. UTT/22/3191/FUL - Land To The North Of Cornells Lane Widdington CB11 3SG - Proposed erection of 4 no. detached dwellings and associated works - alternative scheme to that approved under UTT/22/2278/FUL [Deadline for comments – 27th December 2022 – WPC undertaking legal advice. District Cllr Emanuel has already called it to UDC planning committee. Clerk has requested extension from planning](#)

3. To note [Uttlesford District Council](#) planning decisions, decided since November Parish Council meeting.

9.3i. UTT/22/2773/DOC - Land To The South Of Cornells Lane Widdington Essex - Application to discharge condition 8 (contamination) and 9 (remediation) attached to UTT/21/0545/FUL (approved under Appeal APP/C1570/W/21/3281527). Decision – [Refuse to Discharge Conditions.](#)

4. Decision tree – discuss possible amendments and agree next steps. WPC want to review the decision tree. The working party terms of reference are to review and recommend alternatives in the February 2023 meeting. Vote - Unanimous agreement.

12.22.10 FINANCE

12.22.10.1 Invoices; The clerk presented a statement of accounts and reconciliation to cash books which were agreed and approved for signature.

Deposit with solicitors for judicial review	-£2000
Information commission data protection fee (Direct Debit)	-£35.00
R. Dennison - garage buy/back scheme	-£100.00
KL Clerk Salary, including back pay Apr-Oct 2022	-£784.87
KL Clerk Expenses	-£88.99
EALC Clerk Training Roles & Responsibilities Course - invoice no. 16008	-£84.00

They were [approved for payment.](#)

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12.22.10.2 Reserve Bank Account – All funds are transferred from Barclays to Unity Trust and a new savings account application made.

12.22.10.3 Budget – Chair Southcott proposed Budget proposal one. Council unanimously agreed.

12.22.11 VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE – Cllr Firmin proposed Cllr Webb, Chair Southcott seconded. Vote unanimous

12.22.12 WIDDINGTON RECYCLING – Still awaiting S106 still from ECC, who are still hoping to have 1st draft by end of year. Chair Southcott will write to the chair of the Essex mineral and waste committee if the 106 agreement was not published by Christmas asking for the planning application to be called back before the committee.

12.22.13 UDC CLIMATE CHANGE/ZERO CARBON COMMUNITY GRANT – Cllr Webb, 2 grants available. Reduce carbon emission, draft proofing etc.. Nature/biodiversity project. Behavioural changes of residents in village and encouraging improvements in local housing energy efficiency. Will be new grants in April. Clerk to approach Littlebury clerk – report in January.

12.22.14 COMMEMORATIVE TREE – Unanimous decision for Cercis Canadensis. Clerk to source quotes.

12.22.15 VILLAGE SIGN – Cllr Webb, moss removal and needs feeding. Cllr Smith to take a look and report on state of sign and what would be needed to restore the sign.

12.22.16 COMMUNITY ASSET PROTECTION – Cllr Edwards still working on research.

12.22.17 OTHER BUSINESS – Overhanging hedge on springhill pushing cars further into the road. Chalk pit, mud on road, could also be caused by works on the railway bridge. Dates for election training.

Thanks to the young residents who came to do the litter pick on Sunday in horrendous weather.

12.22.18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at **8pm on Thursday 5th January 2023**, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 21:10