

Widdington Parish Council

Draft Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 3rd June, 2021 at 8.00pm

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

In Attendance County Cllr Ray Gooding, 3 members of the public and Amanda Lindsell, Clerk to the Council.

06.21.01 CHAIR'S WELCOME

Chair Orr welcomed those present to the meeting.

06.21.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and noted from District Councillor Neil Hargreaves.

06.21.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None.

06. 21.04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Residents commented that it was good to be back attending face to face meetings. A member of the public noted their concerns regarding Widdington Recycling.

06.21.05 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

None.

06.21.06 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the May Parish Council Meeting were approved by Councillors as an accurate representation, and were signed off by Chair Orr.

06.21.07 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Cllr Ray Gooding confirmed his re-election as County Councillor, and thanked everyone who voted for him. There is now a very different cabinet, although the County Council remains under Conservative control. County Cllr Gooding is now Chair of the Scrutiny Committee and Board and is anticipating a peer group assessment in the near future.

Cllr Southcott requested a list of Councillor and associated responsibilities and County Cllr Gooding resolved to share the list with the Parish Council.

A member of the public mentioned the conflict between elected officers regarding the recent Stansted Airport appeal. County Cllr Gooding agreed that there is conflict between the advice given and action taken, but that it is a District not County Council issue.

06.21.08 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

None submitted.

06.21.09 CLERK'S REPORT

The clerk reported;

1. £942.50 has been received of the £1087.50 garage rental fees for 2021/22. Outstanding fee notices will be sent this week to the remaining leasees.
2. The asbestos has been professionally removed from garage 8 and the resident at the top of the waiting list has been contacted. I am arranging to clear garage 19, take the contents to the dump and remove the weeds growing in the garage.

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3. Kevin Bentley replied blandly to WPC's letter regarding the 24 significant potholes on Beadle Lane and Springhill, stating that the areas will be inspected and appropriate action will be taken. Essex Highways have subsequently responded to my reports stating that they are scheduling works for 12 of the issues, ignoring 2, 4 are down for future non-urgent works, 3 they are already aware of and 1 will be considered for repair when planning future works in the area.
4. An account has been set up with Unity Trust Bank, Chair Orr, the clerk and Margaret Hudson have completed online registration and I have requested the bank switch. Once that is completed I can then add other councillors to the account and remove outgoing Councillor Hudson.
5. £441 of the £620 allotment rental fees for 2021/22 has been received.
6. The ROSPA report has been received and circulated, alongside my analysis.
7. The internal audit is underway with Yvonne Morton.
8. I have requested that traffic monitoring is undertaken at Beadle Lane and Springhill, specific locations are required.

06.21.10 FINANCE

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

Cheques; 101308 - Alliance Asbestos Services - £222.00
101309 - ROSPA - Annual play park report - £82.20
101310 - Clerk's salary May 2021 - £324.88
101311 - Clerk's expenses May 2021 - £118.28
101312 - Gardner Planning - inv 073.2 ref WR - £150.00

were approved for payment..

06.21.11 PLANNING

The following responses were agreed for return to Uttlesford District Council regarding planning applications;

i. UTT/21/1509/FUL - Land west of The Willows, Cornells Lane, Widdington

Erection of 2 no. dwellings, garage and associated access (amended scheme to that approved under planning permission UTT/18/1806/FUL) - The Parish Council resolved to maintain their objections to the original application at this site, and notes that these proposals are even larger than the previous.

ii. UTT/21/1546/LB - The Old Rectory, Church Lane, Widdington

Proposed replacement of front and rear vehicle gates - No objections.

iii. UTT/21/1593/HHF - The Old Rectory, Church Lane, Widdington

Proposed replacement of front and rear vehicle gates - No objections.

iv. UTT/21/1544/CLP - 30 Hamel Way, Widdington

Proposed loft conversion with rear dormer and roof lights - No objections.

v. UTT/21/1587/DOC - Midsummer House, High Street, Widdington

Application to discharge condition 12 (additional drawings) attached to UTT/20/1213/FUL - No objections.

The following planning decisions were noted;

vi. UTT/21/1158/FUL - Meadowcroft, Church Lane, Widdington

Erection of 1 no. detached dwelling and garage - Approved with conditions.

vii. UTT/21/0992/HHF - Orchard House, Wood End, Widdington

Proposed removal of existing dormer and erection of single storey first floor extension including roof light - Approved with conditions.

viii. UTT/21/0667/LB - Rumbolds, Wood End, Widdington

Removal of paint on internal beams, re-introduce lath & plaster to exposed studwork and retention of internal stud wall Refused.

ix. UTT/20/3157/DOC - Midsummer House, High Street, Widdington

Application to discharge condition 14 (Biodiversity enhancement plan) attached to UTT/20/1213/FUL - Discharge conditions in full.

06.21.12 WIDDINGTON RECYCLING

Chair Orr confirmed that notification has been received that ESS/30/19/UTT and ESS/83/19/UTT have been approved and that the Parish Council will seek to reinstate several conditions during the anticipated new application.

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County Cllr Gooding confirmed that he has a site meeting next week and hopes to set up and chair a further meeting with WPC, ECC and Widdington Recycling. County Cllr Gooding requested that WPC forward a list of bullet points to be covered at the meeting.

Chair Orr confirmed the Parish Council's aims to reinstate the no right turn restriction and S106, notification of the PC when vehicles are scheduled to pass through the village, adequate screening of the building, to ensure no additional buildings are added to the site and that the site is properly monitored and is operating within legal parameters.

A member of the public raised concerns following the fire on site 28/05/2021. The fire, which discharged black smoke, indicating that it was toxic, was reported to ECC, who said that the site is permitted to have fires. The Council agreed to instruct their planning consultant to liaise with Newport Fire Station for an official report on this and any other call outs to the site.

The Parish Council discussed the lack of clarity regarding responsibilities relating to the site, and resolved to write to Suzanne Armstrong noting that in the absence of clarity, she will be WPC's point of contact in matters relating to WR, unless she wishes to provide an alternative contact.

The Parish Council agreed the need to establish regular noise monitoring as this has not been regularly undertaken by ECC and resolved to seek advice from their planning consultant regarding noise monitoring, and also traffic monitoring to establish accurate data relating to traffic movements through the village.

It was agreed that the clerk would write a full page update for the Village Magazine, including how to report concerns and notifying residents of the anticipated application to extend the recycling period at the site.

06.21.13 VERGES AND HIGHWAYS

- i. Following the update within the Clerk's report, County Cllr Gooding suggested contacting the newly appointed cabinet member Lee Scott regarding the verge and tree issues.
- ii. It was agreed that the clerk would create a document numbering the trees to assist with identification and research contractors to carry out the proposed works.

06.21.14 OTHER BUSINESS

- i. Cllr Firmin resolved to forward to the clerk photographs of the large pot holes on Hollow Road, by the bridge.
- ii. The Village Hall will be re-opening 21/06/2021.
- iii. A complaint has been received that a resident is storing old car parts and rubbish down the side of the garage that he rents on Hamel Way. Clerk to contact the garage leasees either side to request removal of the rubbish by those responsible.
- iv. Pip Hudson has generously offered to address issues raised by the ROSPA report.
- v. The Queens Platinum Jubilee event 05/06/2022 - WPC to consider assist with funding an event.

02.21.15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 8pm on Thursday 1st July, 2021, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.16pm.