

Widdington Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6th June 2024 at 8.00pm

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

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

06.24.01 CHAIR'S WELCOME

Chair Ian Southcott welcomed those present to the meeting.

06.24.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - None

06.24.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Cllr. Southcott 06.24.9.2i ; Cllr. Webb 06.24.9.2ii

06.24.04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Question ref. planning portal see 06.24.09.1 (see below for update).

06.24.05 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – Update received from Cllr. Gooding - footpath between Corner Cottage and Fleur funding should be available for repair by ECC. Cllr. Gooding is also able to provide contact for Anglian water to discuss with ECC.

06.24.06 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – None

06.24.07 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.

2 members of the public joined the meeting.

06.24.08 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported;

1. Submitted all completed AGAR forms to external auditors
2. Requested quotes for insurance renewal
3. Contacted sign renovators
4. Revised Financial regulations in line with latest NALC guidance.
5. Updated meeting dates on website.
6. Submitted planning objections as per 05.24.11.2ii/iii
7. Wrote village magazine article.

06.24.09 PLANNING

06.24.09.1 Land North of Cornell's lane, Appeal – awaiting decision from Planning Inspectorate. 2 appeals considered together by the same inspector.

06.24.09.2 To consider making representation to the [Uttlesford District Council](#) in response to planning application matters arising since May 2023 meeting.

06.24.9.2i. UTT/24/1386/TPO - Woodlands Wood End, Widdington Essex CB11 3SN - Reduce 4no. Chestnut trees by 30% to reshape and uplift away from phone lines and house – [Determination Deadline: 24th July 2024 – no comment to be.](#)

06.24.9.2ii. UTT/24/1106/HHF - Pond Mead Cottage High Street Widdington Essex CB11 3SB - Single storey rear/side extension to kitchen. Proposed external door in southeast facing elevation. Pitched roof window "Velux" type over existing living room. Internal alterations including a replacement stair flight to improve accessibility between the ground and first floor – [Determination Deadline: 26th June 2024 – no comment.](#)

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06.24.9.2iii UTT/24/1297/HHF - Amberden House Cornells Lane Widdington Essex CB11 3ST - side extension, ground and first floor – [Deadline for comments 2nd July – no comment.](#)

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

06.24.9.3i. UTT/24/1169/NMA - Land Rear Of Malt Place Cornells Lane Widdington Essex - Non Material Amendment to UTT/21/2649/FUL - amendments to floor plan– [Refused.](#)

06.24.9.3ii. UTT/24/0284/DOC- Pond Mead High Street Widdington Saffron Walden Essex CB11 3SB - Application to discharge condition 13 (lighting design scheme) attached to UTT/23/1569/FUL- [Refused.](#)

06.24.10 FINANCE

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

Clerk Salary + Expenses	£520.14
ROSPA playpark inspection	£141.60
Insurance	£439.53

They were [approved for payment.](#)

06.24.10.2 Insurance 2024/25 – 3 quotes requested. Zurich - ; Clear Councils Management (formerly BHIB) – £785.17 (increase +32%); Community Action Suffolk - £439.53 ; 2023/24 insurance cost - £591.87. Resolved to go with Community Action Suffolk insurance.

06.24.10.3 Village sign restoration **estimation** – 1 received from multiple requests – Bakers of Danbury - £1800 + VAT – Cllr. Southcott proposed go ahead with Bakers of Danbury – voted and resolved unanimously.

06.24.11 WIDDINGTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE – Cllr. Southcott nominated Cllr. Webb, seconded by Cllr. Edwards and unanimously agreed.

06.24.12 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS –Cllr. Southcott proposed adopt the new regulations, seconded by Cllr. Firmin – unanimously resolved.

2 members of the public left the meeting.

06.24.13 CAR PARK – To appoint same contractor as used previously to cut back vegetation.

06.24.14 SUMMER VILLAGE EVENT – Now have enough volunteers to run the stalls, cost of stalls, with a duo performing, advertising – all proceeds will be donated to the village hall. Cllr. Southcott proposed £1000 budget from the WPC – unanimously agreed, with agreement to review in July meeting.

06.24.15 PLAYGROUND – Clerk to ask WAGS to cut back around the bench and the hedge behind as 1 off job. Clerk to survey village re. playpark usage. Council agrees something needs to be done with the playground. Clerk to find more information from playground suppliers, ideas and long-term plan for replacement of equipment. Cut of hedges once bird nesting season finished. Follow up at July meeting.

06.24.16 OTHER BUSINESS: July agenda village hall accounts presentation to WPC. Garage and Wayleave fees 2025 - September Agenda. Clerk to request clarification from UDC/District Cllr. Hargreaves on contract with UDC. Essex awards proposal WPC nominate individual for awards next

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year, clerk to keep eye open for forms in future. Hamel way – green space, bench needs fixing, survey WPC benches & see if there's a man shed group in local area.

06.24.17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 8pm on **Thursday 25th July 2024**, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at: 21:33