

WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the 2016/2017 Parish Council
held at 7.30 pm on 23rd March 2017 in the Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion

PRESENT

Richard Roffe (Chairman)
John Bradshaw
Julia Cunnington
Geoff Dunkley
Simon Hurn
Roger Paull
Jon Warters

IN ATTENDANCE

Sqn Ldr M Boyle, RAF Wittering
Ed Palmer, MCO, RAF Wittering
Mr M Davies, Community Devt Officer, RAF Wittering
Three Members of the Public
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk to the Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Sharon Polden and James Russell.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. POLICE MATTERS

The Parish Councillors were very disappointed that once again there were no police representatives present.

4. MINUTES of the Fourth Meeting of the 2016/2017 Parish Council held on 19th January 2017 were reviewed. It was agreed that under 9. Adjournment, the Minutes will be amended to state "The Parish Council supports the allocation of land off Lawrence Road, Wittering for housing development as long as its size is reduced by at least two-thirds, ie to 50 properties. The Parish Council supports the allocation of land at Manor Field, Townsend Road, the Depot, Church Road and other small sites within Wittering for housing development. This is a general comment regarding the allocation of land for housing development and does not refer any previous Planning Applications that have been made. It was confirmed that if a Planning Application is made for any of these sites, it will be examined carefully to find out exactly what the proposed development consists of and how it could affect the local community. It will be fully discussed at a Parish Council Meeting at which residents will be given the opportunity to address the Parish Council".

5. MATTERS ARISING

i) Wittering A1 Flyover Campaign Group

At a recent meeting, Shailesh Vara, MP had confirmed his support for the Group and had stated that he would attend as many meetings as he could. Although the Minister for Transport was willing to meet the Group, this would have to be at Westminster not at Wittering. After some discussion, John Bradshaw agreed to become Chairman of the Group. The RAF will check to see if the archived paperwork from the previous meetings can be

located. The RAF will allow the Group to meet at RAF Wittering. Representatives of RAF Wittering will attend the meetings as will representatives from Peterborough City Council and Wittering Parish Council.

ii) Dropped Kerbs

There was no update on this as Diane Lamb was not present and she had agreed to pursue the issue with Peterborough City Council. The Clerk will contact Diane Lamb as a matter of urgency to establish the position as this issue was originally reported nine months ago.

iii) Defibrillator

James Russell had obtained quotations for the purchase and maintenance of a Defibrillator. After discussion, it was agreed that a Defibrillator would be purchased by the Parish Council and installed outside the Parish Hall. The Clerk will arrange for a site visit and obtain a firm quotation. The RAF may fund a second Defibrillator which could be installed at the Community Learning Centre on St George's Road.

iv) Wittering Football Club – Yearly Equipment Grant

The Chairman reported that the minor alterations to the changing rooms had been completed. It was agreed to obtain quotes for a line-marker storage facility (similar to the storage facility at Wittering Bowls' Club).

6. CORRESPONDENCE

There had been no correspondence received that had not already been circulated.

7. FINANCE

Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 28th February 2017 was reviewed and approved unanimously as presented.

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

The Chairman reported that the kitchen in the Parish Hall needs refurbishing/renewing as it was originally installed many years ago, and needs to look attractive to those considering renting the Parish Hall.

8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Members of the Public present wanted to mention the following issues:-

- Dropped Kerbs (see under Matters Arising)
- Thanks for work undertaken on the gas storage facility and damaged manhole cover (see under Adjournment)
- Demolished wall down Townsend Road (the Member of the Public has written a letter to the Stamford Mercury)
- Application to build 90 properties at WIT003H Land at Manor Field, Townsend Road, Wittering – it is believed that this must be an old application as the Parish Council has no knowledge of it.
- Allocation of land for possible housing development in Wittering – it was pointed out that if the Parish Council does not specify any land, PCC will be able to specify land without further reference to the Parish Council.

9. ADJOURNEMENT

The Chairman reported on a meeting held on 17th March 2017 to discuss the proposal by Larkfleet Homes to build 190 properties on land off Lawrence Road, Wittering. The meeting was attended by the Chairman, the Clerk, Shailesh Vara, MP and his Executive Office Manager, two representatives from Larkfleet Homes and four representatives from Wittering Action Group. Mr Vara strongly expressed his objection to the 190 Houses and asked Larkfleet Homes to 'actively' look at an amendment to the current Planning Application to reduce the overall numbers to 50-60; however, Mr Mann of Larkfleet Homes told the meeting that the land has been registered as development land by Peterborough City Council and Larkfleet Homes are simply implementing PCC's requirement to build 190 properties on this land. The Parish Council was very strong in its objection and highlighted the Further Draft of the Peterborough Local Plan 2016 to 2036, stating that any development would need to come with a development of the A1/Townsend Road Junction. This is another work strand to be taken on by the Parish

Council/Highways England and Peterborough Council. There was no indication from Larkfleet Homes that they would contribute to the development of the Junction. Larkfleet Homes have still not purchased the land and have no Planning Permission but say they have made amendments to the plans taking into account the planning objections that have been made.

The Chairman reported that Wittering Primary School is undergoing the application and process to become an Academy.

The Chairman reported that the fences of the MoD properties are in poor condition and need attention. Mr Davies agreed to deal with this.

Roger Paull reported that the Dog Foul Bin near the church has rotted off its post. Simon Hurn agreed to inspect it.

Julia Cunnington reported that the boundary fence at Hillside Gardens playground has fallen down. The Clerk had reported this to PCC who denied responsibility. However, Taylor Wimpey, the developer, informed the Clerk that the POS had been transferred to PCC on 8th February 2016. In terms of the responsibility for the fence, the transfer was silent and as such it would be deemed joint responsibility (PCC and RAF). The Clerk is pursuing the matter with PCC and the RAF.

Simon Hurn and the RAF were thanked for their work on the gas storage facility and damaged manhole cover on Boxer Road.

Simon Hurn was thanked for his work on the fences surrounding the allotments.

Ed Palmer stated that he was in the process of setting up a Wittering View Facebook page for both service personnel and the community. The Wittering View magazine will still continue in its present form.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual General Meeting of the 2017/2018 Parish Council will take place on at 7.00 pm on 18th May 2017 in the Wittering Bowls' Club Pavilion.

11. CLOSURE

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

SIGNED _____
Chairman

DATE 18/05/17