

WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Third Meeting of the 2016/2017 Parish Council
held at 7.30 pm on 20th October 2016 in the Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion

PRESENT

Richard Roffe (Chairman)
Julia Cunnington
Geoff Dunkley
Simon Hurn
Roger Paull
James Russell
Jon Warters

IN ATTENDANCE

Wg Cdr M Ainsworth, Officer Commanding Support Wing
Mr M Davies, Community Devt Officer, RAF Wittering
One Member of the Public
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk to the Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from John Bradshaw, Sharon Polden and Diane Lamb.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Simon Hurn declared an interest in his on-going work for the Parish Council.

3. POLICE MATTERS

It was agreed to invite Richard Taylor, CCTV ANPR Lead Co-ordinator, Police Support Volunteers to the next meeting.

4. MINUTES of the Second Meeting of the 2016/2017 Parish Council held on 25th August 2016 were reviewed, approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman

Proposed by:- Simon Hurn **Seconded by:-** Roger Paull

5. MATTERS ARISING

i) **Wittering A1 Flyover Campaign Group**

It was agreed to pursue this at the beginning of next year.

ii) **Bridleway**

John Bradshaw had sent an e-mail confirming that the public footpath from the Old Rectory to the Bonemill has been drained and improved beyond all recognition. The Clerk will thank Mr R Dunlop for his involvement with this.

iii) **Planning Application - 16/01361 Land to the south of Lawrence Road, Wittering**

There was no update on this Planning Application for a Residential Development comprising 190 dwellings with associated access roads and landscaping as it is still awaiting a decision. Shailesh Vara, MP had submitted a letter of objection to Peterborough City Council.

iv) Gas Storage Facility in Boxer Road

Wg Cdr Ainsworth stated that it had been difficult to establish ownership of this. The fence surrounding the gas storage facility is in a poor state and is a potential danger to members of the public. Roger Paull agreed to follow this up as a matter of urgency.

v) Dropped Kerbs

The Clerk will ask Diane Lamb for an update about the request for dropped kerbs to be installed in Church Road and outside the Spar Shop in Wittering.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

The list from 25th August – 19th October 2016 was reviewed and discussed.

7. FINANCE

Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 30th September 2016 was reviewed and approved unanimously as presented.

Proposed by:- James Russell **Seconded by:-** Simon Hurn

Yearly Equipment Grants - the equipment chosen by Wittering Allotment Tenants, Wittering Bowls' Club and Wittering Sports & Social Club has been purchased. However, although Wittering Football Club had chosen a line-marker, a second-hand one had been purchased from an individual without further reference to the Parish Council. It was ratified that no individuals will be reimbursed for any purchases made. Equipment chosen by local organisations for their yearly equipment grant has to be purchased by the Parish Council and it will be insured by and remain the property of the Parish Council.

8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Member of the Public present wanted to discuss the following issue:-

- Damaged Man Hole Cover in Boxer Road – after making several telephone calls, the Member of the Public had established that the Highways Department is responsible for repairing this and will continue in his quest to ensure that action is taken as soon as possible.

9. ADJOURNEMENT

It was noted that the War Graves Commission contractors employed to cut the grass in the churchyard had driven a transit pick-up and trailer over the grass and smashed two paving slabs on the War Memorial path. These will be replaced and a combination lock and chain purchased to stop this happening again. Geoff Dunkley has purchased some bulbs and flowers to tidy up the War Memorial Garden for the spring.

James Russell asked the Parish Councillors to consider placing a Defibrillator in the Telephone Kiosk on Townsend Road subject to BT being willing to sell it. It was agreed that this will be discussed more fully at the next meeting and James Russell will obtain some costings ready for it.

Wg Cdr Ainsworth gave an update on what is happening at RAF Wittering. The proposed date for the next Families' Day is 10th June 2017 with the possibility of holding an evening function in the village.

Mr Davies confirmed that the Community Learning Centre will be opened at 11.00 am on 2nd November 2016. It is planned that free educational courses will be provided to both RAF personnel and residents from January 2017 onwards.

Simon Hurn agreed to remove the mattress that has been dumped in the spinney near the allotments.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Fourth Meeting of the 2016/2017 Parish Council will take place on at 7.30 pm on 19th January 2017 in the Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion. Wg Cdr Ainsworth gave his apologies.

11. CLOSURE

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15 pm

SIGNED

Chairman

DATE 19/01/17

ADDENDUM

From: Russell Pye

To: deirdre mccumiskey <deirdre.mccumiskey@tesco.net>

Sent: Wed, 18 Jan 2017 21:59:32 -0000 (UTC)

Subject: Wittering Parish Council:Incorrect statement in the parish council minutes 20th October 2016

Deirdre

I am unable to attend the next parish council meeting but I would just like to comment on the statement below which was reported in the last set of parish council minutes.

Wittering Football Club had chosen a line-marker, a second-hand one had been purchased from an individual without further reference to the Parish Council. It was ratified that no individuals will be reimbursed for any purchases made. Equipment chosen by local organisations for their yearly equipment grant has to be purchased by the Parish Council and it will be insured by and remain the property of the Parish

This statement is incorrect and I would like to clarify what actually happened. I am the treasurer of both the wittering Harriers Junior Football Club and the treasurer of the Wittering Adult team. I would like it noted that it was not an individual that purchased the line marker, it was the Adult football team using funds made on the ground hop day that purchased the line marker. This together with a football strip have been given to the wittering harriers junior football club to cover the pitch fees for the season 2017-2018, the value of the two items are circa £800. The line marker was in fact new not secondhand, but was an unwanted presentation to the grounds man of the year, who choose to return it to the manufacturer to sell. The sales representative lives in wittering village and usually marks the pitches for the Harriers. He knew that wittering were looking to purchase a line marker so he approached me as the treasurer to see if we wanted it at cost price (£500) together with a maintenance promise for the next 3 years which was too good of an offer as it was £300 pounds less than the list price.

At no point our the adult football team expecting any reimbursement from the parish council for the items. The line marker is now the property of the junior football club and is insured and also has a maintenance contract. The machine was also supplied with spare parts.

I hope this helps the council clarify things and I apologise for the confusion, but things happened so fast and inbetween your meetings and a period of transition at the football club it was too late to change the request to the parish for the yearly equipment grant.

I do believe that Mr Luke Polden will be in attendance at the next parish council meeting to submit a new proposal from the junior section of the football club.

I on behalf of the Adult football club would like to ask the parish council if they would consider carrying out some minor alterations to the changing rooms which Mr John Warters brought to your attention following his meeting with the Peterborough and District Football league. The reason for this is they have informed us that if the team wish to play in a higher league the current facilities do not meet the standards required this is not in quality in fact the league referees voted the facilities the best in the league, the alterations that are required is to the size of the changing rooms. these alterations need to be carried out by end of March 2017 if we are to be considered for promotion.

With Regards