

Widdington Parish Council

Draft Minutes of a Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 30th July, 2020 at 8.00pm

Present Chair Maria Orr, Cllr Chris Firmin, Cllr Ian Southcott and Cllr Maggs Webb.

In Attendance District Cllr Neil Hargreaves, and Amanda Lindsell, Clerk to the Council.

07.20.01EGM CHAIR`S WELCOME

Chair Orr welcomed those present to the meeting.

07.20.02EGM APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

07.20.03EGM DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Cllr Southcott declared a personal interest in agenda item 07/20/10EGMi.

Cllr Firmin and Cllr Webb declared personal interests in agenda item 07/20/10EGMii.

07.20.04EGM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The clerk noted a communication from a resident regarding traffic levels, and anti-social driving through Widdington. It was noted that Widdington Recycling vehicles do also deliver skips to Widdington residents, which complicates monitoring of vehicles that could be rat-running through the village.

Cllr Firmin noted that the volume of Widdington Recycling vehicles accessing through the village, has dropped dramatically in the last month.

07.20.05EGM MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the July Parish Council Meeting were approved by Councillors as an accurate representation and Chair Orr authorised the Clerk to sign the minutes on her behalf.

07.20.07EGM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR`S REPORT

Cllr Margaret Hudson joined the meeting.

District Cllr Neil Hargreaves noted;

- i. UDC have spent £3.17million as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, and have received £1.05million support from the Government to date. As a result the budget will have to be reviewed and probably recut in September.
- ii. The first meeting of the new planning group working on the Local Plan took place this week, with 2 separate experts leading, and an unrelated scrutiny committee to govern.
- iii. A recently approved planning application on the Widdington end entrance to Newport was originally an application for 25 dwellings, then 20, their appeal was thrown out, and the final deferred approval by planning committee is for 11 dwellings on the left hand side at the entrance to Newport.

07.20.08EGM CLERK`S REPORT

The clerk reported;

- i. £488.66 of allotment rent has been received to date, with £145.83 outstanding, reminder letters despatched.
- ii. £925.00 of car park rent has been received to date, with £210.00 outstanding, reminder letters despatched.
- iii. No response has been received regarding the asbestos being stored in one of the rental garages, reminder letter despatched.
- iv. Asbestos signage restored at Hamel Way car park.
- v. The unauthorised encampment on Beadle Lane was reported to ECTU and the Police 03/07/2020.

County Cllr Ray Gooding joined the meeting.

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07.20.06EGM COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Cllr Ray Gooding detailed the significant works undertaken relating to public health and Covid-19 and raised concerns regarding the sufficiency of care homes, and the need for future provision of care.

07.20.09EGM FINANCE

- i. The Council agreed to renew membership with the Rural Community Council of Essex.
- ii. It was noted that renewal of registration with the information Commissioner's Office is not due until November.
- iii. The Council resolved to commence online banking and switch to Unity Trust Bank.
- iv. The clerk presented a statement of accounts and reconciliation to cash books which were agreed and approved for signature. Cheques;
101256 - RCCE - annual membership - £52.80
101257 - Clerk's salary July 2020 - £309.92
101258 - Clerk's expenses July 2020 - £67.97
101259 - Wendens Ambo PC - annual Zoom subscription - £39.97.

07.20.10EGM PLANNING

The Parish Council agreed to submit the following comments to Uttlesford District Council relating to planning; Cllr Southcott did not participate in this agenda item.

- i. UTT/20/1635/PDE - Oak House, 1A Church View, Widdington
Proposed single storey rear extension - extending 4.5m from rear wall, maximum height 4m and height to eaves 3m. No comment.
- ii. Cllrs Firmin and Webb did not participate in this agenda item.
UTT/20/1507/HHF - Willow House, Wood End, Widdington
Erection of 1.5 storey cart lodge. No comment.
- iii. UTT/20/1409/FUL - Bridge Meadows, Widdington Road, Widdington
Change of use from paddock land to a mixed use incorporating environmental, educational and therapeutic activities and stationing of mobile wagon. Retrospective permission for the erection of yurt and the stationing of mobile wagon on the site and erection of shed. Widdington Parish Council continues to object to the applications on this site outside the village envelope and is concerned that this proposed change of use could forbode a future change of use to housing development as detailed at. www.permaculture.co.uk which highlights how to obtain planning permission on non-development land. A letter from the applicant to Widdington Parish Council (22/03/2020) confirms the applicants aspiration to build and live on the site. The Council notes that the business, which is already operating from the site contravenes policy ENV5 within the Uttlesford Local Plan 2005 and also signifies a change of use of the agricultural land. The Parish Council also draws attention to Local Plan 2005 policy S8 The Countryside Protection Zone which states that permission will only be granted for development appropriate to a rural area and the presence of strict control on new development.
- iv. UTT/20/1372/NMA - Fleur De Lys, High Street, Widdington
Non Material Amendment to UTT/17/2210/FUL - to remove the jettying detail of the first floor extension and provide an alternative access to the first floor. No comment.
- v. UTT/20/1371/LB - Fleur De Lys, High Street, Widdington
Erection of first floor rear extension to house relocated public lavatories. New doors to north elevation, new rooflight to rear elevation and internal alterations including new staircase (amended scheme to that approved under Listed Building Consent UTT/17/2211/LB in order to remove jettying detail of first floor extension) No comment.
- vi. UTT/20/1779/DOC - Pond Mead, High Street, Widdington
Application to discharge condition 2(external materials), 4 (tree protection measures), 10 (hard/soft landscaping) and 12(Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy) attached to UTT/20/0763/FUL. Widdington Parish Council objects to the discharge of these conditions, considers the location of the beech and birch trees as inappropriate and requests that UDC's Landscape Officer Ben Smeeden reviews this application to ensure adequate tree protection measures and landscaping conditions are retained.
- vii. UTT/20/1766/DOC - 5 South Green, High Street, Widdington
Application to discharge condition 2 (roof materials) and 3 (additional drawings) attached to UTT/19/2968/LB. No comment.
The following planning decision was noted;
- viii. UTT/20/1588/DOC - 5 South Green, High Street, Widdington

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Application to discharge condition 2 (roof materials) and condition 3 (Additional Drawings) attached to UTT/19/2968/LB. Refused.

07.20.11EGM HAMEL WAY GARAGES

It was agreed that Cllr Firmin would speak with the leasee in the next ten days to confirm removal of the asbestos from the garage, and whether they wish to continue renting the garage.

07.20.12EGM PLAY PARK

Cllr Hudson noted that the play park requires a tidy up before reopening can be considered. It was agreed that the clerk would circulate a revised risk assessment in line with EALC and NALC guidance. It was agreed that the play park can be reopened following satisfactory completion of the risk assessment.

07.20.13EGM ALLOTMENTS

The Council agreed the allotment lease 1st October 2020-30th September 2025.

07.20.14EGM OTHER BUSINESS

Telephone box renovation - September Agenda.

07.20.15EGM DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 8pm on Thursday 3rd September, 2020, on Zoom.

The meeting closed at 21.17

DRAFT