

Minutes of the meeting of Wimblington Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th November 2021 at Wimblington Parish Hall, Addison Rd. Wimblington PE15 0QT, at 7.00 pm.

Present M T Davis (Chairman), Mrs P Amos (Clerk), Cllr. Hennen; Cllr. Dent; Cllr. J Clarke; Cllr. Harding; Cllr Wright; Cllr Rose
Mrs S Morrison; Mrs Bird; Mrs Moulton; Mrs Hart; Cllr Gowing.

Number	Title		Action
194/21	Apologies for Absence	Cllr P Clark; Cllr Bowell	
195/21	Absentees		
196/21	Chairs Additional items	The British Horse Society Fenland Access group contacted the chairman on Monday 8th November asking whether Parish Council could help with the use of the hall for a BHS presentation regarding road safety – BHS Dead Slow campaign. Cllr Wright said that in a different area, the talk has been very well supported. After discussion resolved to offer the hall free of charge, saying that the Parish Council are happy to support them. Information received on Monday 8th November from SWARCO, via Cambs CC, regarding the MVAS which will not work properly, despite not having been used until very recently, says that, (with intervention from Cambs CC, who originally purchased the unit) a part has failed due to the unit not being kept charged. SWARCO have offered to replace the failed part – labour free of charge, but at a cost of £418.63. Cllr Hennen believes that we should fight SWARCO as the law says that anything bought should be useable for 5 years. After discussion resolved to ask CCC to fight this. Decision not to have the unit repaired. Cllr Davis asked whether we should buy a unit directly. Cllrs agreed to buy a new one up to cost of £1700.00 which shows the speed. Clerk and chair to arrange.	PA PA PA
197/21	Declarations of interest	i)declaration: ii)written dispensation requests: There were none. iii)dispensation grants: There are none.	
198/21	Public Participation	Mrs Hart thanked the Parish Council for the adult gym eqpt – ‘it is brilliant and well used already’ Mrs Morrison asked if there was any progress on the state of Dolby Walk – clerk explained UKPN will cut it back – see clerks report below	
199/21	Confirmation of minutes	RESOLVED – that the minutes of meeting held on 12 th October 2021 were correctly recorded and that they be signed as being a true record. Proposed: Cllr. Rose; Seconded: Cllr Dent; All in favour.	
200/21	Fenland District Council	Cllr Davis reported that there are meetings scheduled for 12 th and 18 th Nov regarding new electoral boundaries. The suggestion is that Doddington, Wimblington, Benwick and Christchurch may be put together as one ward with 3 Councillors. Yet to be confirmed. Cllr. Davis will report back when a decision has been made.	MD
201/21	Cambridgeshire County Council	Cllr Gowing reported that strategy and resources meeting decided to use fossil fuel. At full council there is to be a new funding scheme for low income families. Report from Cambs. CC will have a fund for repairs to dyke’s/ditches due to recent flooding, to which you have to apply to for funds. Cllr Gowing asked for comments about Stonea level crossing – Network rail asked for comments as they wish to improve the line to Ely and are considering upgrading the gates from manual to automatic and close the underpass to cars. Cllr. Harding said that the wait at automated gates can be very long and at this road, once vehicles have got over the level crossing the road becomes a race track of vehicles overtaking, which is dangerous on this straight road next to the 16 foot drain. Consensus was that automated barrier would be helpful and to close the underpass completely to traffic. This would include changing the road layout.	
202/21	Clerks report	Clerk received from Peter & Christine James a letter of thanks for use of the Parish Hall and the McMillan’s receipt for £1311.00, money raised at the recent coffee morning. Clerk contacted FDC, who are going to replace the failing waste bin at the entrance to the War Memorial playing field. – This has now been done and there are 2 new waste bins at the WMPF entrance. Information received through Neighbourhood alert: you can report a suspicious text message (SMS) by forwarding it to 7726 (free of charge), and to report suspicious e-mails forward to: report@phishing.gov.uk A new mirror has been installed in the ladies and gent’s toilets with one ready to fit in the disabled toilet.	

		After a number of e-mails and telephone calls and one meeting with CCC highways, CCC supplied land registry maps of boundaries for the sub station on King St next to Dolby walk, confirming that UK Power network are responsible for the maintenance of the hedge around the fence of the substation. The overgrowth is impeding resident using the footpath. UKPN have, with intervention and help from CCC, agreed to come and cut back their hedge.	
203/21	Fun Day/Christmas Lights	a) Fun Day: Events proposed: Cllr Rose reported that at the latest meeting, the group had decided to arrange a race night in February to fund raise. Further meeting in New Year with details. b) Christmas Lights: Events proposed: It's been a busy month with the bacon buttie morning and Halloween party fund raisers. The group will finish putting lights up this week-end with switch on at the end of the month. Safety plan has gone to FDC and our insurers. Road closure is arrange from 11.00-21.00 Number of stalls has been reduced for safety. Santa will be at the hall in his sleigh, children can have photo alongside, but not on the sleigh. There will be a full range of entertainment and BBQ. c) Queens Platinum Jubilee: 2 meetings have already taken place. Cllr Davis has already received offers of: Knowles transport - £3380.40 (Inc. VAT) to pay for the marquee; Skylark Garden Centre - £600.00 towards hog roast: Turners - £400.00 for pensioners tea party; Next year there will be a beacon lighting on the Friday night of the bank holiday week-end. Main celebration on the Saturday afternoon: children's party, then pensioner tea party then evening entertainment for all with music in the evening – Party in the Park with hog roast 3 live acts. The catered parts will be ticketed – 200 children 150 seniors then 250 in the evening for catering. Marquee is already booked, overall cost will be around £13,000.00 a lot will be sponsored. Cllr Davis will try to get sponsorship for all of the beacon lighting event. Cllrs were asked to approve the spend of £5000.00 towards the event. After discussion resolved to approve. Proposed: Cllr Davis Seconded; Cllr Hennen. All in favour.	
204/21	Other Matters	a) Good neighbour scheme: Cllrs Harding said there is nothing yet to report. b) Queens green canopy: Clerk had found quote for official Queens green canopy sign forwarded to Cllrs on 22.10.2021 – cost for 148mmx105mm sign is £150.00. We can have a virtual plaque or use a local supplier, but as any plaque has to go onto a wooden stand near the tree it is probably not viable as it would impede grass cutting. Virtual plaque has been received and forwarded to Cllrs on 25.10.2021. Our local MP Steven Barclay, has kindly offered to come along to the War Memorial playing field to 'plant' our tree and to have photo's taken alongside our new gym equipment. Date to be confirmed. Cllr Dent had attended a webinar about tree planting and CCC will create their own map of canopy trees as well as the official one. c) 2022/23 LHI bid: Further to the latest bid having been submitted to Cambs C.C. it had been noted that an error has been made on the form in that, the amount agreed by Councillors at the September meeting of £2000.00 as our contribution, was mistakenly put on the form as £3500.00. This has now been amended on the application form and accepted with the correct amount. d) Staff salaries: In view of upcoming Budget meeting chair asked that staff salaries be discussed. This to be left to the end of the meeting. Clerk and public were asked to leave the room. Decision is, from April 2022, to increase clerks hours by 2 hours to 17 hours per week. Increase handyman hours by 2 hours per week. Clerk to increase by 6.621% handyman to increase by 6.621% which is the same as both the booking clerk and caretaker. e) Register of interest – addresses: From the SLCC daily digest other Councils are considering not including or redacting Councillors postal addresses, in light of the recent murder of an MP in Essex. Chairman asked members whether they would prefer not to have their address published. After discussion resolved to ask FDC if they would agree to redact addresses from register of interest forms and to remove addresses from our web site. Proposed: Cllr Wright Seconded: Cllr J Clarke	PA

205/21	Payments	a) The members to consider the following: accounts for payment:				
		Payments		NET	VAT	£
		Salaries Oct	*Including pension, tax & NI			1876.58
	077/21a	Cable Test Ltd	Replace street light A141	1874.59	374.92	2249.51
		Ridgeons	Xmas lights cement/paint	86.34	17.27	103.61
		Swift Fire	6 month Fire alarm service	145.00	29.00	174.00
		Cable Test	Emergency knock down	127.46	25.49	152.95
		Booking clerk	Telephone exp to 7.10.21			8.08
		All undercover	Jubilee marquee deposit	1455.23	291.04	1746.27

170/21b		D Biggs electrical	Hall/shed upgrade of electrics	2450.00	490.00	2940.00
		Bookers	80's night supplies	270.43	52.37	322.80
		Edf energy	Pavilion electricity Oct	10.51	0.53	11.04
		Joker ent'ment	Xmas lights switch on ent.	700.00	140.00	840.00
		Generis Security	CCTV attention at shed	90.00	18.00	108.00
		Deptford defibs	Battery & pad replcmnt Stonea	99.00	19.80	118.80
		March Electrical	New Xmas lights ropes	163.38	32.68	196.06
		March quality meat	Xmas lights			350.00
		Avantigas	Hall gas October	88.97	4.45	93.42
		Southern electric	Street light electricity October	176.53	9.27	185.80
		CGM	Grass cuts	184.64	36.93	221.57
		Lee Enstone	Switch on musician			150.00
		H W Martin	Xmas road closure man'ment	1275.00	255.00	1530.00
		CGM	Cemetery hedge topiary grass	574.63	114.93	689.56
		D&M Pest control	Wasps next rem. At hall			135.00
		Invoices paid by Barclaycard				
		Zoom	Video confr	11.99	2.40	14.39
		Giff gaff	Pavilion data	10.00	2.00	12.00
		Must be bonkers	Jubilee lunch boxes	59.18	11.83	71.01
		Taymor plumbing	Mirror for hall toilets	68.33	13.67	82.00
		Screwfix	Gutter and drainpipe for shed	73.10	14.58	87.68
		FDC	TEN licence for lights switch on			21.00
		Ansio Ltd	Xmas string lights	19.94	4.00	23.94
		Gocableties	Xmas lights cable ties	8.73	1.74	10.47
		Amazon	Xmas light ties & pliers	25.20	5.05	30.25
		Albright Ltd	Heavy duty cable ties xmas light			7.28
		Amazon	Xmas lights various supplies			100.00#
		*See appendix a for salary breakdown				
		# xmas lights estimated spend for paper cups, stirrers etc				
		= Previously approved by Chairman or at previous meeting				
		All payments to be made - Proposed: Cllr. Dent ; Seconded: Cllr. Harding, all in favour.				
		b) Budget meeting for 2022/23 Cllr Davis to e-mail other Finance committee members with dates				
206/21	Risk Management and Health & Safety	a) To review policies/procedures: Home working & IT policies, both draft policies were forwarded to Cllrs on 18.10.2021. After discussion resolved to have 1 senior admin for web site – Cllr Hennen, then approve as read. Proposed: Cllr Dent Seconded: Cllr J Clarke				

207/21	Planning	Planning: a) the clerk reported that the following planning applications had been received for comment: F/YR21/1198/VOC - Removal of condition 5 (equestrian occupancy) of planning permission F/YR01/1120/F (Erection of a 3-bed detached bungalow with attached double garage together with erection of stable block) at Block Fen Stables, Block Fen Drove – after long discussion – object, condition should still be applied. <i>Cllr Davis did not take part in discussions regarding the above planning applications as she is a member of FDC planning committee.</i> b) Neighbourhood plan: Cllr Bowell did not attend c) Possible sub-committee for planning: Cllr Davis asked whether members would like to re-instate a planning sub-committee to recommend proposals to Full Council re planning applications. After discussion resolved to keep as it is, not to have sub-committee. But asked that all Councillors come to meeting fully informed of each application as to make considered decision. Cllr Rose felt that she does not have enough knowledge of planning to	PA
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		make informed decisions. After further discussion resolved to ask all Councillors go on a planning training course. Clerk to find training options and report.	PA
208/21	Highway matters/Street lighting/Transport	a) Street lights reported: b) Footpaths and highways issues: Cllr Harding asked why there are no longer gullies alongside Fen roads? – Cllr Gowing said that he will look into this. Cllr Rose asked if the new road surface will blend into the road edge drains, as currently there is a big drop between levels. It is understood that road workers will come back after a period of time to address. Cllr Hennen asked for road surfacing on Eastwood End, the Hook and Blue Lane – Cllr Gowing will look into this. c) Verges: Clerk asked whether she could arrange a further grass cut of the verges. Grass cutting has now stopped but some verges could do with another cut. Cost would be £250.00 net. After discussion resolved to Proposed: Cllr. Davis Seconded: Cllr. Rose	JG PA
209/21	War Memorial playing field	a) WMPF – Cllr Dent reported that gym eqpt is being well used. b) fencing: Quotes were forwarded to Cllrs as follows: Quote 1: 65 meters stock fence £853.00; Quote 2: 57 meters of stock fence £1305.00 After discussion resolved to employ quote 1. Prop Cllr Harding Seconded Cllr Dent c) Special needs equipment: quotes were forwarded to Cllrs on 26.10.2021; 1 on 27.10.2021. After discussion decision is to buy get basket swing on metal frame. Defer get costs of extending fence to play area get quote for poured rubber flooring rather than grass mats. MTD apply for funding. Get further quote from Caloo.	PA PA MD
210/21	Parkfield	Written report: none received. Cllr Davis said that Parkfield said that lunches are going well and they are pleased to be opened up to more customers due to lunch menus. They may shortly present plans to extend changing area and add another storage building.	
211/21	New Cemetery/Churchyard	a) Cemetery gazebo/trees: clerk forwarded a comparison document with 3 quotes for differing gazebos - Quote 1 -£4631.46, 3 meter softwood; Quote 2 - £8210.00 3.2 meter softwood; Quote 3 - £14,500.00 4.8 meter hardwood; Quote 4 - £12,300.00 3.8 meter hardwood. All quotes include fitting, 3&4 include delivery, and suggestions for trees/shrubs on 5.10.2021. After discussion resolved to purchase quote 1. Proposed: Cllr. Hennen Seconded: Cllr. Dent. If under £5000.00 go ahead with quote 1 look at decking instead of concrete pad.	PA
212/21	Parish Hall	a) Water butt: Suggestions had been received that we install a water butt to the new guttering on the shed, to save water for our gardener to use to water planters and new shrubs in the hedge and also for Street Pride to use for their planters. Clerk has costed 210 litre butt at £32.99 including stand, tap and filler from B&M, or for a 250 litre £49.97 including stand tap and filler from Toolstation. We will also need a watering can at cost of around £5. After discussion resolved to purchase 2 smaller ones at £32.99 each and 2 watering cans. Proposed: Cllr Davis Seconded: Cllr Wright Clerk received report that car park flood light is not working properly – electrician to quote to replace.	PA
213/21	Correspondence	Cllr Dent was approached by resident who has grown an oak tree from an acorn and would like to donate to Parish Council. After discussion decision to plant in the WMPF.	
214/21	Date of next meeting	Next meeting: Tuesday 14 th December 2021 at 19.00 Meeting closed at: 21.15	

Appendix a*

Payments	November2021	NET	VAT	£
Hall steward	Hall steward duties			106.85
Cleaner	Hall cleaning			181.20
Clerk	Clerk duties incl. home wkg all.			796.13
Handyman	Handyman duties			288.00
Inland revenue	Staff tax & NI			237.64
LGSS	Clerks pension			266.76
Total				1876.58