

Widdington Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 2nd March 2023 at 8.00pm

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

In Attendance District Cllr. Neil Hargreaves, 4 members of the public and Katrina Levy, Clerk to the Council.

03.23.01 CHAIR`S WELCOME

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

03.23.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Chair Ian Southcott, County Cllr Ray Gooding apologies were received.

03.23.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None

03.23.04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Speeding on Spring Hill, Clerk to request update from County Cllr. Gooding.

03.23.05 COUNTY COUNCILLOR`S REPORT - None

03.23.06 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR`S REPORT – £700 grant from UDC for Coronation event in village. County, district council role is to deliver local government schemes, they collect business rates on behalf of central government, budget from central is communicated in December but late in budget setting process. Announcement of extra rural funding has not materialised in real terms been consumed by government to support local council funding. Uttlesford not affected by Thurrock bankruptcy, will be supported by central government.

03.23.07 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the February Parish Council Meeting were approved by Councillors as an accurate representation and Vice-Chair Firmin signed the minutes.

03.23.08 CLERK`S REPORT

The Clerk reported;

1. Contacted 2 companies reference restoration of the village sign, trying to find a third company that is local.
2. Freedom of Information request response.
3. Called HMRC and sent request for refund of payments made.
4. Participated in the Stansted parishes meeting with CEO from UDC.
5. Planning Guidance document updated.
6. Contacted food bank to get more information on liaison requirements.
7. Requested volunteers for the coronation big lunch and big help out.
8. Contacted guides reference participating in the big help out.
9. Chased EALC reference Clerk bursary for training during 2022/23.

03.23.09 PLANNING

1. Update on planning applications for Land North Cornell's Lane - Appeal and Judiciary review actions and finances (applications UTT/21/2137/FUL (APP/C1570/W/22/3296928), UTT/22/2278/FUL and UTT/22/3191/FUL) – Appellant has withdrawn their appeal, WPC . JR – 14/15th June court dates have been set.
2. To consider making representation to the [Uttlesford District Council](#) in response to planning application matters arising since February 2022 meeting.

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9.2i. UTT/23/0310/DOC - The Old Piggery Cornells Lane Widdington Essex CB11 3SP - Application to discharge condition 8 (contamination) and 9 (detailed remediation scheme) attached to UTT/21/0545/FUL approved under APP/C1570/W/21/3281527. [Determination deadline – 4th April 2023](#)

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

9.3i. UTT/23/0363/TPO - Orchard Cottage Wood End Widdington Essex CB11 3SN - 3 Tilia x europaea, fell replace with lime. 1 Tilia x europaea, fell in a storm, replace with a lime. [Approved](#)

9.3ii. UTT/23/0350/TPO - Lime Tree Barn Wood End Widdington Essex CB11 3SN - 1 Lime, removal and replacement with a smaller lime. [Approved](#)

9.3iii. UTT/23/0031/DOC - Dove House The Green Widdington Saffron Walden Essex CB11 3SD - Application to discharge condition 3 (window details) attached to UTT/22/1574/LB.- [Discharge conditions in full.](#)

9.3iv. UTT/23/0033/DOC - Ringers Debden Road Newport Essex CB11 3RY - Application to discharge condition 2 (materials) attached to UTT/20/0530/FUL.- [Discharge conditions in full.](#)

03.23.10 FINANCE

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

KL Clerk Salary	-£439.43
KL Clerk Expenses	-£50.01
EALC Councillor Training – 2 days	-£216.00
Village Green care	-£1250.00

They were [approved for payment](#).

03.23.11 WIDDINGTON RECYCLING – MOP received unsatisfactory response to his complaints, reference 3.5 year restoration period, the bund that is claimed to be for relandscaping now has a hedge planted on it, implicating permanency and there has been poor monitoring of the import and export of material in to and out of the site. Clerk to contact County Cllr. Gooding.

03.23.12 CORONATION VILLAGE EVENT – The Big lunch Sunday 7th May, will be centred around the pub, marquees along the side, with folk group and music. Shared big lunch to be placed on central table, scavenger hunt in neighbourhood of pub, landowner of field behind pub given permission to use it again. Food from 12:30 – 1pm, scavenger hunt, then landlord will do a pub quiz. Toast to king 1pm, prosecco to be provided. Banners, leaflets, posters to be printed. Costs to be provided to Clerk asap.

The big help – Monday 8th May, decision to be made on what will be offered. Perhaps distribution of wildflower seeds.

03.23.13 WIDDINGTON VILLAGE SIGN – Cllr. Smith to take photos for quotes and t

03.23.14 PLANNING GUIDANCE DOCUMENT – updated document approved and signed by Vice-Chair Firmin.

03.23.15 20 IS PLENTY VILLAGE SURVEY – Essex is trying to implement this in as many parishes as possible. Councillors discussed and will await update on Spring Hill speeding survey as this is the priority.

03.23.16 SIGNAGE; ACCESS FOR HEAVY VEHICLES THROUGH VILLAGE – due to diversion oversized lorries are accidentally coming through the village and unable to get through, plus weight limit on Hollow Road. Clerk – to raise with Essex Highways reference trucks not following the diversion correctly. Plus heavy trucks to Widdington Recycling, raise with County Cllr. Gooding.

03.23.17 FOOD BANK LIAISON – Cllr Firmin proposed Cllr Petchey to be WPC liaison – unanimously agreed

03.23.18 STANSTED PARISH FORUM HIGHLIGHTS – Uttlesford district council chaired an information meeting for the local parishes. Topics covered were:

Cultural Engine – new project started with UDC to investigate improving arts, culture, heritage, visitor experience in Uttlesford,

Funding – UDC has received a substantial sum as part of the levelling up funding that will be distributed this year and next (more next year). Other grants are also still available, they are updating the funding web page so should be easier for business, parishes etc to identify which funding available, criteria and application processes.

Elections – please view [Local elections 2023 - Uttlesford District Council](#) for more information. Note that if needed the new voter id card can be applied for online or in UDC council reception.

Planninng – still recruiting both planning officers and enforcement officers. Local plan has been further delayed & site allocations will be announced in the summer. They want to engage with parishes more and improve public engagement process for large developments prior to application.

03.23.19 OTHER BUSINESS - Village Hall logo design posters, prize £100 amazon vouchers – please see posters for more information.

03.23.20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at **8pm on Thursday 6th April 2023**, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at: 21:02