

Wicken Parish Council Meeting 4/07/2012 at 7pm

Present: Chairman Mr. P. Ivens, Mr. G. Maloney, Mr. A. Cartwright, Mr. R. Edmondson, Mr. B Clapham.

1. Apologies: Mrs. L Clarke, Cllr. Aaronson, Cllr. A. Walker, Mr. J. Williams.

2. Minutes of previous meeting.

These minutes were agreed as a correct record 7.04pm.

3. Items raised by members of Public.

There were no items raised by any member of the public.

4. Matters Arising.

There is still a vacancy on the Neighbourhood Watch team where Mrs. T. Gordon-Lee has stood down. The Parish Council need a volunteer for this position on Cross Tree Road. The Parish Council will approach some residents regarding this vacancy.

The Village Hall – The Chairman spoke to ‘Carter Jonas’ with regards to letting the hall out. They advised it is not within their jurisdiction and recommended ‘Brown & Lee’ who will come and look at the hall. ‘Kirkby & Diamond’ have had some people looking at the hall but we have not received any feedback as yet. The Chairman advised that ‘The Gurneys’ of Mount Mill Farm do their lets through ‘Louch Whitlock’, the Chairman will speak to them to seek advice. Again it was discussed that the renting of the Village Hall would suit an Architectural Practice. The rental price of the hall doesn’t seem to be an issue, it’s just that the hall is very unique in its own right. There was a figure of £200 that was spoken about concerning advertising fee’s for the hall. These have not been paid and the Council haven’t been approached by ‘Kirkby & Diamond’ about this. The hall is still being let on a regular basis privately for functions.

The Queens Jubilee – This was a huge success considering the weather that we had on the day.

Parking by the Church – The Parish Council still need to get a sign erected so people don’t park outside the church. This will mean better access. The Chairman will discuss this with Mr. J. Williams.

Leckhampstead Road – Karl Evans has taken over from Leo Plant at ‘May Gurney’s’. Mr. A. Cartwright has been in discussion with him with regards to the ongoing issue with the drains. Mr. Evans has reported that the drains will be dug in next year or the year after. It’s reported that there are only two drainage issues in the area, Deanshanger is the first and Leckhampstead is the second.

Tree planting to mark the Queens Jubilee in 2012 – The Parish Council will approach Mr. K. Ward to see if he would consider a line of tree’s being planted on the Whittlebury Road as long as it didn’t interfere with his hedge cutting. The sum of £40.00 per tree was discussed or to keep costs down some smaller ones could be planted with five tree’s either side of the road. The Parish Council will donate money

to this cause, would the Conservation Society do the same? Favourable trees are oak, lime or walnut. The ideal time to plant these trees would be Autumn.

5. Planning.

Akeley Wood Junior School – no objection.

6. Finance.

It is noted that the next VAT claim will be in 2013.

Mr. R. Edmondson asked for a Donation on behalf of the Conservation Society for the Parish Magazine. The sum of £50.00 was agreed.

Mrs. C. Franklin asked for a donation towards the grass mowing and asked for the Clerk to look up when the last donation was given. This will be discussed further at September's meeting.

Chq no. 000492	£36.00	A.H. Contracts	Dog Bins
Chq no. 000493	£72.34	E-on	Maintenance
Chq no. 000494	£240.00	Kirkby & Diamond	Village Hall
Chq no. 000495	£50.00	Conservation Society	Donation

7. Matters of Repair & Administration.

The Audit was circulated and signed at 7.33pm.

Mrs. J. Rutledge has complained about a street lamp outside her house on the Deanshanger Road. The bulb was out and is now fixed and it shines into her bedroom window. Could the Council get the bulb removed or lower the light? The light itself is for the purpose of the path but nobody uses this path. In the two years the path light didn't work the Parish did not receive one complaint. Clerk to ask E-on to turn the light off completely.

Pot Holes – near the Telephone Kiosk on St. Johns Lane. The pot holes have got worse after Anglia Water did works there during the winter months. Clerk to contact Anglia Water to see if they will do necessary repair work and copy SNC in on the email. If Anglia Water do not help Clerk will contact Helen Howard at SNC and Charlie Foster at May Gurney's.

Road Sign on Wicken Park Road needs mending. Clerk to contact Helen Howard at SNC.

8. Any other business.

Mrs. C. Franklin reported a recent incident at the Church. A resident of the Village entered the Church as it was preparing for two Christenings and the welcoming of the new Rector to the Village. The resident angrily complained of the bells chiming and unfortunately intimidated and upset two ladies that were helping with the preparations. Two gentlemen assisted in escorting him from the Church. The Parish Council is to contact the Police on this matter for advice.

Next Meeting Weds, Sept 5th 2012 at 7pm.

Meeting Closed at 8pm.

Signature: _____

Date: _____