

Witham on the Hill Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Witham on the Hill Parish Council (Min
18-02) 21st May 2018 at 7.30 p.m. in St Andrew's Parish Hall

Present: **Councillors:** Andrew Greenwood, Charles Henriques (presiding) and Janet Kirkwood,
Residents: Frances Plummer
Others: Bernard Champness – Clerk, County Cllr B Adams and District Cllr M Wilkins
Not Present: Cllr S Pennant Jones

Open Forum	
Frances Plummer wanted to know what was happening about the proposed new play equipment. It was explained that as Cllr O'Hara was not present an update was not going to be given. Mrs Plummer explained that she understood that we were going to write to South Kesteven District Council and ask them about funding and she was told that there was some confusion as it was understood Cllr O'Hara was going to speak with the School. Cllr Wilkins said that he understood that some funding could be available for South Kesteven District Council. Cllr Henriques was to write to South Kesteven District Council and to copy in Cllr Wilkins. The meeting was opened at 19.05	
21. Apologies for absence, acceptance of Apologies	
21.1	Apologies were received from Cllr L O'Hara (personal) Resolved that the apologies be accepted.
22. Declaration of Interest – To receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests, as set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011 and the nature of those interests relating to any Agenda item	
22.1	No one declared an interest in any matter that was on the agenda.
23. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 21st May 2108	
23.1	Resolved: That the minutes of the 21st May 2018 were signed by the Chair as a correct record.
24. Matters to Report	
24.1	The following matters were reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Kirkwood explained that she had been in touch with the Footpath Officer Andrea Philpot and three of the paths had, had the overgrown grass and hedges cut back. Another was to be cleared once the land owner had been spoken to. The path through the woods was not their responsibility but that of the landowner. • Work had ben started on have new posts installed at The Bywells and which would form part of the new handrails. • It had been noticed that our latest minutes were not in the recent edition of the Three Towers. This was the responsibility of Cllr Pennant Jones but there was no reason why she had not done this but the latest inset should be ready by the 20th July. If the Clerk could get the minutes prepared Cllr Henriques would prepare a report to be sent off. • The Clerk was asked to update the Website. The names of the Councillors should be corrected, as should the dates of the meetings. Cllr Greenwood would let the clerk know of any other amendments to be made. • It was reported that there was a problem with cars parking part on the road and part on

		the pavement in front of and by the Church. This made it difficult or impossible for people in a wheelchair or mothers pushing prams to get by without having to go onto the road. We would try and resolve this matter by putting notices in the noticeboard in front of St Andrew's Parish Hall and to tell members of the congregation not to do this.
25.	To receive a report from the County and District Councillors.	
25.1	County Cllr B Adams reported on the following:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regarding potholes he understood that by the end of September 2018 all major potholes would have been repaired. He has some information regarding grit bins and would send this to the Clerk to circulate. The County Council had mapped out the entire County with where all the salt bins were sited with their numbers. There was a new method proposed for re-filling the bins. They were looking for assistance from the Parish Councils who might be able to find a willing volunteer to go to the local highways depot and obtain salt to refill the bins. He confirmed that if we wanted another bin we would have to pay for this. There was some confusion about footpaths and footways. The pavements around the village are footways and the paths going across the country side are footpaths. These are being de-regulated, and they were now looking for help. The person dealing with this was a Chris Miller. They wanted the Parish Councils to identify and grade the footpaths into three categories. 1) Keep open, 2) do nothing and 3) carry out repairs. If we could do this and send that information to him he would forward to C Miller. Community Speed Watch. David Mitchell of the Road Safety Partnership was now hoping to start to meet people who would be interested in getting trained and using the equipment. He was wondering if we could join forces with other villages such as Carlby, Little Bytham and Manthorpe as if there were enough volunteers they could be used to work in all villages and not just their own. He did point out that there was one criteria in that each Parish Council would have to purchase the sign which provided data and this would cost £2500.00 Cllr Adams was asked about the-mail received from Cllr Davies which did not address any of our concerns. We had written regarding our concerns about the overgrown footway from the village to the crossroads. Children were having to walk on the road and there were concerns for their safety when they crossed the busy A6121. We had also mentioned are concerns about the speed of cars on the A6121. Cllr Adams asked if the Clerk could send that e-mail to him and he would do what he could to help out. Cllr Adams was also told about flooding which occurred on the corner of Main Street by Palace Farm. The drain there had a tree root growing in it and this was causing the flooding. When this happened, cars splashed water on the house opposite Palace Farm and this was now causing damage to the property. Cllr Adams was handed copies of the recent e-mails that had been exchanged to see if the problem could be resolved. He was asked to see if he could assist in getting this matter resolved.
25.2	District Councillor Wilkins reported the following:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He wanted to know if the Parish Council were going to prepare a neighbourhood Plan. He understood that Castle Bytham, Little Bytham and Careby were in the process of joining forces to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan and he wanted to know if we would be interested in joining them. He gave a brief resume of what a Neighbourhood Plan was about and the pros and cons. He was willing to have a word with the Chair of Castle Bytham Parish Council Vicky Dennis to see if she would be interested in either coming to talk to us or us joining with them in preparing a neighbourhood Plan. He had been allocated £1000 to give to projects but this money had to be used throughout his entire Wards he was representing. This meant that in real terms if he divided this sum equally each ward would receive a very small sum of money. South Kesteven District Council had set up two companies which were run and owned

		<p>by the Council. The first was InvestSK. InvestSK is a multi-disciplinary team tasked by South Kesteven District Council with driving ambitious economic growth, inward investment and physical regeneration projects across South Kesteven. The other company was Gravitass Housing Ltd which was in the process of building houses for rent and sale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Kesteven District Council now had a new cabinet and the Leader Matthew Lee was making sure the Council was moving in the right direction. • Cllr Wilkins was asked about the Witham on the Hill Conservation Area document and when and if it was likely to be updated. He advised that the person to contact was Ian Wright.
26. Clerks Report and Correspondence received.		
	26.1	A list of e-mails/correspondence received was circulated.
27. Planning applications:		
	27.1	S18/1086 - Section 73 application to vary condition 2 (Approved Plans) of planning permission S14/3445 to alter floor levels of the proposed extension and alterations to windows/doors at The Sycamores, Main Street. Resolved: that we would not object but would like to comment that we hoped that the windows on the extension would be in keeping and style with the rest of the property.
28. To receive an update on the play equipment on The Green		
	28.1	As was explained earlier the Tower had been repaired and was being well received by resident. Cllr Henriques would be getting in touch with Mel at South Kesteven District Council to discuss the possible purchase of new play equipment and whether there was any chance of funding.
29. To discuss and agree areas to be included in the Big Clean.		
	29.1	Cllr Greenwood explained that we could not get the footway from the village to the A6121 cleaned up as it was not in the curtilage of the village. He was hoping that he and other volunteers would start at the beginning of the School Autumn term to clear back the vegetation that was spreading over the path. The work that could be included was the cutting back of the grass verge by East Green. It seemed that this had never been cut and the grass was now very tall and needed cutting back. Cllr Henriques said that he would complete the application on line.
30. To receive an update on the problem of parking in Bottom Lane		
	30.1	There was still a problem, but it was not as bad as before. However, there was still a problem with dog poo. Cllr O'Hara was going to speak to the school but as she was not present an update was not available.
31. To discuss the problem of flooding at the corner of Palace Farm and Main Street.		
	31.1	This matter had been dealt with under Item 25.1 and County Cllr B Adams was to investigate and try and get the matter resolved.
32. To confirm Expenditure		
		<p>£173.15 – Community Lincs Insurance services (Insurance premium)</p> <p>£129.60 – Mr G S Parkes (Internal Audit fee)</p> <p>£70.00 – St Andrews Parish Hall (hire of hall for meetings)</p>

	[]denotes those payments paid between meetings, which have been approved by the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Parish Council or at a previous meeting but not listed	
	Payments made by Direct Debit - £	
	32 1	Resolved: that the above payment be made. The Clerk explained that the company that ran payroll for him was not able to do the work as the lady had been on holiday. He could not confirm if the figures on the agenda were correct. It was agreed that the cheque book would be kept by Cllr Henriques and once the Clerk knew what the figures were he would email them across so cheques could be completed, signed and sent off.
33.	Any other business – <i>Reminder – by law no decision can be made under this item only information exchanged.</i>	
	33.1	There being no other business the meeting was formally closed at 20.28
34.	The date of the next meeting – to be held on Monday 17th September 2018 at 7.00 p.m. at St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill.	