

WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 12 June 2019 at 7.34 pm in the Village Hall, Witcham

Present: M Housden (Chairman), J Bibby, K Mackender, L Holdaway, J Lucas

In attendance Mrs S J Bell (Clerk)
Cllr L Duprè (CCC and ECDC Councillor)

No members of public present

Action

19/122 **Apologies for Absence** There were none.

19/123 **Declaration of Interest:**

The following declarations of interests were made:

Pecuniary interests - none

Personal interests - none

Prejudicial interests – M Housden Planning – Kings – consultee

19/124 **Dispensations:**

To note Dispensations: Nil

19/125 **Public Participation:** 7.36pm M Housden wished to speak regarding agenda item 19/129. K Mackender took the Chair

M Housden confirmed that he had submitted comments regarding the latest amendments in respect of height of buildings, raising floor levels, drainage and sewerage systems, water supply, and proposals for dealing with contaminated land, all of which were issues also raised by neighbours to the proposed site.

7.40pm M Housden took the Chair

19/126 **Minutes of the meeting** of 8 May 2019 had been circulated, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman, and agenda of same dates signed by Chairman as confirmation of the business transacted at that meeting. Proposed J Bibby, seconded Chairman and unanimously resolved.

19/127 **Matters Arising**

19/111 Annual Parish Meeting – Post Box. Clerk reported that Royal Mail had advised that they would carry out necessary works within 12 weeks.

19/128 **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

Reports from County and District Councillor L Duprè previously circulated, were noted. Affordable housing on MOD site Ely noted. She also gave an up-date on the difficulties at Sutton the previous weekend during road closures for works on Ely Road, and the opening of the new bridge at Bar Hill with traffic light controls. Highway Improvements Scheme bids were due in now and the scheme had been lifted to make grants of up to £15,000 rather than £10,000 although the overall budget had not been increased. She had been appointed Chair of the Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny Committee. In her capacity as District Councillor she had met with the case officer to discuss the plans for dealing with the contaminated land on the Kings site at The Slade, and would be making further enquiries.

L Duprè left at 8.07pm

19/129 **PLANNING**

8.07pm K Mackender took the Chair

19/00125/VAR Kings of Witcham Ltd The Slade To vary condition (approved Plans) of decision notice dated 7 June 2018 for the demolition of existing motor vehicle garage and construction of 6No four bed dwelling, 2 No three bed dwellings, garaging access road and association works. The amendment involved levels for the plots and updating of adjacent neighbouring property number. Clerk had printed off copies of residents' letters together with the Contamination Report and revised drawings, for examination by Councillors and these were available on the ECDC website.

Resolved that the Parish Council still had concerns regarding this development as had been expressed on the original planning application and all subsequent amendments, namely layout, density, the effect on close neighbours, increased heights exacerbate previous concerns specifically regarding loss of sunlight, overshadowing, loss of outlook for neighbouring properties, not in-keeping with existing street scene in terms of visual appearance. At the current stage the Council was particularly concerned about the arrangements for water supply and sewerage system/drainage. The Council wanted to see consultee response from water/sewerage/drainage agencies, ie Anglian Water and Environment Agency. Given the concerns expressed by neighbours regarding contamination of the site, confirmation was sought that the proposals to manage remediation would be comprehensively carried out (EPS-11.3.19). Clarification regarding calculation of height of buildings from ground to roof pitch sought.

Clerk

Further, Clerk to contact Anglian Water and the Environment Agency to seek their confirmation that they were happy with the capacities and future demands on their systems for water supply, sewage and drainage. Clerk to contact Architect and Developer requesting meeting regarding questions and residents' comments.

*Clerk
Clerk*

Proposed by K Mackender, seconded by Jane Lucas.

8.21pm M Housden re-joined the meeting and took the Chair

The following was noted:

F/YR14/0163/F (Erection of an anaerobic digester plant with maize clamps involving the construction of a new access, and the formation of a reservoir) at Anaerobic Digester Plant Iretons Way Chatteris.

Variation of conditions 2, 4, 6, 10, 14, 16, 25, 26, 30, 32, 33, 40 and 43 of planning permission F/YR14/0163/F Planning Committee Notification (F/YR18/1103/VOC) to be held on 29 May 2019 at 13:00hrs in the Council Chamber at Fenland Hall, County Road, March

19/130 **FINANCE**

- a) Approval of receipts and payments for June.

The June receipts and payments were checked by J Bibby and confirmed as correct.

Resolved to approve the receipts and payments as listed at the end of these Minutes. Proposed J Bibby, seconded Chairman

Clerk

- b) Internal Auditor's Report, previously circulated.

Resolved to accept the Internal Auditor's Report. Proposed J Lucas, Seconded L Holdaway

Clerk gave an update on recommendations for parish councillors to have a council business dedicated email address each. Clerk to obtain further details to link to Council's domain.

*Clerk
Iain*

19/131 **RECREATION GROUND AND PLAY EQUIPMENT**

- a) Chairman reported that there was nothing to report on the weekly inspections of the play equipment but that the grass in the fenced children's play area had got long and he had been contacted by a member of the public who had offered to cut it. The usual contractor was due and indeed had now cut the area although

because the grass had been long it had not mulched down as well as usual. Other areas of the village had been alright. Clerk advised that Truelink were aware of the issue.

b) Annual Play Inspection Report

The report had been previously circulated and was reviewed and discussed.

Resolved to accept the report and ask Wicksteed to attend to the gate as Chairman had been unable to make any further adjustments. Clerk to order replacement ropes for tightrope walk £376 and walk the plank £198 plus VAT from Wicksteed. Also Clerk to contact suppliers for replacement of pieces in the fenced play area, and that Chairman would meet representatives on a Wednesday. Proposed K Mackender, seconded Chairman

Clerk

Access at Village Hall roadway discussed following points raised by Clerk. Members considered that this was not a current priority and solutions were not practical.

c) Applications for use of recreation ground for Pea Shoot on 13 July 2019 and Ely Band on 30 July 2019 by Witcham Village Hall Committee circulated and considered.

Resolved that consent be given for the Village Hall Committee to use the recreation ground for the Annual Peashoot on 13 July 2019 between 8.00am and 7.00pm, subject to confirmation and supporting documentation regarding proposal for inflatable equipment. Proposed K Mackender, seconded Chairman

Clerk

Resolved that consent be given for the Village Hall Committee to use the recreation ground for the Ely Band Concert on 30 July 2019 6.00pm to 10.00pm. Proposed K Mackender, seconded Chairman

Clerk

19/132 **RED PHONE BOX**

Further information awaited. Chairman proposed that this item be deferred and this was agreed.

19/133 **CEMETERY MANAGEMENT**

a) Lychgate: Further information awaited. Chairman proposed that this item be deferred and this was agreed.

b) Request for inscription on existing memorial from R S Memorials received and considered.

Resolved that the proposed request for inscription on existing memorial headstone be approved. Proposed J Lucas, seconded L Holdaway.

Clerk

19/134 **2019 BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION**

The results of the competition were received. Clerk to write to winners and runners-up. J Bibby to collect in shield and salver and deliver to Clerk so that arrangement could be made for inscriptions and purchase of smaller shields within next few days.

JB/Clerk

Resolved that the Clerk purchase small gift as discussed to approx. £15 as a thank you to the judge. Proposed J Lucas, seconded J Bibby

Clerk

19/135 **COMMUNITY POLICE**

There were no issues reported

19/136 **STREET LIGHTING AND HIGHWAYS**

Clerk advised that she had received word from ECDC that the streetlight on the bottom car park at Westway Place was not working but they were now understood to be dealing with it. J Lucas to check working again.

JL

Noted there would be roadworks by Anglian Water on Mepal Road between 12 June 2019 and 21 June 2019 – laying a reinforcement main to reinforce existing mains plus testing and sampling of the new main. Traffic signals to be in operation.

Clerk

J Lucas advised that there was now several places along the path in Martins Lane at the foot of the bank of the recreation ground that needed replacement. Clerk to take up with the Highways Officer again as it was understood earlier in the year that the County Council would be reviewing this area for repairs/replacement after April 2019.

19/137 **REPORTS OF MEETINGS**

Clerk had met with webmaster and the site was being up-dated.

19/138 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following were received and noted:

ECDC Recycling – Help us to Recycle More – posted at noticeboard and website Clerk

Ouse Washes Habitat Creation Project update and offer to attend Council meeting All

Environment Agency Ouse Washes Bank works Newsletter May 2019 All

Environment Agency - Ouse Washes Section 10 works update and drop in sessions 25 and JL

29 June 2019 at Earith and Welney. J Lucas to attend at Earith.

Cambridgeshire ACRE Rural Affordable Housing Mythbuster Tour 2019

SLCC IC0 Paying the Data Protection Fee

Public Meeting – The Future of Cambridge Area’s Bus Services 15 June 2pm at St

Andrews Baptist Chapel Cambridge

ECDC Dementia Initiatives and Events

Free 'Do not knock' door stickers – JL to distribute with Neighbourhood Watch links Clerk/JL

CCC Roadworks & events reports June 2019

NALC Bulletins, Newsletters and Annual Conference

19/139 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 10 July 2019 at 7.30 pm. Meeting to be preceded by inspection of village street furniture, cemetery etc starting 6.45pm

Any business, including receipts and payments, to be considered at Parish Council meeting must be delivered to the Clerk at least 7 clear days prior to the meeting. (*Standing Orders*)

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm

June Schedule of Receipts and Payments

		£	£	£
Receipts	Nil			
Payments	001784 ECDC Elections costs	200.00		200.00
	001785/6 Admin Costs	363.85		363.85
	001787 HMRC	175.00		175.00
	001788 Wicksteed Annual Play Inspection	45.00	9.00	54.00
	001789 Mijan Internal Audit	60.00		60.00
	001790 Truelink Ltd	352.60	70.52	423.12
	001791 JP Wells Whats On June edition	12.00		12.00
	d/d IONIS 1&1	32.97	6.59	39.56
	d/d Fleur Telecom	2.01	.11	2.01

Signed.....

Dated