

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

On Wednesday 3rd September 2014

In The Village Hall, Wicken at 7.00 pm

52/14 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
Cllr. Alan Cartwright, **Apologies accepted**

Ruth Millard - Clerk

In attendance;

County & District Cllr Allen Walker, **Apologies accepted**

Dist. Cllr. David Aaronson

Public 4

Public Open Forum (under adjournment).

53/14 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 were declared.

54/14 Minutes of the last Meeting; Held on Wednesday 2nd July 2014.

Resolved; That the minutes from the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd July 2014, be approved and signed as a true record.

55/14 Matters Arising

a Highways and footpaths; to report any defects;

There is a lot of disruption with a large electricity cable being established from the Substation in Wicken to Beachampton. It is not going in a straight line through the field but is being put into the verges along side the roads. A complaint has been received regarding the amount of rubbish that the workers are leaving at the sites where they are working.

Resolved; That the Parish Council would address the situation when the work is finished.

- i. **A422 Diversions;** As Cllr Allen Walker was not present the Council could not receive a report. Cllr David Aaronson said that the police cannot enforce signs to stop drivers going through the village. He suggested a weight restriction, which would stop large vehicles entering the village.
- ii. **Leckhampstead Road Drains;** to discuss a letter of thanks to SNC on behalf of Wicken Parish Council.

Resolved; That the Council would write a letter of thanks to SNC.

b Village Hall; For members to be advised of any updates

- i. **Lease to pre-school;** The Trustees had an interested party wishing to hire the Village Hall as a pre school. They had asked for quite a lot of work to be done before opening. The Trustees were hoping to use the deposit money for the work. There was only about £4000 in the Village Hall finances and this will need to be kept for Insurance and emergencies. The pre school proprietors appear to have gone cold with the negotiations.

Resolved; That if the Trustees wished to let it again, the Village Hall needs to be put in the hands of a Commercial Agent.

- ii. **Village notice board;** The village notice board at the junction of St John's Lane and The Deanshanger Road has been refurbished.

c Playground Inspection; there are still items on the Wickstead report that needs addressing.

56/14 Planning;

- **S/2014/1425/FUL** 4 Pound Close Wicken Single storey rear extension. Comments by 4th Sept 2014

Resolved; that the Parish Council had no objections.

- **S/2014/1374/MAF** Mount Mill Farm Wicken Solar Farm. Extension for comments 11th Sept 2014

Resolved; that the Parish Council had no objections, but it would comment on the Companies promise of £10000.00 a year if the project was to be approved by the Planning Authority. The Company had confirmed, by email, to the Chairman that the offer was still valid. A copy of the email would be attached to the minutes.

57/14 Finance;

- a) **Receipts and Payments of Accounts;** To note the financial statements of accounts and bank reconciliations, to the month end.

Resolved; That all invoices presented be paid.

Payee	POWER	Cheque Number	Amount
E.on Street Light to 30/06/14		000564	186.07
AH Contracts, July & August 2014	Litter (animal Droppings) Order 1991	000565	28.80
ER Millard, July, Aug, Sept 2014 Remunerations	LGA 1972 s112	000566	278.50
HMRC, July – Sept 2014, 2nd quarter	LGA 1972 s111	000567	24.80
AON Insurance		000568	555.75
BDO LLP	LGA 1972 s111	000569	36.00
South Northants Area Support	LGA 1972 s 137	000570	10.00

Receipts to 30th June 2014

Name	Reason	Amount
....1706	Interest – 09.06.2014	0.03
	Interest – 09.07.2014	0.03

ACCOUNT BALANCE – 17th July 2014

....1706	747.42
....8268	2293.99
TOTAL	3061.10

- b) **2 signatories for Cheques;** The Clerk is still waiting for the paperwork from the Councillors to proceed in getting another two signatories on to the bank mandate.

58/14 Reports;

- a) **County;** Cllr David Aaronson gave a report regarding the Existing housing Register and the reduction of the criteria to be eligible to rent; please see report attached. He also spoke of a loophole in the law allowing a change of use to a building from a Pub to a Shop without planning permission being needed. Cllr Richard Forman asked if it would be prudent of the Parish Council to list the Pub in the Village as a village asset.

Resolved; that Cllr David Aaronson and the Clerk would look into the protocol for listing the Pub as a Village Asset, forward to the Council, to be discussed at the next meeting.

- b) **District;**
c) **Police;** Cllr Aaronson said that PCSO Nigel Phelps was on long term sick leave.
d) **Neighbourhood Watch;** the Parish Clerk had received a letter asking for a £10.00 donation to help with the work of the Area Support Team.

Resolved; That the Council would support the Area Team with their work, and asked the Clerk to raise a cheque for £10.00.

59/14 Correspondence Circulars and Consultations;

- 15/07/2014 Wicken Conservation Society Wild/Meadow Flower Planting. Sally Miller gave a report of her findings to have wild flower verges in the village. It included the Parish Council requesting and being granted a licence to plant in the verges. Also permission being granted by adjoining land owners.

Resolved; That the report was noted.

- 01/08/2014 BDO qualification notification. The Clerk had circulated copies of the notification and report from BDO. She read through the report which itemized the Budget and Policies that were missing in the financial year 2012/2013. The Council thought that she had done work in the last year that addressed the problems. The Clerk explained that the Budget and Policies that she had done, for approval by the Council, in 2013/2014 would reflect in the accounting year 2014/2015.

Resolved; That the BDO qualification notification was noted.

- 27.08.2014 Neighbourhood Watch Area Support Team (SNAST) requesting a donation. Approved please see 58/14 d).
- Andrew Edmondson has asked whether the Parish Council would support a possible passing place on Wicken Park Road just after Pytle Farm but before the narrow bridge on the left hand side (going towards Akeley Wood School), and if so approach SNC.

Resolved; That the Council were in favour of a passing place, but that it would not approach SVC.

- Regarding the work to install the new 33KV cable, a lot of litter is being dropped (by the workers?) could this be raise with the contractor/whoever? Please see decision 55/14 a.

60/14 Date and time and venue of the next meeting; The next Parish Meeting will be held at the Village Hall, Wicken on Wednesday 5th November 2014 at 7.00 pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

Chairman's Signature

Date