

# WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of Wittering Parish Council held on 27th January 2022 in Wittering Parish Hall

### PRESENT

Richard Roffe (Chairman)  
John Bradshaw (Vice Chairman)  
Gerry Crosbie  
Julia Cunnington  
Geoff Dunkley  
Joanna Gault  
Simon Hurn  
Maxine Palmer  
Emma Wilson-Jones

### IN ATTENDANCE

Wg Cdr Margaret Boyle, RAF Wittering  
Six Members of the Public  
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk

John Bradshaw chaired the meeting.

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Paul Vasey, Larkfleet Homes Housing Development.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Julia Cunnington declared an interest in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wittering Scouts (as her daughter is a member). John Bradshaw and Geoff Dunkley declared an interest in all matters concerning All Saints' Church (as they are Church Wardens). Simon Hurn declared an interest in his on-going work for the Parish Council.

### 3. POLICE MATTERS

There were no police representatives present. There had been a spate of thefts from cars in December 2021, but it is believed that the offender has moved away from the village.

There are still incidents of anti-social behaviour at the Air Playpark and this problem was discussed at length with the Members of the Public in attendance. Wg Cdr Boyle explained that the RAF Police do not undertake community policing. It was agreed to arrange a joint meeting with Cambs Police, Mark Davis, RAF Wittering Community Development Officer, Parish Councillors and residents to see how this can best be resolved. The Clerk will contact PS Steve Rose, Cambs Police to try to arrange a date for the meeting. Wg Cdr Boyle stated that the RAF are looking at erecting improved lighting at the Air Playpark and she encouraged everyone to continue to report all incidents to Cambs Police.

### 4. MINUTES of the meeting of Wittering Parish Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021 were reviewed and approved.

**Proposed by:-** Geoff Dunkley

**Seconded by:-** Richard Roff

## **5. MATTERS ARISING**

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

A meeting to discuss the Flyover was arranged by Gavin Elsey, Peterborough City Ward Councillor and those attending included Shailesh Vara, MP, Wg Cdr Jeremy Case, RAF Wittering Station Commander, John Bradshaw, Vice Chairman of Wittering Parish Council, Margaret Palmer, Chairwoman of Barnack Parish Council, Rhys Thrower, Headteacher of Wittering Primary School, Mark Davis, RAF Wittering Community Development Officer and Steven Thulborn, Highways England. The Campaign Group discussed preparing a business case for the Flyover to be included in the government's next round of major road expenditure, the Roads' Investment Strategy 2025-2030. Those attending the meeting felt that the problem would continue to get worse as more houses are built in the village. This will add to the existing population of the village as well as the 1,400 service, civilian and contractor personnel working at RAF Wittering.

### **ii) Wittering Bowls' Club Agreement**

Gerry Crosbie has prepared an amended version of the Wittering Bowls' Club Agreement to end any further delay in getting it signed. Ally McNaughton agreed to take photographs of the machinery and other assets and produce an up-to-date asset list which will be sent to the Chairmen of Wittering Bowls' Club and Wittering Parish Council. Thanks were expressed to Gerry Crosbie for all his hard work on the Agreement.

### **iii) Update on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wittering Scouts' Plans**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Wittering Scouts are awaiting the result of their Planning Application 21/01857 Change of use of land and erection of new scout hut and boundary treatments on land off Burghley Avenue, Wittering. They have undertaken a survey of the number of vehicles using the car park. Highways England had queried bus access to the car park but the bus stop in Burghley Avenue would be used rather than accessing the car park. They have received two quotations for building the scout hut and are awaiting two further quotations. They read out a list of organisations that they could apply to for funding the project if their application is successful. The Parish Councillors agreed that they can use the Parish Hall for the Beavers' Group on a Monday evening. The Parish Councillors requested a copy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wittering Scouts' Accounts.

### **iv) Rubbish Bin next to Cost Cutter**

The Clerk has been informed that Peterborough City Council review all requests in April when the new budget is available. It was agreed that the Parish Council will investigate purchasing an additional rubbish bin. The Clerk will check whether it would be emptied by PCC.

### **v) Footpath next to fence around Wittering Primary School**

It was agreed that the footpath is now less dangerous as the leaves have blown away. No further action needs to be taken with this issue.

### **vi) Map showing Land Ownership in Wittering**

Emma Wilson-Jones will ask her husband to produce a map for Richard Roffe to markup land ownership in Wittering.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

- i) Planning Application 21/01951 – Erection of one pair of semi-detached dwellings, with parking, access and associated infrastructure on land at 26 and 27 Main Street, Wittering – Awaiting Decision
- ii) Highways England - A47 Wansford to Sutton - Local Survey Works
- iii) Cambs Police & Crime Commissioner – Precept Survey
- iv) A local business has asked whether the Parish Council can financially support local businesses – the Parish Council has monies from the Community Infrastructure Levy Fund, but these are for community projects, rather than businesses
- v) Planning Application 22/00070 – Erection of a detached dwelling at Wittering Manor, Townsend Road, Wittering – a discussion took place, and it was agreed to Object on the same grounds as for Planning Application 21/00870. This was not a unanimous decision but a majority decision. Gerry Crosbie pointed out that Peterborough City Council does not have to put up any Planning Notices as it is a small development, but

it was felt that this Planning Application should be put on Social Media so that residents are aware of it and can make comments if they wish to.

## 7. FINANCE

- i) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 was reviewed and approved as presented. The **Proposed by:-** Richard Roffe **Seconded by:-** Geoff Dunkley
- ii) **Budget and Precept 2022-2023**  
The financial information which had already been circulated was discussed and it was agreed to set the Gross Precept for 2022-2023 at £55,000 which equates to £59.02 per annum for a Band D property.

## 8. LARKFLEET HOMES DEVELOPMENT

Wayne Green had sent an update:

- They have 45 Plots in build, ranging from foundations through to completions.
- 21 Plots are now occupied.
- The sites last Health & Safety Report scored 91% and they have approx 25–35 workers on site working throughout the week.
- They are on target with their completion dates.
- Plots 21, 145 and 146 will be completed in February 2022.

## 9. PUBLIC FORUM

A Member of the Public asked about the validity of the 40 mph signs on Old Oundle Road. These were not erected by the Highways Agency and, therefore, they are not enforceable. The Clerk will ask the Highways Agency to see if a 'flashing' speed sign can be installed.

## 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i) **Tour of the Bowls' Club and Football Club Facilities**  
It was agreed to put this onto the Agenda for the March Meeting.
- ii) **Repairs to the Parish Hall**  
Richard Roffe had obtained a quotation of £6,259 for the external decoration of the Parish Hall and Sports & Social Club and it was agreed to go ahead with this. Repair work needs to be undertaken at the Parish Hall, but it has proved difficult to find a builder who is able to give a date when he could undertake the work. Geoff Dunkley will ask a builder known to him to look at and produce a quotation for the repairs and give a date when he could undertake the work.
- iii) **Hiring out the proposed Scout Hut to other Organisations**  
The 2<sup>nd</sup> Wittering Scouts will be looking to hire out the proposed Scout Hut to other organisations such as the Girl Guides and for private hire.
- iv) **Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**  
Joanna Gault volunteered to organise a Working Party to organise events in the village from 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022. She will invite representatives of the Women of Wittering, Sports & Social Club and the RAF to attend a Planning Meeting.
- v) **Armed Forces Covenant**  
Section 4 Measures were discussed. The Clerk will produce a draft and send it to Mark Davis, RAF Wittering Community Development Officer to check.

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of Wittering Parish Council will take place at 7.30 pm on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at Wittering Parish Hall.

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

SIGNED

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Chairman

DATE

24/03/22