

Widdington Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 7th March 2024 at 8.00pm

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

In Attendance 7 members of the public and Katrina Levy, Clerk to the Council.

03.24.01 CHAIR'S WELCOME

Chair Ian Southcott welcomed those present to the meeting.

03.24.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr. Chris Firmin

03.24.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Cllr. Edwards minute item 03.24.9.2i

03.24.04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Green's oak post knocked over, WPC have contacted the company responsible for vehicle. Question ref. why average speed used, Chair explained that MOP able to join next LHP meeting to discuss point. MOPs – raised concerns regarding costs of consultancy/legal fees, they will be seeking to claim costs back from WPC relating to legal fees incurred. Advised that any concerns relating to conduct should be raised via the appropriate procedure.

1 member of public joined the meeting.

County Cllr. Ray Gooding joined the meeting.

03.24.05 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – Footpath on High Street Cllr. Gooding agrees it needs to be fixed and has raised with Essex Highways. Flooding Cllr. Gooding has raised with head of appropriate section at Essex Highways has been approached to look at some of the issues. At WR public liaison meeting, Cllr. Gooding arranged meeting with ECC planning to discuss lack of progress on the S106 conditions and to discuss how to go improve progress. Cllr. Gooding discussion with Essex Highways re. oversight for Hollow Road works is timely and thorough. Essex housing provided new flats for adults with learning disabilities just been opened in Waltham Abbey.

03.24.06 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – none.

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03.24.07 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

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

Cllr. Edwards left the meeting.

03.24.08 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported;

1. WPC article for village magazine
2. Speed awareness article for village magazine.
3. Attended Widdington Recycling public liaison meeting.
4. Participated in training on Public rights of way.
5. Investigated possibilities for hiring speed gun.
6. Chased quote for sign restoration.
7. Contacted contractor reference continuing cutting the village green.

03.24.09 PLANNING

03.24.09.1 Land North of Cornell's lane, Appeal - awaiting decisions from Planning Inspectorate.

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

Widdington Parish Council

03.24.9.2i. UTT/24/0567/LB - William The Conqueror Cornells Lane Widdington Essex CB11 3SP - New like-for like roof, salvaging and reusing existing slates (where possible). [Deadline for comments – 4th April 2024, no comments to be made.](#)

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

03.24.9.3i. UTT/24/0064/LB - The Old Rectory Church Lane Widdington Essex CB11 3SF- Replacement of cement render for lime plaster and lime render repairs - [Approved.](#)

03.24.9.3ii. UTT/23/3106/HHF - The Malthouse East Cornells Lane Widdington Essex CB11 3SP - Replace conservatory roof and sideframes – [Approved.](#)

2 members of the public left the meeting.

03.24.10 FINANCE

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

Clerk Salary + Expenses	£529.73
Appeal – Legal advice, filings (Barrister)	£1200
Village Hall Hire	£118
Clerk Training	£90
WPC support for Village Hall Event	£159.80

They were [approved for payment.](#)

Cllr. Edwards returned to the meeting.

03.24.10.2 VILLAGE HALL NEW COSTS – Noted new price £10/Hr for small room.

03.24.10.3 REPLACE STORAGE SHEDS – Cllr. Smith to check if can be fixed, otherwise replace.

03.24.11 WIDDINGTON RECYCLING – Latest public liaison meeting, general feeling that there hasn't been much progress on S106 conditions since last meeting, particularly noise monitoring and drainage on Hollow Road. Cllr. Gooding to raise issues with ECC planning. Next meeting 19/09/24.

03.24.12 VILLAGE HALL – Costs larger than income, trying to gain more interest for reserves. Implementing new fee structure, new terms and conditions, some insurance questions for club storage. MOP helped gain the grant received to replace old double glazing, via carrying out required surveys. Zero carbon project needs to be finished by March 2025 (for grant), lighting, insulation will be improved.

03.24.13 BIG HELP OUT – Cllrs. to consider options for next meeting.

03.24.14 FLOODING – Cllr. Edwards talking to Anglian water ref. pumping station and lifting of sewage manhole cover with heavy rain, engineers working on possible solution. Highways to jet out some of the blocked culverts and sump to allow water on Shipton's Farm to be drained away.

03.24.15 RENTAL OF SPEED CAMERA – WPC discussed and resolved not to hire a gun, as MOP volunteered to hire & augment data themselves.

03.24.16 OTHER BUSINESS: 6th April: horse racing and music night. D-day celebrations also in June. Litter pick date – 14th April, 10am Village Hall.

03.24.17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at **8pm on Thursday 4th April 2024**, in the Village Hall.

