

WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Third Meeting of the 2018/2019 Parish Council held on 4th October 2018 in Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion

PRESENT

Richard Roffe (Chairman)
Geoff Dunkley (Vice Chairman)
Gerry Crosbie
Julia Cunnington
Richard Drain
Simon Hurn
Maxine Palmer
Roger Paull

IN ATTENDANCE

WO N Paylor, Community Support Officer, RAF Wittering
Diane Lamb, Ward Councillor
Three Members of the Public
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk to the Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from John Bradshaw, Jon Warters, Wg Cdr M Ainsworth and Mr M Davies.

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. WO Paylor stated that work is being undertaken to set up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. He stated that increased patrols are being undertaken which involve engaging with the young people of the village.

4. MINUTES of the Second Meeting of the 2018/2019 Parish Council held on 26th July 2018 were reviewed, approved and signed by the Chairman.

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

5. MATTERS ARISING

i) **Wittering A1 Flyover Campaign Group**

John Bradshaw has had a letter from the Department of Transport that advises that the Wittering A1 Flyover is not included in the plan for the first Road Investment Strategy and that no decisions have been made on schemes to be included in the second Road Investment Strategy.

ii) **Issues raised at Public Participation at the last Meeting**

It was confirmed that several Parish Councillors and WO Paylor undertake frequent walks around the village to monitor dog foul, fly/garden rubbish tipping and other antisocial behaviour. It was reported that two untaxed vehicles had been clamped until the vehicles' owners had paid the tax due.

iii) **Potholes in the Village**

Although some of the potholes have been repaired, it was noted that there are still some potholes that need to be repaired.

iv) **Website**

The updated Website is now live (witteringparishcouncil.com). Thanks were expressed to Gerry Crosbie and the Clerk for their work on the updated Website. Grateful appreciation was expressed to Jay Allsop of Send Blue, Peterborough for all his technical help and expertise in the preparation of the updated Website.

v) **Bonfires on Allotments Update**

Geoff Dunkley stated that the issue will be discussed at the Wittering Allotment Society's AGM but it is probable that bonfires will be banned on the allotments between April – October.

vi) **Review of RAF Playgrounds – Update**

WO Paylor stated that various consultations had taken place with both children and parents as to what playground equipment was required and desired. A group of children had also visited a company that supplies playground equipment. He showed illustrated plans of what has been designed for the St George's Road Playground (which will be extended) and the Holt Close Playground. An application has been submitted to the RAF Benevolent Fund for grant funding and a decision is due shortly. If the application is successful, it is hoped that the new equipment will be in place for Easter 2019.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no further correspondence that had not already been sent to the Parish Councillors.

7. **FINANCE**

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

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

ii) Work will start w/c 8th October 2018 on the Football Club Storage Shed and Entrance Bollards outside the Parish Hall.

iii) **Request for a grant towards the cost of a Defibrillator at Wittering Primary School**

Jo Ward, Family Support Worker, Wittering Families Centre had asked for a grant towards the cost of a Defibrillator at Wittering Primary School. Simon Hurn proposed that a grant of £615 should be made, this was seconded by Gerry Crosbie and agreed by all present.

iv) **Request for a grant towards the cost of attending the Young Voices Concert**

Mrs C Selby, Singing Club Leader at Wittering Primary School had asked for a grant towards the cost of pupils and their parents to attend the Young Voices Concert in Birmingham in January 2019. The Chairman proposed a grant of £1,700, this was seconded by Roger Paull and agreed by all present.

8. **PUBLIC FORUM**

A Member of the Public raised the following issue:-

- When the Delaine Buses take over running the bus service to/from Peterborough/Stamford on 22nd October 2018, the bus will only stop at the bus stop outside The Coffee Stop on Townsend Road rather than stopping at the other five bus stops. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact Delaine Buses for an explanation and also Diane Lamb will speak to Peterborough City Council regarding this issue.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

i) **Remembrance Day Weekend (10th & 11th November 2018)**

Marie Dunkley is hosting an Afternoon Tea Party between 2.00 – 4.00 pm on 10th November 2018 in the Village Hall to raise funds for the Royal British Legion. Tickets cost £10.00 each.

A Veterans' Remembrance Day Parade will take place on 11th November 2018. An Open-Air Remembrance Day Service will take place at the War Memorial followed by the parade which will march through the village to the Village Hall. Refreshments and drinks will be available in the Village Hall afterwards.

Geoff Dunkley stated that the RAF Catering Department had agreed to provide the chefs to prepare the refreshments free-of-charge. He asked for a grant of up to £500 to purchase the food. It was suggested that an approach needed to be made to RAF Wittering for a contribution to purchase the food. The Chairman agreed to speak to Gp Capt T Keeling and Wg Cdr Ainsworth of RAF Wittering and a letter will be written to the Officers' Mess. If no contribution is forthcoming, it was agreed that the Parish Council will make a grant.

ii) Refurbishment of the Sports & Social Club/Village Hall

It was noted that the carpet and furniture in Sports & Social Club are now 20 years old and needs replacing/ refurbishing. The Sports & Social Club also needs re-painting. This work will cost approximately £8,000 and will be undertaken in the spring. In addition, extra chairs and tables need to be purchased for the Village Hall.

iii) Parish Hall Kitchen

Geoff Dunkley had obtained two further quotations for a new kitchen. These were discussed and the majority of Parish Councillors would prefer to accept a quotation where the new kitchen was project-managed by one company rather than employ individual contractors. Roger Paull offered join Geoff Dunkley to form a small working group to explore the quotations more fully.

iv) War Graves in the Churchyard

Roger Paull reported on a recent incident when a relative had visited a War Grave was upset about its untidy condition. Simon Hurn confirmed that, although he cuts the grass around the War Graves, he does not tidy around them. The RAF had agreed to contribute £500 towards the grass cutting and this has not yet been paid. It was agreed to ask the RAF for the contribution and ask that the Service Graves are tidied.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Next Meeting of Wittering Parish Council will take place **at 7.30 pm on 6th December 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

06/12/18