

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
OF  
WICKEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

**In The Village Hall, Wicken at 7.00 pm**

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**16/13 Attendance and apologies;** To receive and accept any apologies.

Cllr. Bob Clapham, **Apologies accepted**

Cllr. Lynda Clark

Cllr. Richard Edmondson

Cllr. Celina Franklin **Apologies accepted**

Cllr. Philip Ivens - Chairman

Cllr. Gerarde Maloney

Cllr. Jef Williams,

Mr. Alan Cartwright

Ruth Millard - Clerk

In attendance;

County & District Cllr Allen Walker,

Dist. Cllr. David Aaronson,

Public 1

The Clerk read Local Government Act 1972 s 85(1). If a member fails throughout six consecutive months to attend any meeting of Council, he ceases automatically to be a member of the Council, unless he has a statutory excuse' or his failure is due to a reason approved by the Council. The period begins with the last meeting attended.

**17/13 Members Interests;** For Members to declare and personal and/or prejudicial interests.  
No interests were declared

**18/13 Approval of Minutes;** The members agreed the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2013, were correct and the Chairman signed them.

**19/13 Co-option of Members;** LGA 1972 s85 was discussed in relation to the Council members. The Clerk was thanked for bringing this item to the attention of the Council. The Chairman would speak to the member concerned and the situation would be resolved at the next meeting.

**20/13 Adoption of a Risk Management Policy;** CllrJM proposed the adoption and Cllr JW seconded the proposal. The Parish Council RESOLVED to adopt the Risk Management Policy.

**21/13 Adoption of a Risk Assessment;** Cllr JM proposed the adoption and Cllr JW seconded the proposal. The Parish Council RESOLVED to adopt the Risk Assessment.

**22/13 Adoption of Financial Regulations;** Cllr JM proposed the adoption and Cllr JW seconded the proposal. The Parish Council RESOLVED to adopt the Financial Regulations.

**23/13 Matters arising.**

- **Japanese Knotweed;** Alan Cartwright said that he had seen it in the brook. It was decided to inform Defra. Action; RM
- **Maintaining the brooks;** the Clerk had circulated a draft proposal of a letter to be sent to residents. After a short discussion the Parish Council RESOLVED to sent the letter to residents.

Chairman's signature

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- **Council Rubbish;** District Cllr David Aaronson & Alan Cartwright have negotiated with South Northants District Council, and have secured the reinstatement of 3 Large Recycling Bins to be kept at the Sports Club. A big thank you for the work entailed to achieve this.
- **Inland Revenue;** no further update received from the accountant regarding the £240.00 fine imposed by HMRC for late administration charges.
- **Leckhamstead Road Drains;** the surveyor will do an in depth survey during November 2013. The Council will contact them again if it does not get a report.
- **Western Power;** have reported that it has finished the ongoing works.

**24/13 Planning;** No applications received.

**25/13 Finance;** The members were advised of payments of accounts.

#### Payments of Accounts

Payee	POWER	Cheque Number	Amount
Eon Un-metered Supply July & October	Highways Act 1980, s301	000528	<b>374.19</b>
AH Contracts, Sept. & Oct '13	Litter (animal Droppings) Order 1991	000529	<b>36.00</b>
ER Millard, Sept, Oct Remunerations	LGA 1972 s111	000530	<b>160.00</b>
HMRC, Sept & October	LGA 1972 s111	000531	<b>40.00</b>
			<b>610.19</b>

#### Receipts – September 2013

Name	Date	Reason	Amount
....1706	9 <sup>th</sup> September 2013	Interest	<b>0.03</b>
....8268	20 <sup>th</sup> September 2013	Precept	<b>2100.00</b>
			<b>2100.03</b>

#### Accounts Balance – September 2013

....1706	<b>747.12</b>
....8268	<b>3860.18</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4607.30</b>

#### 26/13 Reports;

- **County;** 11Million has to be saved by the County Council. The County may have to increase the Community Charge and challenge the government with referendums. The 422 still a dispute regarding who is responsible, for the repair work, between Stoney Stratford Council and the highways.
- **District;** the Parish Council should have received a document regarding the impact of the welfare reform. The budget process is being discussed.
- **Police;** PCSO Herbert is moving on, the Council will be informed of the new PCSO.
- **Neighbourhood Watch;** no report at this time.

#### 27/13 Correspondence Circulars and Consultations;

- Wicken Conservation Society regarding Planters.
  - After a short discussion the Parish Council agreed in principle to the planters. It did not want the planters to be any wider that the village signs, therefore it requester being advised of the size of the planters. **Action; RM**
- NCC – Free tree packs from [communitytrees@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto:communitytrees@woodlandtrust.org.uk)
  - After a short discussion the Parish Council agreed this was a good idea and that it should be forwarded to the Conservation Society to action, if they would like to take this forward.

**28/13 Open Forum:** 10 minutes for Members and members of the public to raise questions, make comments; suggest future agenda items etc. Items requiring decisions must be included in the next agenda.

- County Cllr AW commented that historically this item is at the beginning of the meeting, giving residents an opportunity of speaking but not having to stay through the whole of the meeting if they do not want to. The Clerk agreed therefore this item will be set at the beginning of the meeting at the next and following meeting.

Chairman's signature

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- Wickstead Report, a query whether Wicken Toys would like to place some equipment on the playground site to act as an advertisement for their products. This item would be discussed at the next meeting.
- One resident has approached Alan Cartwright suggesting that he could place chicken wire on the footpath over the Wooden Bridges to stop the footpaths being so slippery in inclement weather. The Parish Council agreed that this was a good idea and asked Alan to convey there appreciation.
- Alan asked if the link to Street Doctor, the legal Highways link for reporting issues on the highway, be placed on the website.

**29/12 Date and time and venue of the next meeting;** The next Parish Meeting will be held at the Village Hall, Wicken on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014 at 7.00 pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20.

Signed ..... Chairman      Date .....