

WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Second Meeting of the 2017/2018 Parish Council
held at 7.30 pm on 27th July 2017 in the Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion

PRESENT

Richard Roffe (Chairman)
Geoff Dunkley
John Bradshaw
Simon Hurn
Roger Paull
Jon Warters

IN ATTENDANCE

Wg Cdr M Ainsworth, OC Support Wing
Mr M Davies, Community Devt Officer, RAF Wittering
Eight Members of the Public
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk to the Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Julia Cunnington, Sharon Polden and James Russell. James Russell is now working away and is not able to attend Parish Council Meetings, he had offered his resignation and this was reluctantly accepted. The Clerk will advertise the Notice of a Casual Vacancy on the Website and Parish Hall Noticeboard.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. POLICE MATTERS

There were no police representatives present.

4. MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of the 2017/2018 Parish Council held on 18th May 2017 were reviewed, approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman

Proposed by:- Simon Hurn **Seconded by:-** Roger Paull

5. MATTERS ARISING

i) Wittering A1 Flyover Campaign Group

John Bradshaw gave a report of the meeting held on 23rd May 2017 at Peterborough Town Hall which had been attended by representatives from the Parish Council, Peterborough City Council, RAF Wittering and the Highways Division. There had been six reported accidents since 2012 (1 fatal, 1 serious and 4 slight). A further meeting is due to take place on 1st August 2017. The aim of the group is to lobby central government and this will be achieved by arranging a meeting with Shailesh Vara, MP and the Minister of Transport. RAF Wittering is undertaking parallel campaign work.

- ii) **Dropped Kerbs and possible financial contribution from the Parish Council**
The Chairman and Vice Chairman had met with the Highways Division who had agreed that they will lower the two kerbs either side of the Spar Shop to enable wheelchair access to the shop. The Parish Council will not have to make a financial contribution. The Highways Division also agreed to look at other sites within the village that need dropped kerbs.
- iii) **Defibrillator**
As James Russell was not present, it was agreed to postpone the purchase of a Defibrillator at present.
- iv) **Peterborough Local Plan**
The Chairman circulated a flyer that had been produced by the Chairman of Thornhaugh Parish Council showing the potential developments at Crossleys Garden Village, Wittering and North Wansford. Thornhaugh Parish Council feel that working together with neighbouring Parish Councils (Wittering and Wansford) will strengthen their objections to these potential developments. John Bradshaw and Simon Hurn agreed to attend any future meetings to discuss these issues. The Chairman commented that the Parish Watch Group had been successful when objecting to a minerals and waste planning application several years ago.
- v) **Maintenance of the Military Graves in the Churchyard**
The issue of the cessation of maintenance of the military graves in the churchyard has been resolved although the Church Warden stated that there was a discrepancy in the recorded numbers of graves to be maintained. Eventually the Commonwealth War Graves Commission will take over the maintenance of all the military graves.
- vi) **Overgrown bushes/trees on the RAF Camp Boundary**
Mr Davies has resolved this issue and the necessary work will begin in August 2017.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no further correspondence received that had not already been circulated by e-mail.

8. FINANCE

- i) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 30th June 2017 was reviewed and approved unanimously as presented.
Proposed by:- John Bradshaw **Seconded by:-** Simon Hurn

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Members of the Public present raised the following issues:-

- The verge down Boxer Road needs strimming again
- There is a broken manhole near Holt Close (Simon Hurn agreed to deal with this)

10. ADJOURNEMENT

- i) **Planning Application 16/01361 Land to the south of Lawrence Road, Wittering**

The Parish Councillors felt that no amendments have been made which would alleviate their original objections and, therefore, they will reiterate their original objections. In addition, they will refer to the Further Draft December 2016 to January 2017 of the Peterborough Local Plan, 7.5.5 (page 85) which states: *“Any planning application for the development of site WIT001H must be accompanied by a Transport Assessment, including a Residential Travel Plan. Subject to the conclusions of that Assessment, it is likely that the development will require improvements to the existing junction of Townsend Road and the A1 Great North Road, unless improvements or a replacement grade-separated junction in accordance with policy LP15 have already been implemented. Any improvements required to enable to development to proceed will need to be funded by the developer and the works completed before occupation of the first dwelling. It is possible that improvements to the existing junction will not be sufficient to enable all of the development envisaged for this site. In that case a phased development would be necessary, with later phases relying on the prior provision of the grade-separated junction”.*

ii) **Review of Parish Hall Conditions of Hire**

These had been circulated prior to the meeting and were read out and agreed as proposed by John Bradshaw and seconded by Simon Hurn.

Wg Cdr Ainsworth gave an update on the activities at RAF Wittering which will be one hundred years old in 2018.

John Bradshaw expressed his thanks to Robin Dunlop who continues to maintain the footpaths to an excellent standard.

Geoff Dunkley reported that the dumped mattress has been removed from the woods.

Geoff Dunkley reported that the bough of an Ash Tree in the hedge outside Magnolia House, Old Oundle Road is hanging over the road and could cause an accident if it drops onto a car or onto the road. This is in Thornhaugh Parish and so the Clerk will inform Thornhaugh Parish Council.

Mrs E Nicholl (ex OC Support Wing) has been awarded the OBE for her work in connection with the construction of the War Memorial in Wittering Churchyard.

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Third Meeting of the 2017/2018 Parish Council will take place at 7.30 pm on 7th September 2017 in the Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion.

12. **CLOSURE**

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35 pm

SIGNED

Chairman

DATE

07/09/17