

Wicken Parish Council Meeting March 7th 2012 - 7pm.

Present: Chairman Mr. P. Ivens, Vice Chair Mrs. L. Clarke, Mrs. C. Franklin, Mr. G. Maloney, Mr. A. Cartwright, Mr. J. Williams, Mr. R. Edmondson,

1. **Apologies:** Mr. B. Clapham, Cllr D. Aaronson, Cllr. A. Walker.

2. **Minutes of previous meeting.**

These minutes were agreed as a correct record 7.03pm.

3. **Items raised by members of Public.**

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

4. **Matters Arising.**

The lights at Akeley Wood Junior School on Park Road have been less intrusive of late. The Chairman did speak to Mr. M. Grimes regarding this as his wife is on the Governing Board at the school.

Street Light on Church Close – has finally been repaired since the last meeting.

The Grit Bin on Leckhampstead Road is noted as full still. It could do with a replacement lid though this is no cause for concern.

It was noted that Leckhampstead Road did not flood in a recent downpour.

Bus Route – local residents are using the local bus service.

Queens Jubilee – There was a meeting at ‘The Lion’ village pub on Monday 5/3/2012 with local residents to discuss the street closure and Jubilee celebrations that is being planned for Monday June 4th and not Saturday 2nd as originally planned as it would have clashed with neighbouring celebrations going on. The next meeting is Monday 19/03/2012 at 7pm to discuss developments. There will be a barn dance in the evening and tickets will be around £12 per head. Any money made will go to the local Charity ‘Riding for the Disabled’. Richard Wiggins will hopefully design a poster that we can display. There will be celebrations during the day starting around 3pm with various activities on the Deanshanger Road between St. Johns Lane and Cross Tree Road. The Street Party and evening Barn Dance will be fancy dress.

The Village Hall – had a burst pipe in the toilet area recently. Mr. J. Williams was away so the Chairman mended it in his absence.

The Village Hall – Kirkby & Diamond have had enquiries and two viewings so far with a view to leasing the Hall out on a Commercial basis. Kirkby & Diamond are positive that we can lease it out. Mr. G. Maloney is in touch with them on a regular basis. The Parish Council are thinking of a five year lease minimum period. Whoever takes the Hall on will want to make internal changes.

The School House – it's reported that the Tenant is parking his car in the entrance of the Village Hall car park and thus, blocking entrance. Chairman to write a letter to him explaining that one car only is to be parked and where it is to be parked up so as not obstructing entrance.

5. Planning.

Pightle Farm – Agricultural Storage Building. No objection.

Little Hill Farm – Conversion of barn to house. No objection.

Bridge Lodge, Lillingston Lovell – plans were circulated as a lot of paperwork involved.

6. Finance.

Cheques signed:

000484	£75.72	NCALC	Internal Audit Fee
000485	£14.40	AH Contracts	Dog Bins
000486	£186.59	E-on	Street Lighting.
000487	£480.00	O. Absolom	Clerks Fee
000488	£120.00	HMRC	Tax on Clerks Fee

Clerk asked Chairman & Vice Chairman to sign form for Lloyds TSB with Clerks change of address.

It was noted that in the minutes for November 2011 that the Finance section did not have the amounts by the side of the cheque no's etc. These are as follows:-

000477	£192.00	AH Contracts	Dog Bins
000478	£300.84	E-on	Street Lighting
000479	£72.34	E-on	Street Maintenance (cheque withheld).

Minuted at 7.30pm

The Bank Statements were circulated.

We have had the first part of our Internal Audit and it's noted that we must endeavour to have this in on time, Clerk will have this ready for circulation and signature at next meeting 2nd May 2012.

7. Matters of Repair & Administration.

The Chairman will chase Helen Howard with regards to the grass triangle on Larks Lane.

The Brook by the Bridge near Sparrow Lodge Farm has been cleared out by Mr. P. Ivens (The Chairman) and Mr. J. Gurney has cleared out the opposite side.

Mr. R. Edmondson will clear his part of the Brook to the rear of Cross Tree Road when the weather is better. He did start near the end Bungalow in the winter months.

Mr. R. Edmondson circulated a letter to the Parish Council from Miss. Lonsdale Cooper of 22 Cross Tree Road. The letter is a copy of one written to Western Power Distribution concerning her dismay over the electrical works in Wicken that happened in the winter months and how it affected her. She was very inconvenienced by it all, not to mention upset. It was mentioned in the letter that Mrs Lonsdale Cooper believed the contractors were instructed on behalf of Wicken Parish Council. It is to be noted that they were nothing to do with us, we were never consulted and had no control over the works whatsoever (minuted at 7.40pm). The Parish Council agree that Miss. Lonsdale Coopers letter is very justified. The Chairman will contact Mr. Denny (who was in charge of the physical work) as to date has not had a response to a written letter of complaint. The Parish Council would like an apology to the residents from Western Power, The Chairman will draft a letter of dissatisfaction to the said Company and report back at next meeting.

Leckhampstead Rd – Mr. Cartwright reported that he had heard from the contractors and that no repair or maintenance work will happen to help the blocked drains in 2012 or for several years to come. Mr. Cartwright will try to speak to them verbally rather than emails.

8. Any other business.

The Dog bin on the Sports Field was over flowing recently and noted as not being emptied regularly. Clerk contacted AH Contracts and they came out straight away. Clerk to keep an eye out for a credit note / money off next invoice.

There is a dog that fouls regularly on the grass verge outside the Village Hall.

Mrs. Franklin would like to plant something in the village to commemorate the Queens Jubilee, the Parish Council could fund this it was agreed. Mr. Edmondson will speak to the Conservation Society regarding this to see if they have any ideas. Mr. Cartwright will also speak to the Sports Club.

Next Meeting May 2nd 2012 at 6pm for Parish Council Meeting and 7pm for Annual Open Meeting.