

Witham on the Hill Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Witham on the Hill Parish Council
19th March 2018(Min 17-06) at 7.00 p.m. in St Andrew's Parish
Church Hall

Present: **Councillors:** Charles Henriques, Andrew Greenwood, Janet Kirkwood, Lynne O'Hara and Sue Pennant - Jones,
 Residents:
 Others: Bernard Champness – Clerk and County Cllr Bob Adams and District Cllr Martin Wilkins

Open Forum

The meeting was formally opened at 19.00

84. Apologies for absence, acceptance of Apologies

84.1 No Apologies were received as all were present

85. 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

85.1 No one declared an interest in any matter that was on the agenda.

86. Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 15th January 2018(17-05)

86.1 **Resolved:** That the minutes of the 15th January 2018 were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

87. Matters to Report

87.1 The Clerk confirmed that he had a receipt from Cllr Davies to the e-mail that he sent regarding the footpath from the village to the crossroads
The Clerk confirmed the request for the Precept had been sent off.
The website had not been cleaned up but the Clerk would get this done.
Cllr

88. To receive a report from the County and District Councillors.

88.1 District Cllr M Wilkins asked if Council Tax bills had arrived as he hoped it would be seen that the District Council charges were not as high as some expected. Plans were in place to streamline the District Council and how they looked at work they was approved. By 2020 they would have to be self sufficient with no further funding by way of grants from the Government. He explained that some people were critical of what money was spent and how but one example such as Stamford Fair they did not have to pay for although it was organised by them They were looking at street lighting and there were a few options. One was to switch the street lights off at 12 midnight and to be switched on at 5 a.m., another was having lights fitted with solar cells or all lights could be changed to LED lights but the last two options cost money. They were in a dilemma as did they spend money now to get a quicker return for their investment or save money quickly by taking the first option.
A new cinema was being built in Grantham which again was not going to cost the District

Council.

Cllr Wilkins asked a question about the garages in East Green and although he had made enquiries no one seemed to know where they were or who owned them. Cllr Pennant-Jones said that people were paying rent to the District Council but when she had made enquiries South Kesteven District Council denied they owned them as did Highways. Cllr Wilkins said that he would continue with his enquiries.

Cllr Greenwood said that he had attended the Planning Meeting and wanted to ask a question about planning issues in a Conservation Area, but he did not find time to do so. He had asked Cllr Hope the same question and he was going to make enquiries with a Kerry Walmsley and it was hoped she would contact the Clerk. Cllr Wilkins said that he would also make enquiries.

88.2 County Cllr B Adams explained that the person who was dealing with footpaths was Chris Miller, but he was very busy as he was responsible for the whole of Lincolnshire and it might be a long time before he was able to look at the problem that we had with the over grown footpath.

He wanted to know if we had shown an interest in the Speed Watch programme. It was explained that we had not really shown interest as it was not sure whether we would find volunteers who would use the equipment. Cllr Adams said that we should register our interest with the Road Safety Partnership without having to make a firm commitment. He understood that volunteers once trained could be able to issue a fixed penalty notice but to avoid embarrassment we should join forces with neighbouring villages so that the volunteers did not live in the village when they were taking data.

Cllr Greenwood explained that he did not have an opportunity of asking a question at the Planning Meeting about how plans were dealt with in a Conservation Area. Cllr Adams said that he would speak with Kerry Walmsley and she would get in touch with the Clerk.

89. Clerks Report and Correspondence received.

89.1 The Clerk had prepared a separate list of correspondence received since the last meeting and this had been circulated in advance.

Cllr Kirkwood explained that she had asked for a copy of the e-mail regarding the salt bins which had been sent to her. She was going to get in touch with the Adrian smith at South Kesteven District Council to see if the existing bin could be filled up and a new one provided to be sited at a place which is acceptable to them and us.

Cllr Greenwood said that he attended the recent Planning Meeting at the Toft Hotel which was useful but was somewhat over-run by issues of a planning nature in other villages. With regard to the e-mail from the PCSO it was agreed that she would be invited to our next meeting so that she could give an update on Policing issues and to see what if anything could be done about speeding in the Village

Cllr O'Hara said that she was interested in the Finding Fitness e-mail as this might be of an interest to the residents. The Clerk explained that they could help obtain a grant but only if they were allowed to present the fitness programme and run that themselves.

90. Planning applications:

90.1 There were no planning applications to consider

90.2 The following plans had been approved:

1. S17/2128 replace stolen lead roof to North Transept with terne coated stainless steel at St Andrews Church
2. S17/1776 – erection of single storey rear extension and erection of detached garage following removal of existing garage at Redlands, Main Street

91. To agree the dates of the meeting in 2018-19

- 91.1** It as agreed that the meeting should take place on the third Monday of alternate months which means that the meetings would be on 21st May 2018, 16th July 17th September, 19th November, 21st January 2019 and 18th March 2019. The Clerk was to notify the booking clerk to ensure that the hall was booked on those days for us.
- 92. To agree a date for the Annual Parish meeting and if a speaker is required, and if so whom, as well as a date for the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council**
- 92.1** It was agreed that we would not have a speaker to attend the annual Parish Meeting and this should take place on the 21st May 2018. Fifteen minutes would be set aside for that meeting with the remainder of the time being taken with the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.
- 93. To consider what action needs to be taken with regard to the General Data Protection Regulation which comes into force on the 25th May 2018**
- 93.1** The Clerk explained that he had hoped to bring more details with him from the other Parish Councils who he worked for but unfortunately, they had not made much progress. Cllr Greenwood said that he had worked in the Data Protection field as was more than happy to look at the papers the Clerk had printed off and would report to the Council at the meeting in May.
- 94. To receive an update on the repairs to the play equipment**
- 94.1** Cllr Greenwood said that he had met with a couple of people from South Kesteven District Council recently and progress was being made. Work had started on The Tower and was almost complete. He was concerned that the ground around the Tower was water logged and was wondering if in future we could consider having a system in place to drain the ground. He had an assurance that if we purchased new play equipment South Kesteven District Council would be responsible for insuring the equipment and maintaining it.
- 94.2** Cllr O'Hara said that she had a meeting with Witham Hall and they had expressed a willingness to help financially with the purchase of new play equipment. However, they would need details of the play equipment and associated costs. Cllr Greenwood said that we might be able to get costings from Wicksteed Play and Eibe Play as we really needed more than one quote. The play equipment needed to be wooden rather than Stainless Steel. Cllr O'Hara would make enquiries with both companies to get quotes. Mention was made of some wooden equipment at Edenham which was wooden and not very old but was in a state of disrepair.
- 95. To receive an update on how we can progress our request for some action to make the junction on the A6121 safer**
- 95.1** There was no further update, but we were still looking at ways of getting this junction safer.
- 96. To consider whether or not to fund the cost of Advanced Payroll Services**
- 96.1** The Clerk explained that he had put this on the agenda as he wanted to know if it was felt that he should run payroll himself or if the Council would pay for Advanced Payroll services running payroll for him. **Resolved:** that they would not pay for an outside agency running payroll.
- 97. To confirm Expenditure**
£257.07 – B M Champness (salary for January, February and March)
£64.00 – HMRC (PAYE)
[] 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 - £

- 97. 1** Resolved: that the above payments be made after the Clerk explained that the sum to pay the Clerk was £194.28 and the amount to HMRC was £129.60.
- 98.** Any other business – *Reminder – by law no decision can be made under this item only information exchanged.*
- 98.1** There being no other business the meeting was formally closed at 20.18
- 99.** The date of the next meeting – to be held on **Monday 21st May 2018** at 7.00 p.m. at St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill.