

WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the additional Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 6 March 2024 at 7.37pm in the Village Hall, Witcham

Present: M Housden (Chairman), K Mackender (Vice-Chairman), J Lucas, S Wilkin

In attendance Parish Clerk/RFO

24/038 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from L Holdaway (previous commitment) and G Byrne (previous commitment)

24/039 **To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on any items on the agenda**

Pecuniary interests - none

Personal interests - none

Prejudicial interests (and to inform the Chairman if they wish to speak on the matter during public participation) - none

24/040 **Dispensations**

To note any new Dispensations granted: Nil

24/041 **Public Participation**

There were no members of the public present

The meeting continued.

24/042 **Recreation Ground and Cemetery Matters**

Update Phase 1 play project. Clerk reported she had contacted Cambridge News, Ely Standard and Fenscene regarding new facilities and the 'Opening' event. Cambridgeshire Community Fund advised that two panel members would attend, one from Thalia and one from the Diocese. The District and County Councillors had also been invited. Signmakers had been contacted again and drafts and confirmation of costs were awaited. A sign for opening and rules to be fixed on fencing but the two signs to go by fitness equipment would need to be on a post - to be installed by provider and location to be confirmed once the equipment is in.

Clerk

7.45pm K Mackender joined the meeting.

Wording for 4th sign reviewed.

Resolved that the wording for the 4th sign be agreed as drafted and discussed in meeting, and to be forwarded to signmakers. Proposed J Lucas, seconded S Wilkin.

Clerk

Chairman had arranged for photographer in the village to take photos. Chairman to prepare Risk Assessment for the Opening event and Parish Council part of the day's event.

Chairman

With regard the Events Committee enquiry about decorating the play area for the Easter Egg hunt they were organising, it was **Resolved** that the Council had no objection to this proposal. Proposed J Lucas, seconded K Mackender.

Clerk

Clerk to contact L Holdaway to confirm details for equipment for the opening ceremony and introductions etc. Also to contact Events Committee Chair to offer Council's help with refreshments and let them know the Councillors had

Clerk

Clerk

24/042 **Recreation Ground and Cemetery Matters (cont)**

offered to donate baking and prizes. Councillors also offered to donate items for raffle.

All

The quote from Pettitt Sport for the football goals was reviewed and it was noted that even though the goals to be purchased had the hinged bottom net supports as an upgrade by the manufacturer, the tubular steel continental net supports (D-shape at top of goals) would also still be required at £105, bringing the total to £1393.95 plus VAT as per the quote received last year. Expected delivery 5 weeks.

Clerk

Resolved to approve the raising of the purchase order for set of goals as per quote 17 July 2023 and including the upgrade of hinged bottom net support at total of £1393.95. Proposed K Mackender, seconded S Wilkin.

Clerk

Noted that arrangements to be made for payment of CTP to release Grantscape grant, £1563, for next meeting ready for release in April.

Clerk

Enquiry regarding interment of ashes in family grave was discussed.

Resolved that Clerk to advise all enquirers that plots for interment of cask of ashes must be undertaken by reputable Funeral Director, ie. in accordance with existing procedures. Proposed K Mackender, seconded J Lucas.

24/043 **Neighbourhood Plan**

Clerk reported that there had been a request for AECOM to use OS maps for the Design Code. This followed a request from the Witcham Neighbourhood Plan Working Group for better maps in the Design Code. Noted the Council had already taken out a subscription with Parish On-Line specifically for the Neighbourhood Plan and had opted to upgrade to OS maps with PSGA Licence. AECOM had now made the necessary arrangements with emapsite to carry out this work on behalf of the Parish Council and the Working Group. The Design Code V5 had now been circulated to Parish Councillors and other members of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group and AECOM were on the next stages of submitting the Design Code to Locality this week. The timetable for work and events to 31 March 2024 had been circulated by the Lead of the Group.

24/043 **Training for Councillors**

CAPALC New Councillor training course to be held at Manea on Saturday 16 March 2024

Resolved to approve arrangements for G Byrne to attend the course on 16 March 2024. Proposed J Lucas, seconded S Wilkin. (Cost £75)

24/044 **Village Hall Deed Right of Way and Parking**

Village Hall solicitor had suggested an extra clause.

Resolved to agree wording as suggested by the solicitor subject to Deed being recorded in the singular rather than pleural. Proposed J Lucas, seconded K Mackender.

Clerk to proceed with obtaining quotes as discussed at previous meeting.

Signed..... Dated