

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

On Wednesday 6th March 2019

at Wicken Sports Club, Wicken at 7.00 pm

14/19 Attendance and apologies; To receive and accept any apologies.

Cllr. Philip Ivens – Chairman
Cllr. Celina Francklin,
Cllr. Richard Forman,
Cllr. Alan Cartwright,
Cllr Andrew Edmondson
Cllr Marcus Rixon
Cllr Ian Howett – Apologies Recieved
District Cllr. Dennis Loveland – Apologies received
County & District Cllr. Allen Walker - Apologies received
Sally Willis - Clerk
4 members of the public

15/19 Members Interests; Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Wicken Parish Council Code of Conduct to Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

None to declare

16/19 Public Forum

No member of the public had anything to say. 2 Members of public were here to help give update in 20/19 and it was agreed they could speak then.

17/19 Approval of Minutes; To agree the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held at Wicken Sports Club on Wednesday 9th January 2019. **Resolved.**

18/19 To consider and approve marketing of village hall for lease end

Accounts for current tenant were circulated. Tenant and trustees agree on what has been paid and what is still owed.

Agent has been contacted to look to market the property. He thinks he may have someone in mind who would be interested. It was noted that the inside of the village hall is starting to look very clean and tidy and is being put back to how it was at the start of the lease.

19/19 To consider proposal on alternative Northants Re-organisation

The council had been approached to ask if they would back a plan to make a unitary authority of Daventry and South Northants, with Borough. The council are happy to back this proposal but it is thought that it is highly unlikely to be approved.

20/19 To receive and update on Wicken Wood

Cllr Forman and 2 members of the public met with the owner. There has been a suggestion to start a "Friends of Wicken Wood" who would have access similar to what was given previously with certain restrictions to allow shooting. This group would be the eyes and ears of the owner and report anything that may need doing, in turn they would agree to a code of conduct that would be based on the country code.

This information to be passed to Deanshanger for residents there too.

21/19 To consider street lighting proposals and approve next actions

Cllrs Ivens and Cartwright to meet with EON on Thursday to discuss what is possible and practical. Quotes can be tendered after this discussion.

It was suggested that the older part of the village may want to have more heritage style lamps than other parts of the village like in Deanshanger.

22/19 To Consider and approve village maintenance plan

Cllr Ivens to try to co-ordinate with NCC and SNC as to when their cuts take place.

Spraying of pavements and around Cross tree will be the first job and the defined spec will be followed thereafter.

Member of the public asked if the edge of The Green will be tidied up as it has been damaged by people driving over it. The possibility of posts to prevent this was briefly discussed but it was thought that there needs to be the width possible in case an emergency vehicle needs to pass.

23/19 To consider works required on the Highways

It was thought the white lines and roundels in the road throughout the village needed repainting. Also the road edge on Deanshanger Road near the new house looks like it is subsiding. Clerk to Contact Highways to see if this work is possible.

Sign at Church lane needs replacing. SNC have been contacted and this will be repaired.

24/19 To receive update on Church Heating

The new storage heaters have been installed and will be working in a few days. The unexpected asbestos pushed the budget up.

25/19 To receive details of Deanshanger Road Closure

Deanshanger Road will be closed between 15-18 April to allow for repairs to the bridge between Dagnall Cottage and Silver Spinney Farm. Clerk will add details to website later in the month.

26/19 Finance

a) To receive and approve accounts

EON	795	Eon	72.34
J Robson	797	Taxi service	48.00
CT Walters Electrical	798	Church Heating	8000.00
DNH Contracts	799	Bin Emptying	64.80
DNH Contracts	800	Bin Emptying	43.20
S Willis	801	Clerk February	161.82
S Willis	802	Clerk March	162.02
HMRC	803	Tax / NI Q4	14.00

b) To receive and approve budget to end February

Approved

27/19 To receive clerks resignation and approve recruitment process

Clerk advised that she was moving out of the area. Councillors thanked her for her work. Clerk advised that she would be willing to complete year end accounts and prepare the council for audit, outside of notice period, if paid by the hour. This was agreed.

Clerk to Contact Deanshanger clerk to see if she would be interested in the position, otherwise to contact N CALC for advise on advertising.

28/19 To receive updates on outstanding items and to consider items for the next meeting

It was asked if the battery storage application had been approved. Clerk to check for determination.

It was noted that there has been a lot of clearance at Whittlebury Wood. No-one was aware of what this may be. Clerk to contact Whittlebury clerk to ask for information

There was a discussion about the light pollution from Akeley wood school. Cllr Ivens to contact the head

Cllr Cartwright suggested that there be a nominated person per street to watch out for litter. It was thought this could be discussed further at the litter pick. Clerk to check if there has been any legislation change as expected.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8pm

Chairman's Signature

Date

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