

# WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Wittering Parish Council  
held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 in Wittering Parish Hall**

## **PRESENT**

John Bradshaw (Chairman)  
Maxine Palmer (Vice Chairman)  
Julia Cunnington  
Joanna Gault  
Dave Hughes  
Simon Hurn  
Sophie Joy  
Iain Wilkinson  
Emma Wilson-Jones

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Simon Machin, Robin Dunlop and Shelley Cash (Rural Development in Wittering)  
Rev G Alderson  
9 Members of the Public  
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk to the Council

The meeting commenced with a Minute's Silence to commemorate the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II, and prayers were said by Rev Alderson. In addition, he said prayers for the families of Vivien and Milan Radocz who sadly died on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2022.

Simon Machin, Robin Dunlop and Shelley Cash gave a brief presentation about a proposed Rural Development of 50 properties off the Old Oundle Road in Wittering. There will be a Public Consultation 4.00-8.00 pm on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022 in the Bowls' Club Pavilion. Every household will receive an information leaflet.

## **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were apologies for absence from Geoff Dunkley, Mark Davis, RAF Wittering Community Devt Officer, Rick Amos, Gillian Amos, Liz Putterill and Helen Robinson.

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

John Bradshaw declared an interest in all matters concerning All Saints' Church (as he is a Church Warden). Simon Hurn declared an interest in his on-going work for the Parish Council.

## **3. POLICE REPORT**

### **i) Anti-Social Behaviour outside Cost Cutter**

A meeting had taken place with Mark Davis and Sharon Pollard to discuss this concern. The new Manager of the Cost Cutter is keen to help to deal with this concern in any way he can.

### **ii) Anti-Social Behaviour at the land at the end of Boxer Road**

It was noted that anti-social behaviour by young people in the village is no longer being reported on Facebook in an attempt to discourage such behaviour if it is not extolled on Social Media.

iii) **Neighbourhood Watch Update**

Liz Putterill had submitted an update on the progress of the proposed Neighbourhood Watch which was read out by the Chairman.

4. **RAF REPORT**

Mark Davis did not attend the meeting due to the death of Queen Elizabeth II. He submitted a report the day after the meeting. A meeting had taken place with him and Sharon Pollard to discuss how the Parish Council might be able to help fund some Summer Activities in 2023 for the young people of the village. He had agreed to come back to the Parish Council with some facts and figures. It was noted that although, he had feared that there would be no Summer Activities held in 2022, this was not the case and several events, including a residential event, had taken place and had been very successful.

5. **ALLISON HOMES DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

Paul Vasey attended the meeting but had to leave because of sickness. He left a report stating that there had been 70 completions so far; there were no Health & Safety issues; and they were on track to finish by the scheduled date .

6. **SPORTS' & SOCIAL CLUB REPORT**

i) **Tens Licence**

Joanna Gault confirmed that she will be meeting with Lisa Crighton and the Clerk to finalise this Licence.

Russell Pye agreed to send the recent Accounts to the Clerk. The Chairman thanked Russell Pye for his work with the Sports & Social Club.

7. **BOWLS' CLUB REPORT**

i) **Bowls' Club Agreement**

The Clerk will send Mr A McNaughton a copy of the Bowls' Club Agreement. Mr McNaughton reported that a recently fund-raising event had raised £530 for the RBL Barnack Branch. The Chairman thanked Mr McNaughton for his work with the Bowls' Club.

ii) **Back Door and Canopy**

The Clerk is waiting to receive the quotations for these two items.

8. **FOOTBALL CLUB REPORT**

Russell Pye reported that both the adult and the junior teams were in a financially sound position. Two of the adult teams now play at Easton-on-the-Hill. He asked if the lease between the Parish Council and the junior teams could be re-negotiated as the usage of the facilities is split 50 : 50 between the adults and the juniors. This request was agreed and carried unanimously. The Chairman thanked Russell Pye for his work with the football clubs.

9. **ALL SAINTS' CHURCH REPORT**

Rev Alderson reported that the bell ringing group is working well together. A Parents & Toddlers' Group will be starting at the church at 9.30 am on Tuesday mornings. The Harvest Festival will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2022. It is hoped to have Christmas Carol Singing at The Phoenix.

#### 10. **ALLOTMENTS' REPORT**

The Chairman read out a letter from Simon Goldsmith who is requesting that the number of allotments available is extended by using the spare land behind some of the houses on Church Road. It was agreed that a better location might be the wooded area. It was agreed to ask Simon Goldsmith to attend the next meeting.

#### 11. **2<sup>ND</sup> WITTERING SCOUTS' REPORT**

Rick and Gillian Amos were not able to attend the meeting but had sent in a report stating that there was no update except to confirm that they were continuing to work towards their plans to build a Scouts' Hut on Parish Council land in the village.

#### 12. **LAND IN THE VILLAGE SUB-COMMITTEE**

Maxine Palmer will set the date for this committee to meet.

#### 13. **PARISH COUNCIL OWNED BUILDINGS' SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Chairman will set the date for this committee to meet.

14. **MINUTES** of the meeting of Wittering Parish Council held on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were reviewed and approved.  
**Proposed by:-** Simon Hurn                      **Seconded by:-** Emma Wilson-Jones

#### 15. **MATTERS ARISING**

i) **Co-Option of Parish Councillor**

The Chairman welcomed Sophie Joy, who has been co-opted onto the Parish Council to replace Gerry Crosbie. He also welcomed Iain Wilkinson has joined the Parish Council as a Volunteer.

ii) **Wittering A1 Flyover Campaign Group**

Gavin Elsey was not present so there was no update on this item.

iii) **Future of the Parish Hall Meeting Update**

A meeting to discuss the future of the Parish Hall had taken place on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022. It had been agreed that the Parish Council would investigate the building of a new Parish Hall to replace the current one which is now over 60 years old and needs updating. The Chairman said he plans to attend the next Parish Council Liaison Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022 to speak to other local Parish Councils who have recently built new Parish Halls to gain and get ideas from their experiences.

iv) **Summer Fete 2023**

Joanna Gault gave a presentation on her plans to organise a Summer Fete in 2023, following on from the success of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Event. She requested £2,000 towards the initial set-up costs. Maxine Palmer proposed that £2,000 will be given by the Parish Council, this was seconded by Emma Wilson-Jones and agreed by all present. The Chairman thanked Joanna Gault for her work on this item.

v) **Christmas Tree 2022**

Simon Hurn agreed to investigate purchasing a Village Christmas Tree which will probably be sited near to the Village Sign.

16. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- i) Planning Application 22/01079 - Conversion of 2no. agricultural barns to form 2no. dwelling houses with gardens and parking at Flints Lodge Farm, Great North Road, Wittering
- ii) Peterborough Parish Council Liaison Meeting – next meeting will be 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- iii) Good Neighbours Rural Peterborough - Annual General Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022
- iv) Helen Robinson has asked whether the Parish Hall could be used as 'Warm Up' Club over the winter months. It was agreed that possibly the church might be a better place to meet as the Parish Hall isn't a particularly cosy building. The Clerk will inform Helen Robinson accordingly.

17. **FINANCE**

- i) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022 was reviewed and approved as presented.  
**Proposed by:-** Simon Hurn      **Seconded by:-** David Hughes
- ii) **Finance Sub-Committee Report**  
The Clerk had already distributed the Finance Sub-Committee Report. The next meeting will take place in November 2022.
- iii) **Community Infrastructure Levy Fund Update**  
It was agreed that these will be looked at by the Finance Sub-Committee. The Parish Councillors were happy with the information that had been supplied by Michael Freeman, Senior Planning Obligations Officer, PCC had been particularly useful.
- iv) **Gift for Richard Roffe**  
Simon Hurn had purchased the garden bench and organised a plaque for it. The garden bench was presented to Richard Roffe on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022. Richard Roffe thanked the Parish Council for his gift.
- v) **Donation to Remembrance Day Parade**  
The Parish Councillors agreed to donate £350 towards the costs of the Remembrance Day Parade which will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022 as proposed by Joanna Gault, seconded by David Hughes and agreed by all present.
- vi) **Donation to RBL for Wreath**  
It was agreed to purchase a Wreath to be laid on Remembrance Sunday. A donation of £125 will be made to the RBL as proposed by Joanna Gault, seconded by Emma Wilson-Jones and agreed by all present.

18. **PUBLIC FORUM**

The Members of the Public raised the following matters:-

- Speeding within the village, possibly contractors working on the Allison Homes site. Maxine Palmer will report to Allison Homes
- The problem of being stranded in the village if both Old Oundle Road and the A1 are closed for accidents and/or roadworks. The Clerk will ask Gavin Elsey if he could consult with PCC.
- Funding for a Father Christmas Ride through the village. The Clerk will put this onto the Agenda for the next meeting.

**19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**i) Parish Councillor Email Addresses**

Joanna Gault confirmed that she and the Clerk had met and a Wittering Parish Council email address for Parish Councillors only had been created and is currently being trialled. The Chairman thanked Joanna Gault for her work in promoting the use of more up-to-date computer technology.

**ii) Use of Playing Field for Bouncy Castle Event**

It was agreed not to allow use of the playing field for a Bouncy Castle Event on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022 because at least three football matches are scheduled for that day. The Parish Council Owned Buildings Sub-Committee will look at setting the rules and regulations for those wishing to use the playing field for commercial events.

**20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Meeting of Wittering Parish Council will take place at 7.30 pm on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at Wittering Parish Hall.

There being no further business to discuss, **the Chairman** closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.

**SIGNED**

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**Chairman**

**DATE**

**10/11/22**