

# WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of Wittering Parish Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021 in Wittering Parish Hall

### **PRESENT**

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

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Paul Vasey, Site Manager, Harriers Rest, Larkfleet Homes Housing Development  
Peterborough City Ward Councillor Gavin Elsey  
Twelve Members of the Public  
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk

John Bradshaw chaired the meeting.

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were apologies for absence from Roger Paull, Wg Cdr Margaret Boyle, Mark Davies, Community Development Officer, RAF Wittering.

### **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. No crimes were reported.

### **4. MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of Wittering Parish Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were reviewed and approved.**

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

### **5. MATTERS ARISING**

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

John Bradshaw stated that he had met with Gavin Elsey, but no decisions on the flyover will be taken until 2025. However, a business plan will need to be produced and available for then. Gavin Elsey has agreed to put together a Business Plan with the support of a small working party/committee comprising of Shailesh Vara, MP, Lewis Banks and Peter Hiller of Peterborough City Council. A planning meeting will take place in the next 2-3 weeks. If plans to upgrade the A1 from Doncaster to Alwalton to motorway status are approved, this will have a significant impact on the site as motorists will not be allowed to cross over the A1 south at Wittering

as they can at present. John Bradshaw agreed to represent the Parish Council when required. It was noted that there is an online survey seeking residents' views and everyone is encouraged to complete it.

**ii) Wittering Bowls' Club Agreement**

Gerry Crosbie reported that although some progress has been made on the Wittering Bowls' Club Agreement, there are still several outstanding issues. Gerry Crosbie suggested that the Parish Council could take control of the Bowls' Club and use it as a community asset whilst allowing the Bowls' Club to use it free-of-charge. It was agreed a meeting will take place between, Gerry Crosbie, Richard Roffe, John Hare and Ally McNaughton to discuss the relationship between the Parish Council and the Bowls' Club. Gerry Crosbie was thanked for all his efforts in preparing the Agreement.

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

The Wittering Community Food Hub Formal Reception which had been due to take place on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2021 has been postponed due to the rise in Covid Infections. It will be rescheduled for later in the year.

**iv) 2<sup>nd</sup> Wittering Scouts**

Darryl Reeve confirmed that there are currently 24 beavers, 11 cubs and 6 scouts and this number is increasing and will increase further when the housing development is completed. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Wittering Scouts are receiving advice about ways of raising money to build the proposed permanent building on the land on the east side of the Bowls' Club Pavilion.

The architect gave a presentation and showed plans that he had drawn up for the proposed permanent building which could be a wooden structure as this would be quicker and cheaper to erect. He suggested canvas display boards depicting the areas of interest in the village could be used instead of fencing or hedging around the building. He will speak to the Wittering Football Team to confirm how much land will be needed for its compound before submitting a Planning Application.

A vote was taken by the Parish Councillors present and, as 5 Parish Councillors voted in favour; the plans were agreed subject to further consultation when the Planning Application has been submitted.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

- i) WOSM Summer Ball at RAF Wittering 2000–0400 30/07/21 (Noise will stop at 0100) - noted
- ii) Planning Application 21/00870 - Erection of 1 x 4 bed 3 storey and 1 x 4 bed 2 storey detached houses at Wittering Manor, Townsend Road, Wittering – Objection. Comment: the Parish Councillors have strong safety concerns regarding the proposed development which is sited on a tight bend at the entrance/exit of the village. The road narrows at this point and is very close to the junction of Hillside Gardens and Townsend Road. There are many young children living in Hillside Gardens. There is already poor visibility around the bend, and this would become worse as the houses would block the view. There is no provision for the widening of/improvements to the bend in the Planning Application. The Parish Councillors also feel the proposed development is not in keeping with the historical part of the village. Gavin Elsey stated he could 'call-in' (request) that this planning application is reported to Planning Committee.
- iii) Andrew Sanderson – Motorcycles being ridden on the Playing Field. Simon Hurn has seen the man and his child riding on the playing field. He said he believes they came from the RAF Camp. He will speak to them if/when he sees them again.
- iv) David McNeill – Overgrown grass at the back of Manor Close. The Clerk will inform Robin Dunlop of the issue.
- v) Gavin Elsey, PCC Ward Councillor, Boundary Commission Review Consultation - noted

## 7. FINANCE

- i) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 was reviewed and approved as presented.

**Proposed by:-** John Bradshaw                      **Seconded by:-** Geoff Dunkley

ii) **Community Infrastructure Levy Fund Grant**

This was noted but no plans were made as to how this will be spent.

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

Glenn Willoughby stated that the Bowls' Club had recently paid £900 for a repair to the water tower and if the Parish Council were willing to reimburse it for this, it would be willing to pay a 50% contribution to the cost of the proposed canopy. It was agreed that this will be discussed at the meeting mentioned in 5ii. The Bowls' Club will be asked for a copy of its Financial Statement.

## 8. LARKFLEET HOMES DEVELOPMENT

Thanks were expressed to Paul Vasey, Site Manager for moving the location of the entrance to the site.

He confirmed that 10% of the houses on the development had already been sold with the first completions to take place in September. The Show Home will also open in September.

Geoff Dunkley agreed to show Paul Vasey the area which regularly floods in Parker Road to see if anything can be done about it.

Paul Vasey plans to organise the burying of a Time Capsule on the site by pupils from Wittering Primary School later in the year. The Clerk will inform Rhys Thrower, Headteacher and ask him to liaise with Paul Vasey. The Parish Councillors thought this was an excellent idea.

## 9. WITTERING SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

John Bradshaw stated that he had recently visited the Sports & Social Club and had enjoyed this refurbished facility.

The items below were discussed:-

- i) Request for £5,000 to complete the refurbishment of the Sports & Social Club (a quote for both refurbishing the upholstery on the benches and a quote for replacing the benches will be obtained and brought to a future Parish Council Meeting)
- ii) Extending the patio (this was agreed on the basis that the Sports & Social Club will fund and apply for any necessary planning permission)
- iii) Inspection of garages and rear wall of Sports & Social Club (Simon Hurn and Geoff Dunkley will meet representatives of the Sports & Social Club on site on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021)
- iv) Removing the garages and extending the Sports & Social Club (this will be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting)
- v) Future plans for the renovation of the Parish Hall and Sports & Social Club (it was acknowledged that both the Sports & Social Club and the Parish Hall have a time-limited lifespan and will have to be replaced within the next 10 years)

## 10. PUBLIC FORUM

- i) There was a request from Wittering Football Team for permission to mark out a second adult football pitch on the Playing Field. This was agreed by all present.

**11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**i) Dog Fouling in the Village**

Maxine Palmer expressed her disgust at the amount of dog fouling along the top of the Horse Fields. Unfortunately, as this is private land, the Parish Council is not allowed to erect a dog foul bin in this location. Maxine Palmer said she would speak to Robin Dunlop and Anglian Water who use the land to see if there was a solution and to the Footpaths' Officer for his advice. It was reported that there is also dog fouling in the churchyard, despite dogs not being allowed in the churchyard. It was agreed that the Parish Council will purchase some signs to put up in the churchyard to remind residents of this.

**ii) List of Parish Councillors**

The list of Parish Councillors on the noticeboard will be updated and changed to only include the names of the Parish Councillors.

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of Wittering Parish Council will take place at 7.30 pm on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 at Wittering Bowls' Club (subject to Covid Restrictions).

There being no further business to discuss, **the Chairman** closed the meeting at 9.40 pm.

**SIGNED**

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**Chairman**

**DATE**

**21/10/21**

**authority**