

# GREAT WITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of meeting of Great Withingham Parish Council held at Great Withingham Village Hall on Monday 18 July 2016 at 7:50pm.**

Present:-

Susie Rowles (In the Chair)

Jane Wisbey

Herbie Burton

Pauline Brown

Alex Manson

David Sayer

David Beaumont

Sonya Blythe (clerk)

Simon Woodbridge (District Councillor)

Members of the Public

1658	<p><b>To receive apologies for absence.</b></p> <p>None received.</p> <p>SR reported that Roy Church, a parishioner who had worked hard for the parish in the past, was unwell. The parish council passed its best wishes to him.</p>
1659	<p><b>To receive members' declarations of interests for meeting tonight.</b></p> <p>None.</p>
1660	<p><b>To approve the minutes of the last council meetings held on 16 May 2016.</b></p> <p>The minutes were approved and signed.</p>
1661	<p><b>To receive information on matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.</b></p> <p>None.</p>
1662	<p><b>To Discuss the Governance of the Great Withingham Fuel Allotment Charity</b></p> <p>Further to a discussion at the Annual Parish Meeting in May, a discussion was held around the governance arrangements of the Great Withingham Fuel Allotment Charity, which some trustees and the financial auditor were in attendance for. Councillors commented that there had been a failure in communication in recent years between the Charity and the Parish Council and that there had clearly been an oversight concerning the Parish Council approving all trustees. However the charity was extremely successful, was meeting a great need within the parish, and should be recognised as such and allowed to carry on.</p> <p>Some concern was raised that the funds may not have been distributed in an accountable way, but it was clarified that this was due to the fact the payments are confidential. Accounts were independently annually audited and standard forms completed by applicants.</p> <p>The question of a donation towards a new playground for the village hall was</p>

	<p>discussed. Trustees confirmed that they were able to consider donation requests on an annual basis but were unable to commit to a regular annual donation. The core aim of the charity remained to relive hardship and distress to individuals or groups.</p> <p>It was proposed and agreed that the current trustees be approved to remain in post for the next four years, ending July 2020.</p> <p>It was proposed and agreed by all parties that the parish council and the charity would hold an annual meeting to discuss any issues.</p>
1663	<p><b>To Discuss the Playground</b></p> <p>SR and HB reported that they had visited the playground for young children in Elsing. This was a smaller playground than originally envisioned but more affordable and manageable. A discussion had been held with village hall trust representatives and the possibility of setting up a playground charity would be looked into, which would open up more funding options. If a charity was set up PB would be the PC representative. A site meeting with William Preston would be organised to move this forward.</p>
1664	<p><b>To consider complaints regarding the condition of the parish</b></p> <p>SR reported on receiving an email from a resident regarding untidy verges throughout the parish. HB confirmed that he had contacted Highways regarding this and new contractors were now in place that would carry the work out promptly.</p> <p>The overgrown pathway through the centre of the parish had been reported to the landowner.</p> <p>HB also reported that the village bus shelter had been misused. Broadland District Council (BDC) had been approached to clean-up.</p>
1665	<p><b>To adjourn the meeting to allow public participation.</b></p> <p>a) A resident raised the point that there were not enough dog bins within the parish. This had been raised with BDC on several occasions previously. SW agreed to discuss this with Environmental Health from BDC and encouraged residents to report dog owners who did not clear up in order for action to be taken. BDCs contact details would be added to the Wensum Diary to encourage residents to report dog waste incidents. It was noted that three bins had been removed by BDC two years ago. The clerk was asked to check whether the PC had initially paid for these.</p> <p>b) Following the emails discussed at the previous meeting, the matter of speeding through the parish was raised again. Highways had been asked to attend the meeting to discuss road-related issues but had declined. It was agreed that JW would send the clerk the data from the mobile speed camera, to write a letter to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ask that he intervene with the speeding issues within the parish.</p> <p>c) Following the wheelie bin speed awareness stickers that were distributed in May, the clerk would ask NCC if any more were available.</p>
1666	<p><b>To consider the purchase of a village sign.</b></p> <p>To be discussed at the next meeting.</p>
1667	<p><b>To Update on Environment Agency</b></p>

	No update available.
1668	<p><b>To Update on BDC complaints</b></p> <p>Broadland had previously responded to confirm that the complaints would not be taken further. This item to be removed from future agendas.</p>
1669	<p><b>To Discuss NCC Highways Issues Affecting Parish</b></p> <p>a) Highways had previously confirmed that they wanted to improve the Porters Lane junction. The Weston Park Golf Club had also been asked to improve the same crossroad as part of its submitted planning permission. JW reminded councillors that, as a result of this, in May GWPC had asked Highways to pool resources with the golf club and install traffic lights to make the junction work efficiently. Highways had responded that they would be unable to tie the timings together for this. The clerk was asked to approach them again regarding requesting that these changes be made.</p> <p>b) The chairman from Weston Longville Parish Council advised that the golf club would be installing a footpath from the junction to the golf club entrance; the next piece of land was owned separately and permission had not been given to continue the path.</p>
1670	<p><b>To Consider any Outstanding Planning Applications or Planning Matters</b></p> <p>a) 20161197: 10 Common Lane, single storey rear extension – no objection</p> <p>b) 20161049; Walcis Lodge, conversion of garage to provide carers accommodation – no objection</p>
1671	<p><b>To Discuss Finance Issues</b></p>
	<p>The following payments were <b>agreed</b>:-</p> <p>a) To agree payment of accounts:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clerk salary, tax and expenses (June and July) £372.17 (standing order for £177.86 paid monthly) (cheque for £75.55 for expenses).</li> <li>• Office Furniture online (notice board) £224.40</li> </ul> <p>b) A discussion was held around holding monthly meetings in the future instead of bi-monthly. This was voted on and agreed, to commence in January. Budget implications in regards to the clerks salary were noted.</p>
1672	<p><b>To discuss correspondence received</b></p> <p>a) None outstanding</p> <p>b) A resident raised the issue of the land opposite the garage on the A1067 which has been deserted for several years; this was still overgrown, with rats often spotted. The clerk confirmed that Broadland had been approached regarding a compulsory purchase order but were not willing to issue one. The site would be reported again.</p>
1673	<p><b>To discuss Village Hall</b></p> <p>a) It was reported that deeds has shown that the hedgerow on Hall Walk was the responsibility of the village hall committee.</p>

1674	<p><b>To Discuss Public Access Agreements and Public Rights of Way.</b></p> <p>a) The outstanding cases were still being processed.</p>
1675	<p><b>To Raise any Other Matters (items for information only).</b></p> <p>a) JW reported that an evening with author Rory Clements would take place in the village hall in September.</p> <p>b) No update had been received on the Atlas Works planning application. The clerk would request an update from NCC on this and the recent Polyframe planning application at the same site. It was reported that 22 flats had recently been given planning permission in the same location, for staff use.</p>

Meeting closed at 21:10

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as  
Monday 19 September, 7.30pm.

Signed: .....  
Chairman