

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

**On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

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

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Cllr Ivens opened the meeting at 7pm

**74/15 – Open Forum.** Chairman invited members of the public to ask questions at the appropriate part of the agenda if they wished.

PCSO Firth introduced himself as PCSO covering area whilst PCSO Bacon is on maternity leave. He advised there has been no recorded crime in Wicken over the last couple of months. There has been a rise in burglaries around the A5 and this is the time of year when they see increase in burglaries. Advice on how to prevent was given. Police can now be followed on Twitter tag @towcestersct. The police are expecting to hear about big cuts in the coming weeks for next years budget, so new ways of working are being investigated, including more local ownership.

PCSO leaves

**75/15 Attendance and apologies;** To receive and accept any apologies.

Cllr. Philip Ivens – Chairman,  
Cllr. Richard Edmondson,  
Cllr. Celina Franklin,  
Cllr. Jef Williams,  
Cllr. Richard Forman **Apologies Received**  
Cllr. Alan Cartwright,  
Cllr Med Blower  
District Cllr. Dennis Loveland  
County & District Cllr. Allen Walker, **Apologies received**  
Sally Willis - Clerk  
PCSO Firth  
3 members of public

**76/15 Members Interests;** Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Wicken Parish Council Code of Conduct to Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

None declared

**77/15 Approval of Minutes;** To agree the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall on *Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2015*. Minutes signed. **Resolved.**

**78/15 External Audit:** to receive external audit report and approve any required actions

Report had been circulated. Overall good report with a couple of minor issues. The clerk will need to be aware of these when producing the accounts for 15/16. There was also a comment that the Parish Council are not the sole trustee of the Village Hall, the members of the council are trustees. This will be rectified next year.

**79/15 Village Hall Lease -** To discuss and agree Heads of Terms for Village Hall Lease and next steps.

Prospective clients for the village hall and their status and recommendation was given to the council. It was proposed and approved to move forward with Phoenix Rising Partnership. Before proceeding certification for the fire extinguishers and electrics is needed. Cllr Ivens to follow up. 2 officers of the committee also need to provide the solicitor with ID. It was proposed that Cllrs Ivens and Cartwright provide ID. PRP (Phoenix Rising Partnership) are able to move in once all legal requirements are in place.

RESOLVED: Lease with PRP to be put in place.

Cllr Blower needed to leave early, so it was agreed to move item 84 up the agenda

**84/15 Solar Farm;** To receive update from Committee and approve any actions.

The committee had met and worked through the list of ideas, putting them into categories. There are some items that should be the council's responsibility, this list will be forwarded for future discussion. Other ideas to be investigated and fuller proposals to be put forward. There are also some longer term projects which may not be started for some time.

**80/15 Dog Fouling of Sports Field;** To receive update and approve any actions required

Sports club had made complaint about dog fouling on sports field. Options had been investigated and circulated. There are 2 dog bins at entrances to the field. It was proposed that bags could be put by the bins. Cllr Cartwright to Investigate. There was also a complaint that some people are picking up but putting in the recycling bin at the sports club, despite request not to. It was noted that this is a problem everywhere,

Cllr Blower leaves

It was proposed that a letter to all dog owners in Wicken is posted to ask them to be considerate and to advise of penalties that can be issued. Milton Keynes Council are starting to DNA test, but at the moment South Northants Council are not taking this route

Should anyone see people not pick up after their dog they should take details and report to South Northants Council who will be able to follow up and fine.

**81/15 Village Plan;** To discuss response to flyers and approve next steps

There had been a good response to the flyer with people interested in being involved. It was proposed that Cllr Williams chair this meeting and feedback to Council.

**82/15 Wicken Park Road Bridge;** To discuss rejection and resident comments and approve next steps

20mph speed limit has been rejected as local authority and police are not keen to put in too many 20mph zones as this makes existing zones less effective, especially those outside schools. It was proposed that the bridge needs repainting, possibly with reflective paint. It was also proposed that a priority sign is used to highlight the narrowness of the bridge. Cllr Cartwright to contact Highways.

**83/15 Wicken Park Road Street Light;** To receive update and approve next steps

Clerk advised that Western Power are willing to pay, but that the Parish Council need to source and invoice them. Eon should do the work this week. There was concern over the price and whether Western Power were aware of the cost. Clerk to follow up.

**84/15 Solar Farm;** To receive update from Committee and approve any actions

See above

**85/15 Planning;**

**Applications; to discuss and comment on;**

S/2015/2436/MAF - Variation to conditions 2(plans), 21 (lighting) and removal of condition16 (access track) on S/2014/1374/MAF(Solar farm, to include the installation of solar panels, with transformer housings, substation, switch gear building, fencing, landscaping and other associated works. - Mount Mill Farm Stratford Road

There were no objections to this application

**86/15 Finance.** To receive and approve accounts for payment

Payments

Payee	Reason	Cheque number	Amount
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South Northants Council	Election Costs	617	39.00
Eon	Lighting Maintenance	618	72.34
AH Contracts	Dog bin emptying	619	151.20
Eon	Lighting Power	620	283.09
SJ Willis Oct	Clerk	621	126.40
SJ Willis Nov	Clerk	622	126.40

**Reciepts**

Name	Reason	Amount
HMRC	VAT	200.72
South Northants Council	2nd half precept	3630.00
Lloyds Bank	interest	0.03

Bank Balance As 29 September 2015

Savings Account	747.84
current account	15807.68
<b>Total</b>	<b>16555.52</b>

RESOLVED: Accounts approved and signed

**87/15 Mobile Phone coverage** – to discuss and consider options

It appears that there are 2 antena on the mast which point in the same direction. EE have agreed to change the direction of one which will make reception better in Wicken.

**88/15** To receive updates on outstanding issues and suggest items for next agenda

Church – are proposing to remove the picket fence and part of the hedge to help tidy up. They are also adding a burglar alarm. They would also like to light the church up from the outside, especially for weekends and special occasions. Cllr Williams has appropriate lights the church can use. It was proposed that the council would write a letter approving the works to increase security.

Resident who lives near village Hall asked if the council could cut hedge on her side when we cut on our side. It was agreed that we would offer to do this to all that share the hedge at the appropriate time. Cllr Franklin to communicate with residents

It appears that there are travelers living at the layby on A422. Clerk to contact County Travellers unit.

Cllr Cartwright had reported potholed in Lark Lane on Street Doctor and will monitor

District Cllr Loveland advised that from 15/16 S106 will be superceded by CIL on a trial basis. As there is no planned new housing in Wicken this will not have an impact.

Member of public made appeal that the Sports club becomes integrated into the community and is used as a community facility. It was agreed this could be discussed further at the next meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

**Chairman's Signature**

**Date**

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