

Widdington Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 7th December 2024 at 7:30pm

Present Cllr. Chris Firmin, Cllr. Maggs Webb, Cllr. Albert Edwards, Cllr. Steve Smith, Cllr. Lynn Smith, Cllr. Teresa Petchey.

In Attendance 0 members of the public, and Katrina Levy, Clerk to the Council.

12.24.01 CHAIR'S WELCOME

Vice-Chair Chris Firmin welcomed those present to the meeting.

12.24.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr. Ian Southcott, District Cllr. Neil Hargreaves.

12.24.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Cllr. Smiths 12.24.12.1

12.24.04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

12.24.05 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – None

12.24.06 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – None

12.24.07 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.

12.24.08 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported;

1. Magazine Article submitted.
2. Allotment WALGA association letter sent.
3. Allotment notice sent to all allotment leaseholders.
4. Companies contacted regarding pothole fixing in the car park.
5. Budget adjusted.
6. Essex Highways survey completed on behalf of WPC.
7. Chased quotes for playpark tree/hedge cut back.

12.24.09 PLANNING

12.24.09.1 To consider making representation to the [Uttlesford District Council](#) in response to planning application matters arising since November 2024 meeting.

12.24.09.1i. UTT/24/3010/PAR3 - Agricultural Building At Mole Hall Farm Cornells Lane Widdington Essex - Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Change of Use of Agricultural Building to a use within Storage or Distribution (Class B8).

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

12.24.09.2i. UTT/24/2806/TPO – Elmstead Spring Hill Widdington Saffron Walden Essex CB11 3SA – Reduction and crown lift on 1 Walnut to achieve 2m clearance near property as well as selective secondary branch removal property side and 2.5m crown lift all round, crown lift over car park side to 4m on 1 Beech as well as single branch removal and removal of branch touching phone wire, deadwood removal throughout and cutting back of secondary branch over highway. [Allowed](#)

12.24.09.2ii. UTT/24/2451/HHF- 1 Church View Widdington Essex CB11 3GU - Enclosure of existing porch to include: Erection of new brick pier and part wall at front elevation. Installation of new part glazed door and windows. All to match existing structure and materials. Providing additional insulation and draught proofing of main property.– [Approve with conditions](#).

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12.24.09.2iii. UTT/24/1132/FUL- Land Rear Of Malt Place Cornells Lane Widdington Essex-S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/21/2649/FUL (Demolition of five existing buildings, and erection of three new buildings forming 10 residential dwellings. Alternative scheme to that approved under references UTT/20/2154/FUL, UTT/20/0876/FUL and UTT/20/3016/FUL) - amendments to floor plans – [Approve with conditions](#).

12.24.10 FINANCE

12.24.10.1 Invoices; The clerk presented a statement of accounts and reconciliation to cash books which were agreed and approved for signature. They were [approved for payment](#).

Clerk Salary/expenses	£451.28
Standing Order – EnrolPay	£7.20

7.24.10.2 Budget items 2024/25 – Cllr. Edwards proposed the precept increase be increased in line with CPI figure end October 2024 – 2.4%, this equates to 1.5% increase per residence in Widdington. Agreed unanimously. Playground budget increased due to maintenance company being required in the new growing season.

12.24.11 APPROVE POLICIES/PROCEDURE

11.24.11.1 Complaints procedure – Approved unanimously.

11.24.11.2 Data protection policy – Approved unanimously.

12.24.12 PLAYPARK

12.24.12.1 Quotes for hedge/tree cutting: 3 Quotes were requested, 1 company responded with quote. Steve’s Gardening Services appointed unanimously (by Cllrs. without declared interest).

12.24.12.2 Ongoing grass & tree/hedge cutting: Cllr. Smith proposed grass cutting during growing season fortnightly – approximately 16 per annum and 2 trims for trees/ hedges per annum. Resolved unanimously, quotes to be requested.

12.24.12.3 Actions to be completed by volunteers in playpark: Agreed unanimously that the following tasks to be undertaken by volunteers/councillors: Repair the base of the playhouse, painting the playhouse, removing old posts for the climbing frame, clean and move onto the fence all the interactive toys and boards, remove the raised beds and grassover.

12.24.13 LITTER PICK – Sunday 12th January 2025.

12.24.19 OTHER BUSINESS – Potholes in car park are getting worse,

12.24.20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at **7:30pm on Thursday 9th January 2025**, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at: 20:37

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