

WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Second Meeting of the 2018/2019 Parish Council held on 26th July 2018 in Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion

PRESENT

Richard Roffe (Chairman)
Geoff Dunkley (Vice Chairman)
John Bradshaw
Gerry Crosbie
Richard Drain
Simon Hurn
Maxine Palmer
Roger Paull
Jon Warters

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr M Davies, Community Devt Officer, RAF Wittering
Diane Lamb, Ward Councillor
Five Members of the Public
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk to the Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Julia Cunnington and Wg Cdr M Ainsworth.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Simon Hurn declared an interest in his on-going work for the Parish Council.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Member of the Public had already submitted the following for discussion and action prior to the meeting:-

- Dog Foul generally, but particularly in several locations in the village
- Fly/garden rubbish tipping on the green area on Townsend Road and along the fence line to Dunlop's field
- Overgrown shrubbery on Woodruff Road, Lawrence Road, Church Road and opposite Hillside Gardens
- Parking on pavements rather than using the residential parking bays
- Untaxed vehicles

The Parish Councillors were sympathetic to the resident's concerns and a useful discussion ensued. With regard to the Dog Foul, it is Peterborough City Council's responsibility to provide signage/dog foul bins and to enforce fouling offences. With regard to fly/garden rubbish, it was agreed residents should be encouraged to pay for a brown bin facility or use their black bin. With regard to overgrown shrubbery, Roger Paull has taken a number of photographs highlighting the worst areas. With regard to untaxed vehicles, Maxine Palmer's partner is the Pound Manager of NSL who manage the DVLA Contract for untaxed vehicle in the East of England and she will ask him to monitor vehicles in the village. In addition, the Parish Council will write to Peterborough City Council asking them to deal with/enforce the issues that are under PCC's jurisdiction.

4. POLICE MATTERS

There were no police representatives present. No further Rural Crime Reports will be sent out. Instead, residents are encouraged to sign-up to eCops at www.ecops.org.uk. By registering with eCops, you receive news and appeals, local crime information and crime prevention advice - direct to you as an e-mail. The service is completely free and works alongside Neighbourhood Watch, to bring you messages about your local

area. It also allows you to feedback information to your local policing team, to help Cambridgeshire Police to police your neighbourhood effectively.

It was noted that a 'Drug Den' located near to the allotments has been cleared by the RAF Police.

5. **MINUTES** of the Annual General Meeting of the 2018/2019 Parish Council held on 24th May 2018 were reviewed, approved and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed by:- Simon Hurn **Seconded by:-** Jon Warters

6. **MATTERS ARISING**

i) **Wittering A1 Flyover Campaign Group**

John Bradshaw has nothing to report on the A1 Flyover Campaign Group. He will contact Shailesh Vara, MP to obtain an update.

ii) **Bus Markings**

The Bus Markings have now been completed.

iii) **Damaged Garage at 6 Boxer Road**

It was noted that this is being dealt with and no further action will be taken by the Parish Council.

iv) **Potholes in the Village**

It was noted that PCC has categorised the potholes as 'surface stripping' and do not consider them to be hazardous as they are within tolerance levels and have previously been highlighted as requiring surface schemes. A crew had tried to fill some of the areas that they thought might be deep enough to stand a change of holding the material in place as anything above this would require a closure of the road due its minimal width with vehicles parked all along one side. The area has previously had patching carried out which resulted in the surrounding surface stripping rapidly afterwards causing a larger defect than the shallow areas of stripping presented to start with.

v) **Horse Chestnut in Church Road**

Mark Davies confirmed that the branches will be cut back later on in the year.

vi) **Website**

Gerry Crosbie and Deirdre McCumiskey had attended a meeting with Mr J Allsopp, Website Designer and a draft version of the updated Website has been circulated to the Parish Councillors. The Parish Councillors were pleased with the draft and grateful thanks were expressed to Gerry Crosbie for his hard work. A further meeting with Mr Allsopp will be arranged but, in the meantime, any amendments/additions/suggestions should be e-mailed to the Clerk.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

i) E-mail from Mr K Briers was discussed under Public Forum.

ii) E-mail from Ms E Vine was discussed under Any Other Business.

8. **FINANCE**

i) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 30th June 2018 was reviewed and approved as presented.

Proposed by:- Simon Hurn **Seconded by:-** Gerry Crosbie

ii) **Parish Hall Kitchen**

A quotation of £15,089.78 plus VAT for a new kitchen has been received but it was agreed to delay any decision on this until later on in the year when the Parish Council's financial commitments until the end of the financial year can be reviewed.

- iii) **Football Club Storage Shed**
A quotation of £3,089 plus VAT for a Storage Shed has been received and it was agreed to go ahead with this as proposed by Simon Hurn, seconded by John Bradshaw and agreed by all present.
- iv) **Bowls' Club Canopy**
It was agreed to delay any decision on this until later on in the year when the Parish Council's financial commitments until the end of the financial year can be reviewed.
- v) **Entrance Bollards outside the Parish Hall**
A quotation of £1,229.92 plus VAT for the replacement of the Entrance Bollards outside the Parish Hall has been received and it was agreed to go ahead with this as proposed by Simon Hurn, seconded by John Bradshaw and agreed by all present.
- vi) **Parish Hall/Social Club**
It was noted that external timber repairs to the Parish Hall have been completed and the Social Club has been decorated. The Parish Hall Roof has been inspected and no leaks or other problems have been found but it should be remembered that it is now 43 years old and will need work in the future.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- i) **Facebook**
It was noted that there have been a number of negative comments about village issues on Facebook. All residents are encouraged to contact the Clerk or a Parish Councillor or attend a Parish Council Meeting to voice their concerns rather than using Facebook.
- ii) **Bonfires on the Allotments**
A complaint had been received by a resident regarding bonfires on the allotments. It was agreed that a face-to-face meeting on site will be arranged with the resident and two members of the Allotment Committee.
- iii) **RAF Wittering Update**
Mark Davies gave an update on several Covenant Bids that have been made for various projects including a campaign to approve extra childminders in the village; a Relate service to help 5 – 18 year olds who are struggling to deal with family breakdowns and activities for children aged 8 years onward.

He is reviewing the RAF playgrounds to ascertain whether broken equipment can be repaired or whether it needs to be replaced.

He explained that there have been some difficulties in providing sufficient school places in some years at Wittering Primary School. This is a national problem but is exacerbated by the transient population of families moving to/away from RAF Wittering. He has a meeting arranged with the School Admissions Officer, PCC to discuss this issue.

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Next Meeting of Wittering Parish Council will take place **at 7.30 pm on 4th October 2018 in Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion.**

11. **CLOSURE**

There being no further business to discuss, **the Chairman** closed the meeting at 9.20 pm

SIGNED _____
Chairman

DATE 04/10/18