

Widdington Parish Council

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

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

In Attendance 2 members of the public, and Katrina Levy, Clerk to the Council.

11.24.01 CHAIR'S WELCOME

Chair Ian Southcott welcomed those present to the meeting.

11.24.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – County Cllr. Ray Gooding, District Cllr. Judy Emanuel, District Cllr. Neil Hargreaves, Cllr. Teresa Petchey.

11.24.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None

11.24.04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

11.24.05 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – None

11.24.06 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT –

11.24.07 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

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

Cllr. Webb joined the meeting.

11.24.08 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported;

1. Drafted Freedom of the Parish Policy
2. Started to contact suppliers/contractors re. car park.
3. Contacted landowner for Allotments reference lease renewal.
4. Contacted Widdington Recycling in relation to a large truck going through village.
5. Submitted WPC comments for UTT/24/2208/FUL – Fleur De Lys
6. Revised Website design.

11.24.09 PLANNING

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

11.24.09.1i. 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. [Determination deadline 26th December 2024.](#)

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

11.24.09.2i. UTT/24/2208/FUL- Fleur De Lys High Street Widdington Saffron Walden Essex CB11 – Section 73A Retrospective application for a temporary wooden structure to provide additional bar service and covered outdoor seating. [Approved.](#)

11.24.10 FINANCE

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

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X2 Spinner Refurbishment (playground equipment)	£1078.80
Clerk Salary/expenses	£653.47
Allotment rent	£1200
Standing Order – EnrolPay	£7.20

6.24.10.2 Budget items 2024/25 – Employer NI contribution, Playpark project – Precept will be increased at least in line with September 2024 CPI + NI employer, and depending on full budgeted needs.

6.24.10.3 Noted new SCP level 17 salary as per NALC bulletin to be back paid to April 2024.

They were [approved for payment](#).

11.24.11 WIDDINGTON RECYCLING – no update

11.24.12 ALLOTMENTS – Allotment lease will not be renewed. Holders to be notified.

11.24.13 GARAGES – December agenda

11.24.14 ESSEX HIGHWAYS USER SURVEY – Clerk to collate responses and submit on behalf of WPC.

11.24.15 PLAYPARK UPDATE – Cllr. Webb has met with Kompan playpark and outdoor fitness equipment provider. Awaiting the full quote and plan for comparison. Resident who has been maintaining play equipment, still willing to continue help maintain and can do new base on house with some help. Concrete bases for the posts for the climbing frame needs to be taken away. Agreed it needs to be space for wide age range and easily maintained.

11.24.16 PARISH FORUM UPDATE – Climate update, consultation, zero carbon community grant. Saffron Walden Community energy – volunteer group, working alongside communities to help reduce energy consumption, carbon emissions. Waste Strategy for Essex, Director for environmental and climate change, developed by ECC, waste collection authorities in Essex (Essex Waste Partnership), UDC are part of this partnership and now have a 30 year strategy. Identified a need to educate and change behaviour. Rivenhall 2027 new incinerator will be opened and commissioned, so will stop using landfill as they are fined. Incinerator will also produce electricity and waste heat can be used for local businesses. Electric waste trucks can't cover the mileage required during waste rounds at this time.

11.24.17 LITTER PICK – 24th November, 9:30am.

11.24.18 FREEDOM OF THE PARISH POLICY – Held in Camra due to nature of discussions.- Draft policy agreed subject to clarification of nomination date, discussion date and award date. Cllr. happy to help Sonia with leaflet drops. Cllrs. reminded to fill in the government consultation reference online voting for parish meeting.

11.24.19 OTHER BUSINESS – Barn dance in village hall 1st Feb 2025, new start time proposed for 7:30pm.

11.24.20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at **7:30pm on Thursday 5TH December 2024**, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at:21:50

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