

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
OF
WICKEN PARISH**

On Wednesday 19 May 2021

at 7.00 pm in Wicken Church

Cllr Gordon-Lee opened the meeting at 7.00pm.

1 Attendance and apologies

To receive and accept any apologies.

Cllr Neil Gordon-Lee – Chair

Cllr Philip Ivens

Cllr Alan Cartwright

Cllr Ian Howett

Cllr Viv Kime

Valda Clapham - Clerk

Three members of the public

Apologies had been received from two members of the public

2 COVID regulations

The Chair advised that Cllrs could remove masks in order to facilitate discussion but requested that members of the public remain masked unless speaking. He confirmed that it was not possible to require attendees to have been vaccinated.

3 Reports issued in advance of meeting

The following reports had been posted online prior to the meeting:

- Parish Council Chair
- County Councillor
- Wicken Village Community
- Wicken Sports Club
- Village Hall Trustees
- Northamptonshire Police

In view of Covid it was not appropriate to go through the reports in detail but Cllr Gordon-Lee offered to clarify particular points if necessary. The reports remain available on the website.

4 Open forum

There was a concern that Japanese Knotweed had reappeared by the bridge in Leckhampstead Road. Cllr Cartwright offered to follow up with the specialist contractor used previously.

Cllr Cartwright

Cllr Howett proposed raising two issues with the newly elected West Northamptonshire councillors covering Wicken on behalf of the parish:

- possible extension of the Milton Keynes/Buckinghamshire boundary to the north of Stony Stratford with potential development on the east side of the A5 as far as Potterspury; and
- concern at the number of roadwork signs that remained in situ long after the associated work was completed.

The Parish Council agreed to take these issues forward.

Parish Council

Pam Lodge asked if anything could be done about increased litter on the sports field and whether a litter bin could be installed in Leckhampstead Road.

Fenlon Dunphy agreed that litter on the sports field was an issue, with young people congregating there during the Covid period. The Sports Club already paid for the litter bin to be emptied but the problem remained. The Sports Club was looking at other potential solutions, such as some sort of barrier or possibly installing a dummy camera.

The cost of litter collection unfortunately precluded any additional bins.

Cllr Kime observed there had been an increase of dog fouling on the sports field with more people walking dogs there during the Covid period, and suggested the Sports Club consider increasing the signage.

Cllr Gordon-Lee closed the meeting at 7.30pm.