

Widdington Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 9th June 2022 at 8.00pm

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

In Attendance County Cllr Ray Gooding, 9 members of the public and Katrina Levy, Clerk to the Council.

06.22.01 CHAIR`S WELCOME

Chair Ian Southcott welcomed those present to the meeting.

06.22.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

06.22.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Cllr Webb declared interest reference minute point 06.22.13

06.22.04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Thanks to the Parish Council for the money for the Jubilee celebrations and to Cllr Smith and Cllr Harris in organising.

1st 3 houses on right hand side between Hamel way to Woodend the hedges need trimming as growing into footpath. Cllr Smith will approach owners and ask on behalf of council to cut back hedges for public safety. Also old bakery and 2 doors up from pub.

South green parking on footpath making it harder to pass on the path.

3 members of public joined the meeting.

Concerns over UTT/22/1367/FUL – access may not be possible via RH turn.

06.22.05 COUNTY COUNCILLOR`S REPORT

Essex highways need to give thorough response to UTT/22/1523/CL.

06.22.06 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR`S REPORT

See Appendix 1.

06.22.07 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

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

06.22.08 CLERK`S REPORT

The Clerk reported;

1. Attended 1st Zoom meeting with Tom McCarthy, Richard Greaves, Chair Southcott, County Cllr Gooding.
2. Confirmed Essex Place Services to carry out Tree Survey
3. Internal Audit completed.
4. Reviewed WPC Financial Regulations.
5. Playground safety check completed, and report circulated.
6. Magazine quarterly article sent.
7. T. Harding contacted to confirm care of the village green 22.23 and wildflower section.

06.22.09 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR –Council agreed to co-opt Albert Edwards.

06.22.10 PLANNING

To consider making representation to the [Uttlesford District Council](#) in response to planning applications:

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- i. UTT/22/1499/HHF - Foxhall Cottage Cornells Lane Widdington Essex CB11 3SP
Replacement garage. Deadline for response: 17th June. No objection from WPC.
- ii. UTT/22/1523/CL - Land to The North Of Cornells Lane Widdington Essex
The formation, laying out and construction of a means of access to Cornells Lane, in connection with the use of land (up to 14 days per calendar year) for the purposes of the holding of a market. Deadline for response: Not supplied – [Decision unanimous for WPC to object and increase in funding for consultant appointed for linked appeal. UDC do not need planning permission for car boots sales, but many other district councils do.](#)
- iii. UTT/22/1367/FUL - Old Chalk Pit Hollow Road Widdington Essex
Change of use to Sui Generis (Doggy Day Care, and Keeping of Horses). Deadline for response: 27th June. Right to keep horses on that site is allowed as per previous planning application. [Unanimous decision to object, explore opportunity to call into planning committee.](#)
- iv. UTT/22/1355/HHF - Swaynes Cottage Cornells Lane
Erection of garden room/store shed to rear garden - Deadline for response: 4th July – [Decision no objection.](#)
- v. UTT/22/1415/DOC - Mole Hall Mole Hall Lane Widdington Essex CB11 3SS
Application to discharge condition 2 (CEMP), 3 (Biodiversity enhancement layout) and 4 (lighting design scheme) attached to UTT/21/2477/FUL. – [no comments.](#)
- vi. UTT/22/1361/DOC - Land West Of The Willows Cornells Lane Widdington Essex
Application to discharge condition 2 (materials), 3 (landscaping), 5 (site logistics), 7 (Biodiversity Enhancement Layout) and 9 (external lighting) attached to UTT/21/1509/FUL - [no comments.](#)

To note the following [Uttlesford District Council](#) planning decisions:

- i. UTT/22/0595/HHF - Belmont Spring Hill Widdington Essex CB11 3SA
Proposed demolition of existing conservatory, upvc structure above kitchen and workshop and erection of single storey rear extension. Approved.
- ii. UTT/22/1122/HHF - Blackthorn Lodge Cornells Lane Widdington Essex CB11 3SP
Erection of first floor side extension – [Approved.](#)

06.22.11 FINANCE

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

06.22.11.1 Invoices;

Banner for Jubilee Celebrations	£84.13
Flyers design and printing for Jubilee celebrations	£58.20
Village Hall Hire Aug 2020 April 2022	£107.40
Prosecco for Queen's Jubilee	£89.86
Playpark safety ltd.,	£121.80
Jubilee mugs	£165.76
EALC Clerk Training Courses Invoice no. 15696	£84.00
Parish Online	£60.00
KL Clerk Salary May 2022 (PAYE £97.20)	£388.35
KL Clerk Expenses May 2022	£90.39
Internal Audit	£75.00
Mortars and Party Poppers for Jubilee Event	£64.00
M. Salmon: Singer Jubilee dinner dance (cheque destroyed)	£200.00

They were [approved for payment.](#)

06.22.11.2 To note change in cost of flowers from £20 agreed in Minutes 05.22.15 to £25

06.22.11.3 Internal Audit completed with no issues identified.

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Member of public left the meeting.

06.22.12 QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE VILLAGE EVENT 2nd 5th June

Chair Southcott extended thanks to Cllr. Harris, Cllr. Smith and the Jubilee committee for their hard work in organising a very successful Jubilee weekend for the village.

WPC would like to thank all the residents for their contributions both in time and effort to the celebrations. Also cakes etc...

Delivered within budget £2407.75 before the grant money.

County Cllr. Gooding entered the meeting.

06.22.13 DITCH/POND OPPOSITE POND MEAD – grant for pond restoration may not be suitable due to location. Will be visiting the village in August to assess for suitability. Clerk to try and find out who owns as claims it was transferred to parish council. – September Agenda

06.22.14 PROW CHURCH LANE - WPC need to send letter to council with inaccurate information on application and the correct position of the paths.

06.22.15 WIDDINGTON RECYCLING UPDATE – Zoom call 12th May to discuss progress in relation to S106 agreement following the successful application to continue working the pit for next 10 years. Head of planning R. Greaves acknowledged that there needed to be more oversight and negotiations between WPC and Widdington Council. County Cllr Gooding will chair, member of the public and WPC representatives. First meeting date agreed, 11th July 2022, 13:00 – 14:30, Chair Southcott and Clerk to attend. Essex legal services and Widdington Recycling still coming up with 1st draft.

Mr. Rhodes has agreed to attend future Liaison meeting as a member of the public, although unable to attend 11th July meeting.

In meantime Widdington Recycling have applied for extended operating hours for an hour earlier from 6 am. [Decision – unanimous agreement to object.](#)

06.22.16 PARISH MEETING WITH PETER HOLT – 7pm 21st June, Newport agreed – Clerk & Cllr Webb to attend.

06.22.17 REVIEWED FINANCIAL REGULATIONS – [Approved](#)

06.22.18 REVIEWED STANDING ORDERS – [Approved](#)

06.22.19 RESERVE BANK ACCOUNT – [Probable that precept will increase next year due to decreasing reserves in 2022.23 since halving precept this tax year.](#) [Decision – unanimous to investigate closing Barclay's account and transfer money to savings account with Unity Trust Ltd.,](#)

06.22.20 PLAYGROUND RoSPA REPORT - Cllr Smith to help P. Hudson with vegetation and looking at the site report. Clerk to look for grants – add to July agenda.

06.22.21 OTHER BUSINESS

For July PC meeting – the tree health survey results and decide actions to be decided.

WPC account to take in the donations from the event. Get ideas from committee and make decision on where WPC will send the money at July meeting.

06.22.22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at **7pm on Thursday 7th July 2022**, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 21:25

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Appendix 1: District Cllr. Hargreaves report.

1. The Little Canfield bin lorry depot is now in operation. The Shire Hill site is now up for renting out and the one in the centre of Dunmow is earmarked for sale for housing. A bin lorry driver commented to me that the new site has lots of room to turn (which Shire Hill which is tiny most certainly did not). The facilities are excellent.
2. UDC staff are back in the office now but only hot desking, with a large proportion working remotely. The desks are however zoned so if you are in you will be with your dept. All of this is concentrated in the 'new' part of the building. The hospital part will be rented out to a commercial tenant. Council members were invited to look round the new arrangements last week with the chief exec and to welcome staff back. We took in a variety of biscuits and cakes, plus a healthy strawberry option.
3. The office at Canfield is also in use, and Stansted Walpole meadows will be shortly
4. The new head of Planning, Dean Armitage starts this month
5. Although outside UDCs remit, the Chief Exec has been working with the DWP to have Job centre and related services in Stansted, Walden and possibly Dunmow, in UDC or parish buildings. Currently people with no jobs have to go to Braintree every week, which is unreasonable and impractical.