

WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Wittering Parish Council held on 20th May 2021 in Wittering Parish Hall

PRESENT

Richard Roffe (Chairman)
John Bradshaw
Gerry Crosbie
Julia Cunnington
Geoff Dunkley
Simon Hurn

IN ATTENDANCE

Peterborough City Ward Councillor Gavin Eley
Paul Vasey, Site Manager, Harriers Rest, Larkfleet Homes Development
8 Members of the Public
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk to the Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Maxine Palmer, Roger Paull, Wg Cdr M Ainsworth and Mark Davies, Community Support Officer, RAF Wittering.

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 John Bradshaw, seconded by Simon Hurn and agreed by all present. He confirmed his intention not to stand as Chairman at the next AGM as he will have completed 50 years on the Parish Council at that point. He voiced his thanks to John Holdich who has now retired after many years as a Peterborough City Councillor and who gave exceptional support to the Parish Council during his term of office. The Clerk will write a thank you letter to John Holdich.

Vice Chairman

John Bradshaw as proposed by Richard Roffe, seconded by Simon Hurn and agreed by all present

4. POLICE MATTERS

There were no police representatives present.

5. MINUTES of the meeting held on 25th March 2021 were reviewed, approved and signed by the Chairman.

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

6. MATTERS ARISING

i) Wittering A1 Flyover Campaign Group

John Bradshaw reported that the meeting that had been planned for April 2021 did not take place because of purdah (due to the local elections). Highways England plans to undertake a survey to find out what the

residents want as it is potentially thinking of closing the gap on the A1 southbound access to the village. Cllr Elsey agreed he will assist John Bradshaw as much as he can.

ii) **Wittering Bowls' Club Agreement**

Gerry Crosbie volunteered to draw up an Agreement. He will need a list of the assets of the Bowls' Club to do this and will liaise with Alisdair McNaughton for this information.

iii) **Wittering Community Food Hub Formal Reception**

It was agreed to arrange a Formal Reception to acknowledge the commitment and hard work that was given by volunteers of the Wittering Community Food Hub in helping residents in many ways during the lockdown. Julia Cunnington and Geoff Dunkley volunteered to organise the event which will take place when the current Covid Restrictions have been lifted. It was agreed to invite the volunteers, the Parish Councillors and some of the residents who had been helped. It will include refreshments and a budget of up to a maximum of £700 was agreed. The Press will also be invited.

iv) **Removal of Tree Stump in Church Road**

Peterborough City Council has reported that a Tree Surveyor has inspected the stump which will be left in situ to prevent a hole developing post grind. The reality is that it will be planting a replacement tree in this location.

v) **2nd Wittering Scouts' Plans**

Rick Amos (plus four representatives of the 2nd Wittering Scouts) thanked the Parish Council for the grant of £2,000 from the Community Infrastructure Levy Fund towards the cost of replacing the art and craft materials that had been ruined due to getting wet. He stated that the Scouts are looking to have a permanent building in the village. Currently they use both the Parish Hall and All Saints' Church for meetings but this is not ideal. They need somewhere that is secure and where they could also store equipment in as, at the moment, they have been given use of an old shed on the RAF Wittering Camp but it does not have electricity. They are looking at funding the building themselves (by obtaining grants and fund-raising) but they need a piece of land to build it on and would pay a peppercorn rent. After a long discussion, John Bradshaw proposed that the Parish Council would make an agreement in principle that they could use the land on the east side of the Bowls' Club Pavilion and this was agreed by all present. They will speak to their architect and attend the next meeting with a plan and a design of what the building would look like.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Wittering Parish Room Fund – a request for a nominative representative of Wittering Parish Council has been received and Gerry Crosbie volunteered to fill this role. It was agreed that the Wittering Parish Room Fund can be added to the Wittering Parish Council Website. The Clerk will ask the Administrator to send the information that he wants to be added.

8. **FINANCE**

i) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 31st March 2021 was reviewed and approved as presented.
Proposed by:- John Bradshaw **Seconded by:-** Simon Hurn

ii) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 30th April 2021 was reviewed and approved as presented.
Proposed by:- John Bradshaw **Seconded by:-** Simon Hurn

iii) **Annual Audit 2021-2022**

The Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2021 have been audited by Karen Jones of Thornhaugh and had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Annual Return was signed by the Clerk and the Chairman.

iv) **Wittering Sports & Social Club's Request for Additional Funding**

It was proposed by John Bradshaw and seconded by Gerry Crosbie that £300 is donated to the Sports & Social Club to complete the flooring in the newly refurbished building. This was agreed by all present.

v) **Wittering Bowls' Club's Request for Funding**

It was agreed to donate 50% of the total cost of £1,743.24 to Wittering Bowls' Club on the basis that it would fund the other 50% which equates to £871.62 by each organisation. A representative from the Bowls' Club will attend the next meeting to inform the Parish Council whether the Bowls' Club want to go ahead with the canopy on this basis.

vi) **Clerk's Salary**

The Clerk will inform the Parish Council of any pay increase that is negotiated by NALC/SSLC for the 2021-2022 financial year.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

i) **Larkfleet Homes Report**

Paul Vasey, Site Manager of Larkfleet Homes gave an update of the progress on the site, confirming that 17 properties have been sold to date. Although it had been planned that this development would take four years to complete, it is likely that it will be completed in three years. Concerns were raised as to the deliveries/contractors using Church Road to access the site which causes difficulties as the residents park their cars outside their houses which makes it more difficult for the larger vehicles to manoeuvre. In addition, there have been deliveries/contractors using Church Road at times when the children are going to/from the school. It was agreed that the Parish Council will write to Larkfleet to request that the proper entrance is used as soon as possible. Cllr Eley agreed to look what was stated in the Planning Application for the development.

ii) **RAF Report**

Mark Davies, Community Devt Officer had sent updates on the issues of young people making noise near to the Cost Cutter shop and the repair of the Kissing Gate, as well as sending a report of what is planned for the community in the next month or two.

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Meeting of Wittering Parish Council will take place **at 7.30 pm on 15th July 2021 in Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion** (subject to Covid Restrictions).

11. **CLOSURE**

There being no further business to discuss, **the Chairman** closed the meeting at 9.30 pm.

SIGNED

Chairman

DATE

15/07/21.