

# WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the 2019-2020 Parish Council held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019 in Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion

### PRESENT

Richard Roffe (Chairman)  
John Bradshaw  
Gerry Crosbie  
Julia Cunnington  
Geoff Dunkley  
Simon Hurn  
Maxine Palmer  
Roger Paull  
Jon Wartors

### IN ATTENDANCE

Wg Cdr M Ainsworth, RAF Wittering  
WO N Paylor, Community Support Office, RAF Wittering  
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk to the Council  
Three Members of the Public

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Diane Lamb.

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

#### 3. ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

##### **Chairman**

Richard Roffe as proposed by Jon Wartors, seconded by Simon Hurn and agreed by all present

##### **Vice Chairman**

John Bradshaw as proposed by Richard Roffe, seconded by Maxine Palmer and agreed by all present

#### 4. POLICE MATTERS

There were no police representatives present. It was agreed that a number of Parish Councillors will meet with PS R Reay at 7.00 pm on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2019 in Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion to discuss local issues.

#### 5. MINUTES of the Sixth Meeting of the 2018-2019 Parish Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were reviewed, approved and signed by the Chairman.

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

#### 6. MATTERS ARISING

##### i) **Wittering A1 Flyover Campaign Group**

John Bradshaw will be attending a meeting at the House of Commons on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019 to progress the A1 Flyover. NB Disappointingly, this meeting was subsequently cancelled and no new date has been scheduled.

##### ii) **Delaine Bus Service 205 – Update on Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019**

The Parish Councillors that had attended the meeting had agreed not to pursue funding a Saturday Service due to the high cost involved.

iii) **Parish Hall Kitchen Grant Application**

Gerry Crosbie confirmed that a Grant Application had been made to Mick George and he will hear the result in July/August. It was noted that £11 in every £100 of grant money will have to be paid by a third-party organisation.

iv) **Ownership of Tree on Townsend Road**

Although Peterborough City Council denies owning the land, it is strongly believed that it does. In any case, the tree has been inspected and it is not in a dangerous state so no further action can be taken.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no further correspondence that had not already been circulated.

8. **FINANCE**

i) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 was reviewed and approved as presented.

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

ii) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019 was reviewed and approved as presented

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

iii) Overpayment made by War Graves Commission towards cost of Maintaining the War Graves

The War Graves Commission had overpaid the Parish Council by £1,834 by mistake and had requested the return of this money. However, it was felt that as the new contractor is not maintaining the War Graves properly, the money should not be returned. Roger Paull agreed to take some photographs to show the state of the War Graves.

iv) Annual Audit 2018-2019

The Accounts for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 have been audited by Karen Jones of Thornhaugh and the Annual Return was signed by the Clerk and the Chairman.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

i) **Way Wardens & Good Neighbour Scheme**

It was agreed that no further action should be taken to become involved with the above as it was felt that everyone should be a good neighbour and this is already being undertaken on an information basis in the village.

ii) **Footpath Committee Proposal**

It was agreed that no further action should be taken to become involved with the above as it was felt that Peterborough City Council would make use of it to delegate its responsibility for the footpaths and this is not acceptable.

iii) **Approval of Safeguarding Policy, Privacy Compliance Framework Policy, Bullying and Harassment Policy and Code of Conduct Policy**

These had already been circulated, were unanimously approved and will be put onto the Website. Further policies will be circulated for discussion and approval at the next meeting

iv) **Horse Chestnut Tree**

John Bradshaw had been asked to enquire whether any tree work will be undertaken to the Horse Chestnut Tree in Church Road. It was confirmed that no tree work will be undertaken.

v) **Flower Festival/Cottesmore Military Wives Choir**

Geoff Dunkley publicised the Flower Festival on 8 & 9<sup>th</sup> June 2019 and the Cottesmore Military Wives Choir Concert on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2019 (tickets are available from Geoff by telephoning Stamford 783346). Both events are at All Saints' Church, Wittering.

vi) **RAF Wittering Families Day**

Julia Cunnington expressed her disappointment that this event has not been publicised in the village. She was assured that it will be publicised.

vii) **RAF Report**

RAF Aerobatic Team, The Red Arrows Update - the Civil Aviation Authority decided that the Airspace Change Proposal relating to potential new bases for the Red Arrows had passed the first of 4 'Gateways' in the process on 31 May 2019. The Ministry of Defence can now progress to Stage 2 which is where the options are developed for the airspace change. This involves continuation of the engagement with stakeholders to collect their views to assist the development of the airspace options and to demonstrate transparency. It is expected that there will be airspace options for each of the basing options. The Stage culminates in another Gateway which is currently scheduled for 27 September 2019. The proposal's progress through the process can be followed on the Civil Aviation Authority's airspace change portal at this link: <https://airspacechange.caa.co.uk/PublicProposalArea?plD=105> (It was agreed that John Bradshaw will represent the Parish Council at the meeting that is being organised by Sahilesh Vara, MP)

Supporting our Community - new Playparks are all open and are well used. Has been an increase in the number of young people attending our Youth Drop In sessions on Monday & Tuesday.

Airplay Youth Work deliver 5 sessions per week across three nights. Monday, Tuesday & Thursday and this is open to any young person in the village both service and civilian. Also delivering a holiday programme this year which includes 4 weeks in the summer beginning 22 July, 29 July, 19 August and 26 August. Programme includes trips out to Battlefield Live, Rutland Aqua Park, Wicksteed Park, Airfest Music residential, Residential in London staying two nights on HMS Belfast, movie nights, arts & craft sessions and a joint party to celebrate centenary of the RAF Benevolent Fund and that our own Youth Drop In facility has been open in the village for 15 years. All these activities are heavily subsidised for all children/young people.

Sharon Pollard, our Youth Worker has been shortlisted for Youth Worker of the year and will be attend an RAFBF grand event in June 2019.

We also deliver Ben Club, a club for 5 to 7 years of age which is held each Monday term time at Spring Wittering Childcare Centre. This is open to anyone in the village.

These are both funded by RAF Benevolent Fund at a total cost of £24,000 per year and we are the only village in Peterborough with a youth service.

Relate – Cambridge continue to deliver children counselling sessions for 5 to 17 years of age. This includes any child who lives in Wittering both from service and civilian families. Relate are working closely with our welfare team and our catchment schools to deliver this service. Many local children have benefitted from this service and we will look later in the year as to whether we should look for additional funding to continue this work.

Wittering Family Centre, RAF Wittering and Wittering Primary School Head are working in partnership to secure funding to ensure the Centre continues to be sustainable to Wittering community. We are investigating several funding stream options.

The Defence Infrastructure Organisation have secured funding to repair drainage and resurface two car parks in Parker Road. This car park can be used by both service and civilian community. This work has just commenced and may be some disruption in this area.

We have been successful in securing funding of £6,000 from Armed Forces Community Covenant to deliver Childminding Courses in Wittering to service and civilian community members. We are working in partnership with Peterborough City Council Early Years team and holding an Introduction to Childminding on 7 June at the CLC+ building in St Georges Road. First course will commence in June.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Next Meeting of Wittering Parish Council will take place **at 7.30 pm on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 in Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion.**

**11. CLOSURE**

There being no further business to discuss, **the Chairman** closed the meeting at 8.40 pm

**SIGNED**

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**Chairman**

**DATE**

**05/09/19**