

# Widdington Parish Council

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## **Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 at 8.00pm**

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

**In Attendance** 1 members of the public, District Cllr. Neil Hargreaves and Katrina Levy, Clerk to the Council.

### **10.24.01 CHAIR`S WELCOME**

Chair Ian Southcott welcomed those present to the meeting.

**10.24.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr. Albert Edwards, Cllr. Steve Smith, Cllr. Lynn Smith, District Cllr. Judy Emanuel

**10.24.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None

**10.24.04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Noise complaint from neighbours reference the pub and late night private parties in the summer. Residents aren't going to respond by objecting to the latest planning application. It is recognised the success of the pub is a positive for the village, but noise complaints need to be directed to UDC and the licensing authority. It is also recognised noise isn't part of the planning decision process. Local plan likely to be submitted early 2025, should help get planning out of designation, currently below the % of turned lost appeals.

**10.24.05 COUNTY COUNCILLOR`S REPORT** – County Cllr. Gooding chaired the Widdington Recycling liaison meeting. Signage on Spring Hill, concern of school children using the road to return from bus transport.

Cllr. Southcott responded that children need to walk along the road between home and bus stop therefore road is still a concern for school children and others using buses.

**10.24.06 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR`S REPORT** – Local plan consultation end 14<sup>th</sup> October. Car parking charges have been increased at the beginning of April, early indications are that car parking earnings are 12.5% higher than predicted, indicating that volume of people parking in SW has not been detrimentally affected in the longer term. The car park behind boots is being taken over by private parking company (not owned by UDC). Consultation on the council tax low-income support scheme, it is the most generous scheme in Essex, more responses are needed (it is claimed by approx. 3000 residents in the Uttlesford and is slowly decreasing).

*County Cllr. Gooding joined the meeting.*

### **10.24.07 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.

### **10.24.08 CLERK`S REPORT**

The Clerk reported;

1. Playground refurbishment of two spinners company has been appointed.
2. Contacted UDC re. street cleaning being planned and receiving notice so cars can be moved from high street.
3. Research into freedom of the parish honorary award.
4. Contacted Enrol pay to organise payment of updated subscription.
5. Contacted potential companies to quote for hedge/tree trimming in playground.
6. Attended standards training
7. New defibrillator pads received and placed in village hall (spare set)
8. Took delivery of new storage shed – installed by Cllr. Smith.
9. Attended liaison meeting with Widdington Recycling.
10. Commented WPC endorsement and concerns regarding Local plan regulation 19.

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## 10.24.09 PLANNING

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

10.24.09.1i. 9.1i. 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. [Deadline for comments 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024](#). Cllr. Firmin – proposed supporting as a community asset and within response refer to potential for increase in noise and conditions for controlling noise should be considered. Cllr. Southcott seconded the motion.  
[Vote unanimously in agreement.](#)

10.24.09.1ii. UTT/24/2451/HHF- 1 Church View Widdington Essex CB11 3GU - Enclosure of existing porch to include: Erection of new brick pier and part wall at front elevation. Installation of new part glazed door and windows. All to match existing structure and materials. Providing additional insulation and draught proofing of main property – [Deadline for comments 30<sup>th</sup> October – no comments.](#)

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

10.24.09.2i. UTT/24/2212/DOC - Pond Mead Widdington Saffron Walden Essex CB11 3SB - Application to discharge condition 13 (lighting) attached to UTT/23/1569/FUL – [Discharge Conditions in Full.](#)

10.24.09.2ii. UTT/24/2104/TCA - The Barns High Street Widdington Saffron Walden Essex CB11 3SQ – Proposed works to 7 no. trees of various species as per proposed works – [Tree no objections.](#)

10.24.09.2iii. UTT/24/1956/CLP- Old Post Office Cottage High Street Widdington Essex CB11 3SG - Change of use from separate main dwelling and annexe to 1 dwelling/house. – [Approved certificate of lawfulness.](#)

## 10.24.10 FINANCE

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

Village Sign Restoration	£2160
Clerk Salary/expenses	£525.79
Defibrillators pads	£62

**10.24.10.2** ICO direct debit approved.

**10.24.10.3** Enrol pay SO monthly payment £7.20 approved.

They were [approved for payment.](#)

**10.24.11 WIDDINGTON RECYCLING** – The noise survey is still running late and a new company has been appointed to repeat the data measure. The road works are still not scheduled by highways and all the drains in the area need to be cleared before winter and before Widdington Recycling can fix the road surface. Conversations ongoing ref. closing Hollow Road and ceasing truck movements from so the work can be completed safely. Schedule for drain clearing needs to change from multi-year gaps to 6 monthly. Clerk to speak to Widdington Recycling reference truck movements.

**10.24.12 PLAYGROUND TREES/HEDGES** – November, agenda.

**10.24.13 GARAGES** – November, agenda.

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**10.24.14 HONOURING SERVICE TO COMMUNITY** – Freedom of the Parish policy to be drafted to keep consistency in future.

**10.24.15 ALLOTMENTS** – Clerk to write to the landowner in reference to renewing the lease for the allotments.

**10.24.16 OTHER BUSINESS** – Litter pick needed on Springhill, facebook request for D of E volunteers for litter picking volunteers – provisional date to be proposed. Cllr. Webb is attending the parish forum 7<sup>th</sup> November.

**10.24.17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 8pm on **Thursday 7<sup>TH</sup> November 2024**, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at: 21:00