

WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Wittering Parish Council held on 14th January 2021 in Wittering Parish Hall

PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Mark Davis, Community Devt Officer, RAF Wittering
Peter Slinger, Prospective Green Party Candidate for the Ward Elections
Deirdre McCumiskey (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Wg Cdr Margaret Boyle, RAF Wittering

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Simon Hurn declared an interest in his on-going work for the Parish Council. John Bradshaw and Geoff Dunkley declared an interest in Item 7 iii) Capital Expenditure in the Churchyard.

3. POLICE MATTERS

There were no police representatives present. No crimes were reported.

4. MINUTES of the Meetings of Wittering Parish Council held on 3rd December 2020 and 7th January 2021 were reviewed, approved and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed by:- John Bradshaw **Seconded by:-** Simon Hurn

5. MATTERS ARISING

i) **Wittering A1 Flyover Campaign Group**

John Bradshaw stated that he had spoken to Shailesh Vara, MP and a Zoom Meeting has been arranged for 28th January 2021. The Transport Minister, a Highways Officer and Shailesh Vara will attend the meeting along with John Bradshaw and Geoff Dunkley.

ii) **Asset Register**

The Chairman suggested that an inventory of the fixtures, fittings and equipment of the Sports & Social Club can be taken when the renovations have been completed.

iii) **Voting by E-mail**

The Clerk had established that the only decisions that can be made outside a meeting are those contained in the Parish Council's Standing Orders for emergency matters by the Proper Officer.

iv) **Wittering Football Club and Wittering Bowls' Club Agreements**

The Wittering Football Club Agreement has been completed but the Wittering Bowls' Club Agreement needs to be completed. Thanks were expressed to the Parish Councillors who had drawn up the Wittering Football Club Agreement.

v) **Brock Close**

Peterborough City Council has agreed to add the request for yellow lines to be painted near to the entrance of Brock Close to the next legal order for consultation which is due in the New Year. It was noted that the dustcart should be able to reverse down into Brock Close.

vi) **Signage in the Playground**

The Clerk had reported this to Peterborough City Council and had received an acknowledgement but no work has been carried out to date.

vii) **Wittering Community Food Hub**

This had been dealt with at the Extra-Ordinary Wittering Parish Council Meeting on 7th January 2021. It was noted that this organisation is working well in the village. Thanks were expressed to those who are involved with it.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

i) **Trees and Wildlife Beds on Grass between Wittering and the A1 (Steve Robinson)**

It was agreed to wait until the Larkfleet Homes Development has been completed before undertaking a walk around the village to ascertain which areas could be enhanced by the planting of bushes and trees.

ii) **Larkfleet Development (Richard Drain)**

A Zoom Meeting had taken place earlier in the day attended by Maxine Palmer, Richard Drain and John Anderson and Rob Crossland of Larkfleet Homes.

John Anderson explained that Larkfleet Homes delegate the initial preparation of the site and day-to-day responsibility to the ground working team which is M V Kelly. Larkfleet Homes won't take over as principal contractors until the beginning of February 2021 – so they are not on site yet but do take full responsibility for the site and for all complaints.

Items Discussed:

- Signage and lorry routes
- Mud on roads/wheel washers
- Generators
- Start times

Richard Drain said that the he/residents had spoken to the Site Manager of M V Kelly and since then the signage had been greatly improved so the majority of traffic was now going along the planned route.

Larkfleet Homes said it is their intention to move the welfare site/site office to the far end of the site to minimise noise and disruption but the roads need to be built first and this can take up to 12 weeks. Once the first phase is built the site will be as a street scene and this will act as a buffer for a lot of the noise – up to 20 weeks to complete. They will look at installing sound matting along the fencing by the current generator that runs all night and this will reduce some, not all, of the noise. The generator cannot be switched off. The Site Manager is happy to attend the Parish Council Meetings regularly to give updates and it was agreed that Maxine Palmer, Larkfleet Homes and Paul, the Site Manager would communicate monthly either by telephone or e-mail.

Larkfleet Homes want to manage the Parish Council's expectations – they are building in a densely populated area and they understand the area has key workers and lots of parked cars. They said things will go wrong and it will be a challenging relationship. They work with third party/sub-contractors and don't always have full control of timings of deliveries for example. However, they want to work with the residents/village in harmony. They are willing to listen to residents' concerns via the Parish Council and step in as necessary.

7. FINANCE

- i) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 31st December 2020 was reviewed and approved as presented.
Proposed by:- John Bradshaw **Seconded by:-** Geoff Dunkley
- ii) **Budget and Precept 2021-2022**
The Draft Budget had already been circulated to the Parish Councillors. The Precept will be reduced by £1,000 to £54,000 for 2021-2022 as proposed by Simon Hurn, seconded by Geoff Dunkley and approved by all the Parish Councillors. It was also agreed to transfer £25,000 from the Deposit Account into the Parish Hall Roof Fund.
- iii) **Capital Expenditure in the Churchyard (£3,180 held by Peterborough City Council)**
It was agreed that capital work to be undertaken in the churchyard could include laying paths to the churchyard extension. The Clerk will ask PCC for information of how the money held can be accessed.
- iv) **Quote for a canopy for the Bowls' Club Pavilion (£1,743.24 Fordson Developments)**
This item was not discussed.

8. PUBLIC FORUM

The Member of the Public present had no issues to raise.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i) **Use of the Parish Hall Carpark by a Street Trader**
After a short discussion, it was agreed not to give permission for a Street Trader to use the Parish Hall car park to sell food. The Clerk will inform Darren Dolby, Licensing Regulatory Officer accordingly.
- ii) **Drains in the Village**
Geoff Dunkley reported that there are problems with the drains in the village causing flooding on various roads. The Clerk will report to the Highways Department.
- iii) **Fly-Tipping**
Maxine Palmer reported a large number of items had been fly-tipped on Old Oundle Road. This has been reported to Peterborough City Council

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Wittering Parish Council will take place at 7.30 pm on 25th March 2021. Venue to be confirmed nearer the time.

12. CLOSURE

There being no further business to discuss, **the Chairman** closed the meeting at 9.00 pm

SIGNED

Chairman

DATE

25/01/21

