

# Widdington Parish Council

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## **Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 8.00pm**

**Present** Chair Ian Southcott, Cllr Maggs Webb, Cllr Chris Firmin, Cllr Teresa Petchey

**In Attendance** District Cllr. Hargreaves, 5 members of the public and Katrina Levy, Clerk to the Council.

### **10.22.01 CHAIR'S WELCOME**

Chair Ian Southcott welcomed those present to the meeting.

### **10.22.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Cllr. Albert Edwards, Cllr Lynn Harris, Cllr Steve Smith, District Cllr Emanuel, County Cllr Gooding

### **10.22.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

Cllr Southcott, non-pecuniary interest in item 10.22.14

**10.22.04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Flooding at the bottom of Hollow Road every time it rains heavily. Linked to S106 with Widdington Recycling and will be discussed as part of S106 discussions. Request for Parish Council support for residents of Church lane petition designation as a quiet lane, due to repeated traffic, building work. More children, horses use the lane than previously and it's important that it is safe for future use. Wood End street sign is knocked down, clerk to report to Essex Highways.

Spring Hill speeding, response from Cllr Gooding, highway panel meeting was supposed to take place on the day of the Queen's funeral and now occurring on the 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Survey still hasn't been carried out. Cllr Hargreaves to address and send information to Cllr. Gooding.

Resident who currently oversees the defibrillator wants another volunteer to take over, clerk to discuss taking it over and signage.

Heating for elderly people in the village over the winter, could this be co-ordinated over the year and grant from the Parish Council to help provide blankets etc. A community effort to see what is the need, how many need it, emergency for power cuts, when it would be needed, how to reach the people who may have a need. Clerk to post on facebook to see response and make further decisions on what is required.

### **10.22.05 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

None

### **10.22.06 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Civic events, 11<sup>th</sup> September District Cllr. Hargreaves, District Cllr. Emmanuel and Cllr. Southcott attended the proclamation in Saffron Walden. 5<sup>th</sup> October, opening of running track at Carver Barracks, full Olympic standard track. 50% funded by UDC. Press release expected from Carver Barracks which will give further information on community group use.

Local plan – paused again, District Cllrs have viewed a presentation of what was initially intended. It was felt that more could be achieved and new head of planning at UDC agreed. New schedule has not yet been released, purdah may affect the publishing dates.

### **10.22.07 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

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

### **10.22.10 CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported;

# Widdington Parish Council

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1. Garages – searched minutes back to 2014 nothing minuted in respect to garage replacement or maintenance.
2. Garages – searched financial records available back to April 2015 no evidence of ground maintenance in that time.
3. Response to FOI request 2022-01
4. Barclays phone calls and letter reference reserve account.
5. VAT rebate form submitted for April – end August expenditure.
6. Budget and Precept training with EALC.
7. Requested Spring Hill vegetation cut back with Essex Highways
8. Registered fly tipping on Hollow Road
9. Chased UDC legal department reference car on Hamel Way.
10. Contacted Central Connect reference driver position on roads and reliability of service.
11. WPC comments reference UTT/22/2260/FUL submitted to planning application.
12. Amended Section 2 of Annual statement as per discussions with External Auditors.

## 10.22.09 PLANNING

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

**i. UTT/22/2513/LB** - Martins Farm High Street Widdington Essex CB11 3SG - Add partitions to form a shower room in bedroom 2. Remove modern cupboard to expose the chimney in Bedroom 2. Increase the height of existing internal partitions of bedroom 1. Add a Conservation roof light on the rear elevation above the stair: **Deadline for comments: 7<sup>th</sup> October. No objections.**

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

**UTT/22/1803/HFF** - The Haven Spring Hill Widdington Essex CB11 3SA - Single storey rear extension, new rear canopy roof and replacement of existing living room door and windows with bio-fold doors. – [Approved](#).

**UTT/22/2540/TCA** - Old Water Pump Church Lane Widdington Essex CB11 3SF- Felling of Cherry Tree. – [Approved](#).

**UTT/22/2160/HFF** - Bishops End Wood End Widdington Essex CB11 3SN - First floor extension, fenestration changes and garage conversion. – [Approved](#).

**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 8 (external lighting) attached to UTT/21/1509/FUL - details of which approved under UTT/21/0165/DO. – [Discharge Condition in Full](#)

## 10.22.10 FINANCE

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

### 10.22.10.1 Invoices;

Lease of the allotment land from Widdington Woodlands Ltd.,	-£1,200.00
External Auditor	-£240.00
KL Clerk Salary (Paye -£421)	-£1,068.50
KL Clerk Expenses	-£66.38
Councillor Expenses for Training days	-£35.28
Geoff Gardner – Land North of Cornell's Lane Appeal	-£1,200.00

They were [approved for payment](#).

**10.22.10.2 Reserve Bank Account** – complaint letter sent to Barclays Bank with extra signatures and information. Awaiting response from Barclays Bank.

# Widdington Parish Council

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**10.22.10.3 Budget Update** – VAT rebate for April – end August applied for £923.67. Average Legal/Consultancy spend for previous 3 years, circa £16.2K therefore propose increasing budget by £4K to £16K using the general reserves without requiring virement. Council voted unanimously to agree the adjusted budget and funds to be transferred when we have access to the reserve account.

**10.22.11 GARAGES** – Clerk to do more digging and Cllr. Hargreaves to see if he has the lease document for access.

**10.22.12 DOCUMENT ARCHIVING** – 16<sup>th</sup> November, 10am

**10.22.13 WIDDINGTON RECYCLING** – No change since September meeting, Cllr Southcott has asked for the head of MWP to visit the site prior to S106 extension. Resident has written several emails to ECC reference the activities on site. C

**10.22.14 PETITION TO DESIGNATE CHURCH LANE AS A QUIET LANE**– Resident has approached Cllr Firmin to restore Church Lane to a quiet lane. Petition delivered to WPC requesting quiet lane designation. Cllr Firmin suggest WPC support for quiet lane and council to submit to Essex Highways. Proposed by Cllr. Firmin, Cllrs voted to support with council (Cllr Southcott declared an interest).

**10.22.15 LITTER PICK** – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November 10am.

**10.22.16 COMMEMORATIVE TREE** – Go back to girl guides and let them choose a tree. Discuss care and plaque. Get advice.

*Member of public left the meeting.*

**10.22.17 CHRISTMAS EVENT** – decision to not organise a Christmas event in 2022.

**10.22.18 MEETING UPDATES** –

10.22.18.i Fire station visit – local fire volunteers at Newport had busy year. Cover a large area and extremely busy even though it is volunteer, they are trained and equipped to enter hot zones following a terrorist incident (not deemed 100% safe) to provide assistance.

10.22.18.ii Virtual Parish Meeting – Missed.

**10.22.19 COMMUNITY ASSET PROTECTION** – Cllr Edwards started investigating possibility in Widdington, setback by Local plan delay (asset of community value).

**10.22.20 OTHER BUSINESS** –

Village hall decided to accept Giga clear providing internet for the village hall for free, via village hall community hub application.

**10.22.21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at **8pm** on **3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday November 2022**, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 21:30