

Widdington Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th October 2023 at 8.00pm

Present Chair Ian Southcott, Cllr. Steve Smith, Cllr. Lynn Smith, Cllr. Teresa Petchey, Cllr. Chris Firmin

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

10.23.01 CHAIR`S WELCOME

Chair Ian Southcott welcomed those present to the meeting.

10.23.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Maggs Webb, Cllr Albert Edwards, District Cllr. Hargreaves

10.23.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

10.23.04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – MOP asked when data for speed/volume monitoring on Springhill would be available.

10.23.09.2i – MOP asked if anyone had been informed about the appeal & whether objections are forwarded to the planning inspectorate. Residents don't want to possibly miss deadlines for actions that they need to take regarding the appeal.

10.23.05 COUNTY COUNCILLOR`S REPORT – Felt recent meeting with WR went well. Meeting with ECC reference Widdington Recycling in next 10 days. Met with Essex Highways and inspected potholes around village and agreed they needed filling. No potholes have yet been filled, County Cllr. Gooding, to chase, there has been a serious crash on Beadle Lane that was in part caused by potholes. Also contacted Essex Highways reference blocked drains being fixed. Traffic volume/speed monitoring will be made available to County Cllr. Gooding, once he has received it he will share with WPC to share with residents.

10.23.06 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR`S REPORT – Local plan, draft now published (regulation 18), Widdington not allocated any housing in the plan, Newport has 412 planned, Appeal was previously rejected (NPC spent £150K defending the appeal) due to historic and environmental grounds, plus access issues due to T-junction overload, no link road proposed). District Cllr Emanuel to send link. Now open for 6-week public consultation. Most development planned at Takeley, Saffron Walden, Dunmow. Saville's now marketing the Chalk pit site for 240 houses but it was rejected for the local plan and wouldn't be within the development zone so could be objected to on those grounds.

1 member of the public joined the meeting.

10.23.07 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.

10.23.08 CLERK`S REPORT

The Clerk reported;

1. Agreed planning objections from September meeting were submitted.
2. Submitted forms for Asset of Community Value forms to UDC as agreed in September meeting.
3. Researched option for email/website addresses as per new guidance.
4. Attended Widdington Recycling public liaison meeting.
5. Updated Code of Conduct uploaded to website.

10.23.09 PLANNING

Widdington Parish Council

10.23.09.1 To consider making representation to the [Uttlesford District Council](#) in response to planning application matters arising since September 2023 meeting (including those outlined below plus any arising after 31st August 2023).

10.23.09.1i. UTT/23/2391/DOC - Midsummer House Now Demolished High Street Widdington Essex – Application to discharge condition 6 (Great Crested Newt Method Statement) of UTT/22/2260/FUL. [Determination deadline 21st November 2023.](#)

10.23.09.1ii. UTT/23/2337/DOC - Land Rear Of Malt Place Cornells Lane Widdington Essex- Application to discharge conditions 3 (external finishes), 4 (surface water drainage), 5 (off site flooding), 6 (maintenance arrangements), 17 (great crested newts), 18 (biodiversity enhancement strategy) and 19 (lighting design scheme) attached to UTT/21/2649/FUL.– [Determination deadline 10th November 2023](#)

10.23.09.1iii. UTT/23/2363/NMA - Land Rear Of Malt Place Cornells Lane Widdington Essex - Non-material amendment to UTT/21/2649/FUL - Elevational changes to comply with building regulations and to provide conformity between approved plans under UTT/23/2118/NMA – [Determination deadline 13th October 2023](#)

10.23.09.1iv UTT/23/2483/FUL - Ringers Farmhouse Debden Road - Section 73A Retrospective application for change of use of agricultural building to Class E (a) – [Deadline for Comments 2nd November.](#)

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

10.23.09.2i. Land North of Cornells Lane

- UTT/23/1918/CLP - The formation, laying out and construction of a means of access to Cornells Lane, Widdington, in connection with the use of land for charitable and private hire events for not more than 28 days in total in any calendar year – [Refused.](#)
- UTT/22/2278/FUL - Proposed erection of 4 no. detached dwellings and associated works – Initial decision process challenged successfully at the Judicial Review – [Withdrawn by Applicant.](#)
- UTT/22/3191/FUL - Proposed erection of 4 no. detached dwellings and associated works – [Appeal lodged by applicant.](#)

10.23.09.2ii. UTT/23/2303/TCA - The Old Rectory Church Lane Widdington Essex CB11 3SF – x6 conifers removal to allow for the walled garden to be replanted with fruit trees – [Tree no objections.](#)

10.23.09.2iii. UTT/23/2034/LB - Annexe At Bishops High Street Widdington Essex CB11 3SQ - Variations to previously approved application UTT/17/3391/LB including new staircase to split previously approved single annexe to x2 annexes – [Approved with conditions.](#)

10.23.09.2iv. UTT/23/2086/FUL - Land West of The Willows Cornells Lane Widdington Essex - Erection of 2 no. dwellings and a garage together with associated boundary works (alternative scheme to UTT/21/1509/FUL, approved) – [Approved](#)

10.23.09.2v UTT/23/1998/FUL - Midsummer House Now Demolished High Street Widdington Essex – Erection of 2 no. dwellings and a garage together with associated boundary works (alternative scheme to UTT/21/1509/FUL) - [Approved](#)

10.23.10 FINANCE

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

Planning Consultancy	£6,762.15
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Widdington Parish Council

Clerk Salary + Expenses	£515.38
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They were [approved for payment](#).

10.23.10.2 ICO payment via Direct Debit 24/10/2023 - £35 – [Noted & Approved](#)

10.23.11 WIDDINGTON RECYCLING – Public Liaison meeting chaired by County Cllr. Gooding 19th September. S106 documentation, the correct topographical survey, new noise survey and highways report have now been submitted as of the time of this Parish Council Meeting. Concrete crusher was not working when the noise survey was carried out and it was suggested it should be. According to WR, the pit should be filled within 9 years. Next meeting is scheduled for February 2024.

10.23.12 ALLOTMENTS – previous allotments were at the back of Woodend in the 1950's, more recently there was a petition to provide an allotment site and Parish Council found a local landowner willing to lease the land for 5-year lease, which was subsequently extended. Current lease expires September 2025, notice of one year is required to allotment holders. At present the allotments have the lowest level of occupancy, due to aging plot holders. Clerk to send letter outlining agreed terms for allotment holders to maintain playground, further discussion required.

County Cllr. Gooding joined the meeting.

10.23.13 EMERGENCY PLAN – New document has been written; volunteers identified. Cllr. Southcott requested annual review (particularly of volunteer list). An exercise will be carried out to run through the emergency plan, date TBD.

10.23.14 GRITTING SALT – The bins that are Essex Highways responsibility were filled last year by Cllrs. Smith and Firmin and are still full. Bags stored for emergency plan can be accessed if paths need gritting and volunteers may be required to grit paths for vulnerable residents who need help gritting paths in instances of cold snap. Contact Clerk or K. Riley to request salt if needed.

10.23.15. WEBSITE/EMAIL UNIFORMITY – November Agenda

10.23.16 SPEED SURVEY & PUBLIC HIGHWAY ISSUES – See previous comments.

10.23.17 OTHER BUSINESS: Old Parish Council Minutes have been found from 1894 to 1963 these will be sent to Essex Archives. Footpath overgrowth at Fruit Hill needs to be cleared, need to try to identify responsibility of different sections.

10.23.18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at **8pm on Thursday 2nd November 2023**, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at:21:34