

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

On Thursday 27th October 2016

In The Village Hall, Wicken at 7.00 pm

Cllr Ivens opened the meeting at 7.00pm.

80/16 Attendance and apologies; To receive and accept any apologies.

Cllr. Philip Ivens – Chairman
Cllr. Celina Francklin,
Cllr. Richard Forman,
Cllr. Alan Cartwright,
Cllr Med Blower
Cllr Andrew Edmondson
Cllr Marcus Rixon
District Cllr. Dennis Loveland
County & District Cllr. Allen Walker,
Sally Willis - Clerk
2 members of public

81/16 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

82/16 Public Forum

One member of the public asked if there was anything that can be done about speed of traffic on Deanshanger Road coming into the village. Change to 20mph, traffic calming measures, speed displays, and moving junction at St Johns Lane as it used to be were all discussed. County Councillor advised that policy says that unless it is dangerous, Highways are reluctant to make changes. Cars being parked either side of the road will act as traffic calming. Cllr Cartwright to speak to Highways to see if there are any options to discuss at next meeting.

Member of the public asked about light on Pound Close. Clerk advised that chaser email had been returned so needs to see if contact is still at EON.

District Cllr Dennis Loveland advised that there are many projects in the Silverstone area. The current CEO has advised they are retiring in February. Also, boundaries and conservation areas are being looked at as part of the local plan.

County Cllr Allen Walker advised that at this time there are no effects from Brexit. There doesn't seem to be any appetite for devolution either, whether it is as a whole county or with another county. In the meantime the county council is moving ahead with 2nd generation working, where many services such as Health, Social Services, Environment and Finance are outsourced. The biggest part of the budget is going towards Social Services.

Cllr Walker also advised that he will be standing for re-election at the county council elections in May 2017.

83/16 Approval of Minutes; To agree the minutes from the Annual Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall on *Wednesday 7th September 2016* Minutes signed. **Resolved.**

84/16 To consider and approve required repairs to village hall windows and possible financial options.

The problem with the window needs sorting now, and other items that may come in the future should be considered at the time. It was proposed that £5000 is used from the solar farm money towards the costs, and the remainder can be paid in a loan, if needed, to be paid back at a time the village hall is able. **Resolved.**

It was asked if accounts from the village hall could be seen at each meeting, it was agreed this would be a good idea.

85/16 To receive the external Audit report and approve any appropriate actions

Overall the report was good. The auditor had pointed out that the value of the asset register had changed, and that some items did not have enough information, such as date and price at purchase. It was proposed that the asset register is forwarded to councilors who may be able to help with adding this information.

86/16 To consider Quiet Lanes and whether to request them

Leckhampstead have made an application to Buckinghamshire County Council for Quiet Lanes on Leckhampstead and Wicken Roads. At the moment Northamptonshire do not have any quiet lanes, but would consider this if approved. We are still awaiting news from Leckhampstead. Cllr Walker advised he would be happy to support this should we want to apply.

87/16 To consider and approve response to planning application S/2016/2591/FUL - Remove wooden fence on northern boundary. Four ground height floodlights to illuminate church and replacement lantern above church door - St Johns Church, Church Lane

It was proposed to support the application. Resolved.

78/16 Finance.

a) To receive and approve accounts for payment

Payee	CN	Reason	Amount	VAT
AH				
Contracts	666	Empty dog bins	43.20	7.20
Eon	667	Street Lighting power	280.01	13.33
Eon	668	Street lighting maintenace	72.34	12.06
S Willis	669	Clerk Oct	158.05	0.00
S Willis	670	Clerk Nov	158.05	0.00
Total			711.65	32.59

RESOLVED: Accounts approved and signed

b) To receive and approve budget to end of September.

Resolved: Budget received and approved.

79/16 To receive updates on outstanding issues and suggest items for next agenda

Potholes need to be reported on Street Doctor. Those outside Akeley Wood School as mentioned in the last meeting have been reported.

Chair asked if Rural crime can be discussed at the next meeting. He is aware of a number of small holdings and farms in the local area that have been subject to crime and Wicken needs a plan. District councilors advised that the New Police and Crime Commissioner is having surgeries about this type of thing and will forward the details.

It was agreed that to keep a professional relationship with the company leasing the village hall, if possible parish council meeting should be held at the sports and social club.

Whilst further negotiation on price and details is needed it was agreed that Cllr Blower can apply for all the available funds in the New Homes Bonus for play equipment.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35 pm

Chairman's Signature

Date

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