

WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL



CLERK:

Mrs S J Bell
17 Astley Close, Sutton
ELY, Cambs CB6 2PG
Tel: 01353 778147

To All Members of the Council

MEMBERS: 6 QUORUM: 3

**Members are summoned to attend a Meeting of the
Parish Council to be held on Wednesday 13 March 2024
at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Witcham,
for the purpose of transacting the following business:**

A G E N D A

- 24/046 To receive and accept any apologies for absence.
- 24/047 To receive declarations of interest from Councillors in respect of any items on this agenda in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct
- i) Pecuniary interests
 - ii) Personal interests
 - iii) Prejudicial interests (and to inform the Chairman if they wish to speak on the matter during public participation).
- 24/048 Dispensations:
To note any new Dispensations granted: Nil
- 24/049 To receive and note recent monthly reports from County and District Councillors (Circulated 4.3.24)
- 24/050 Public Participation
To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public, and Councillors declaring the existence and nature of a prejudicial interest, to address the meeting in relation to the business to be transacted at this meeting.
At the close of this item, members of the public will no longer be permitted to address the Council unless invited to do so by the Chairman. (3 minutes each to combined maximum of 15 minutes total for this agenda item (Standing Orders 3f) and 3g))
- Chairman to close meeting to public
- 24/051 To approve and sign the minutes and confirm agendas
14 February 2024
6 March 2024

- 24/052 Matters arising from previous minutes **(for information only)**
- 24/053 Finance
To approve receipts and payments for March 2024
- 24/054 Neighbourhood Plan
To receive and consider minutes and recommendations from Witcham Neighbourhood Plan Working Group for February and March meetings, together with report from Council representatives. (circulated) Clerk to confirm forms for end of grant for current works to be submitted by 31.3.24.
- 24/055 2024 Best Kept Garden Competition
To discuss options for continuation of Best Kept Garden Competition
- 24/056 Recreation Ground and Cemetery Matters
- a) To receive monthly report on weekly inspections of play equipment and recreation ground.
 - b) To receive and approve any applications for use of recreation ground (to follow)
 - c) To receive update on tree works and accept contractor's contract documentation (circulated)
 - d) To receive report and recommendations from members of Play Working Party regarding Phase 1, Opening, and Phase 2 swings refurbishment and outdoor fitness.
 - e) To receive any update Cemetery flooding and site meeting with CCC representatives on 26 February 2024
- 24/057 Planning Applications
<https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/planning/current-planning-applications>
- 24/00143/FUL Witcham House, Headleys Lane To add two stables and store area to existing stable block
- 24/00129/FUL 24/00129/FUL8 The Slade Construction of timber workshop
Amendment: Change of materials on side elevation from render to hardie plank.
- To note the following ECDC Decisions:
23/01277/VAR The Old School, High Street To Vary Condition 4 (restriction on use of annex) to allow use holiday accommodation of previously approved
91/00531/FUL for alterations to existing buildings (including part demolition) to form detached dwelling and ancillary accommodation plus erection of garage - Approved
- 24/00072/TRE Recreation Ground, Maintenance Tree Works:
T1 Prunus - Crown lift to 2 meters; T2 Ash- Reduce Northern lower crown spread by 2.5 meters, reduce Southern lower crown spread by 2 meters, clear BT lines by 0.5 meters; T3 Rowan - Formatively prune and crown lift to 2 meters; T4 Hornbeam - Crown lift to 3.5 meters over grass; T5 Norway Maple - Crown lift over recreation ground to 3 meters, reduce back from roadway by 1.5 meters; T9 Cherry - Crown lift to 4 meters and remove dead wood; T10 Maple - Crown lift to 3.5 meters; T11 Maple - Remove lowest lateral limb over recreation ground, remove dead wood; T12 Cherry - Crown lift to 4 meters and remove dead wood; T14 Prunus - Crown lift to 3.5 meters; T15 Rowan- Formatively prune; T16 Maple - Crown lift to 5.5 meters over road way and 4 meters over grass – Approved
- 24/058 Highways and Streetlighting
- a) To note any items reported to Highways Authority
<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>

- b) CCC Review of Highways Operational Standards in Relation to Weed Management – reinstatement of weed control measures wef May 2024 (circulated)
- c) Clerk to give update on Public Rights of Way Management Plan – Bury Road
- d) To receive and discuss January/February speed data and discuss starting the Speedwatch sessions
- e) To note village volunteers have contacted ECDC for equipment and will undertake litterpick on 18 March 2024
- f) To approve young volunteer undertaking regular litterpicks around the village as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. (Details to follow)

24/059 Correspondence

To receive and note the following items of information/interest and invites (circulated):

East Cambs Community Safety Partnership newsletter – initiatives etc – Neighbourhood Watch and ATM Watch, Stop Hate, Shop Watch, Safer Communities Funding, East Cambs Neighbourhood Policing, and Community Safety Team updates.
NALC Bulletins and Events Reconnecting communities through community transport; emerging trends local government finance; Unleashing the power of local councils to tackle the climate emergency; Decoding the future of artificial intelligence in local governance; the future of Neighbourhood Plan
CAPALC Training courses for Councillors
Keystone Marketing – Volunteers Toolkit

24/060 Exclusion of Press and Public

To consider whether under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the special and confidential nature of the business about to be transacted at Agenda Items 24/060a) to 24/060c) listed below, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded from this meeting and they are herewith instructed to withdraw.

- a) Review Pre-application from ECDC
- b) To receive update on progress with RSPB Lease
- c) To receive update Deed Public Right of Way and Parking

24/060 Date of next meetings:

13 March 2024

10 April 2024

Annual Parish Meeting - New Date - 15 May 2024

SJBell

S J Bell
CLERK/RFO
7 March 2024

Applications for Dispensations must be submitted to the Clerk on the application form at least 4 days prior to the meeting.

NOTES:

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting and there is provision for public participation. Details may be obtained from the Clerk or Chairman prior to commencement of the meeting.

If the Council wishes to exclude the public and press from the meeting a resolution in the following terms will be passed:

“It is hereby resolved in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the (*special*) (*confidential*) nature of the business about to be transacted at Agenda Item (*No*) namely (*state subject listed*) it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded from this meeting and they are herewith instructed to withdraw. (*Mr/Mrs/Cllr*) to be invited to remain.” (as applicable)

Code of Conduct para 12(2) ‘If a Councillor with a prejudicial interest wishes to speak on an agenda item then that interest and intention must be stated immediately after the first item of the Agenda. The public will be allowed a maximum of six speakers who may provide information for up to three minutes only and each person may only speak once. The Chairman will look to secure a balance of public speakers. The public participation is not to be a part of the debate but merely fact giving and answering questions in the same manner as the councillor with the prejudicial interest”.