

Minutes of the meeting of Wimblington Parish Council held on Tuesday 12th March 2024 at Wimblington Parish Hall, Addison Rd. Wimblington PE15 0QT, at 7.00 pm.

Present M T Davis (Chairman), Mrs P Amos (Clerk), Cllr. Campbell; Cllr. Abbott; Cllr. Dent; Cllr. Harding; Cllr. Johnson;
Cllr. 7 members of the public.

Number	Title & Agenda No		Action
041/24	Apologies for Absence - 1	Cllr Hennen; Cllr Best; Cllr Clark;	
042/24	Absentees	None	
043/24	Chairs Additional items - 1a	None	
044/24	Declarations of interest - 2	i)declaration: Cllr Dent re F/YR24/0148/F; Cllr Harding re footpath 8 ii)written dispensation requests: There were none. iii)dispensation grants: There are none.	
045/24	Public Participation - 3	None	
046/24	Confirmation of minutes - 4	RESOLVED – that the minutes of meeting held on 13 th February 2024 were correctly recorded and that they be signed as being a true record. Proposed: Cllr. Johnson ; Seconded: Cllr. Abbott; All in favour.	
047/24	Fenland District Council - 5	Cllr Davis reported that there is nothing relevant to report regarding Wimblington. One motion passed was about the lack of public transport in Fenland. Cambridge has 40 new electric buses, but services have been cut in Fenland. FDC have been congratulated regarding a motion about blue tongue which affects cattle.	
048/24	Cambridgeshire County Council - 6	Cllr Gowing did not attend	
049/24	Clerks report - 7	Anglian Water have advised they will be carrying out industry approved badger territory mapping at the proposed reservoir site . This will be ongoing until mid-April. The survey requires the use of small colourful plastic pellets which will help with tracking badger movements. They ask that these pellets are untouched and remain in situ. They will also be carrying out landscape site walkovers using public footpaths between 19 and 21 March 2024. They also advise that the 16 foot water main is completed and the road opened again on the 1 st March. Email them to say they're' putting the pellets round rabbit holes not badger sets and signpost	
050/24	Other Matters - 8	a) Parish Nature recovery plan: To be addressed when volunteers come forward. Cllr Johnson said that we should start this coming into Spring Leaflet residents. There were some responses through NHP saying they are interested. Cllr Johnson volunteered. b) Biodiversity policy: Further to minute number 30/24b a draft Biodiversity policy was forwarded to Cllrs on 19.2.2024. After discussion resolved to adopt the policy as read/remove point b. Proposed: Cllr. Dent; Seconded: Cllr. Abbott; c) Annual Assembly/volunteer evening: Clerk advised that we will hold the Annual Assembly following a short Full Council meeting on April 9 th . Would Councillors like to follow the Annual Assembly with a volunteer evening as we did last year? After discussion resolved to organise a second volunteer evening to follow the Annual Assembly as it was very successful and fully attended last year. Proposed: Cllr. Dent; Seconded: Cllr. Harding. d) Re-cycling credits: A further £98.33 has been received, clerk asked whether, as previous credits, this amount should be donated to the Thomas Eaton PTA? After discussion resolved to donate to Thomas Eaton PTA, Proposed: Cllr. Davis; Seconded: Cllr. Johnson.	

051/24	Payments - 9	a) The members to consider the following: accounts for payment:				
		Payments		NET	VAT	£
		Salaries	*Including tax & NI			2260.04
		038/47d	St'ly tables & chairs	Sample table	265.95	53.19
			Grahams bin clean	Hall bin cleans Dec & Feb		25.00
			Giff gaff	Pavilion data	8.34	1.66
						10.00

		Southern electric	Street light electricity Dec	317.68	17.70	335.38
		Fenland Fire appl	Hall safety signs	35.00	7.00	42.00
	018/24b	Southern electric	Street light electricity Jan	317.68	17.70	335.38
		Idverde	1 twelfth grass cutting	584.47	116.89	701.36
		Andrew Deptford	2x defib batteries with pads	288.00	57.60	345.60
		Coolflow	Air con repair part 1	722.13	144.43	866.56
	018/24a	Sally Chapman	Neighbourhood plan consult 2			4200.00
		FDC	Uncontested election costs May 2023			391.08
		Wave	Pavilion water Dec – March			16.39
		SSE	Hall gas Nov – Feb	1526.07	287.37	1813.44
		Wave	Hall water Dec-March			101.14
		Invoices paid by Barclaycard				
		Discount cleaning	Smaller hall sweeper	29.11	5.83	34.94
*See appendix a for salary breakdown  = Previously approved by Chairman or at previous meeting All payments to be made - Proposed: Cllr. Abbott; Seconded: Cllr. Dent; all in favour.						
052/24	Risk Management/ Policies & Procedures - 10	a) To review policies/procedures: , Equality & Diversity; forwarded to Cllrs. on 19.2.2024. After discussion resolved to approve as read, with 2 minor wording corrections. Proposed: Cllr. Campbell; Seconded: Cllr. Johnson.				

053/24	Planning - 11	Planning: the clerk reported that the following planning applications had been received for comment: a) F/YR24/0076/VOC; Variation of Condition 02 (list of approved plans) relating to planning approval F/YR22/1242/F (Erect a dwelling (2-storey, 5-bed) and entrance gates (2.3m max) including formation of a new access) to enable reduction in dwelling size and relocation of garage block at Land West Of 29 March Road – no objections F/YR24/0130/PIP - Permission in principle to erect up to 2 x dwellings at Land East Of 64-66 March Road – Object - LP3 Whilst we are a growth village we have grown more than most and this takes us far and above the number speculated. Countryside must be protected, this does not retain the settlement area and almost coalesces with March. We do not have sewage capacity. Anglian Water always say that they can cope when we know that they can't. Daily tankers pump away LP5 & 7. F/YR24/0148/F – Erect 1 x dwelling (2-storey, 4-bed) and installation of front access gates (2.3m high max) and erect a detached single-storey summerhouse/shed including footpath link and formation of a new access (part-retrospective) at Land South Of 6 Eastwood End – no objections in principal, but point out that the boundary has a public footpath adjacent which is not to be compromised Cllr Campbell explained that he has also employed Morton & Hall who are architects for this above application. Cllr Davis has tried today to speak to planning officers about 2 sites which have had their hedges ripped out. We have had confirmation from P Humphreys that the hedge at Knowles was removed in error, we have said that the hedge must be replaced with mature hedging not saplings. Cllr Davis proposes to write formally to Knowles as above. The Harres fencing does not have the gates in the correct place – to be cleared up RE Eastwood End hedge the officer is on leave until Tuesday. Cllr Johnson will ring the planning officer on Tuesday to object and advise that they have also moved the fencing nearer to the road taking some of the verge b) Neighbourhood plan: Cllr Johnson: The consultant now has our returned draft of the NHP. More work has been done on the non-listed heritage assets. Assets of community value is being worked on we need 27 signatures for the grass area at the end of Morely Way. Public
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		ROW there are still issues. Nearly the end of the grant year and we will need to repay any money not yet spent.	
054/24	Highway matters/Street lighting/ Transport – 12	a) Street lights reported: None. MVAS on Doddington Rd. – move so both numbers can be seen b) Footpaths and highways issues: ROW number 5 through Stoneleigh. Application has been made to remove part of the public footpath. c) Proposed move of Right of Way footpath number 8: further to an email from Peter Humphreys Architect office regarding the above footpath, acting as agents for Knowles Transport who are proposing to submit an application to re-route the footpath. Forwarded to Cllrs 29.2.2024. Agents asked whether Councillors would have any objection to the footpath being moved. After discussion resolved to object to its move. Proposed: Cllr. Abbott; Seconded: Cllr. Johnson	
055/24	War Memorial playing field – 13	The field is very wet but all is well. Cllr Davis asked Councillors whether the Ninja trail should not be positioned where it's planned to be at the bottom the field and move it to the side of the field. This would have an impact on Fun day though, what do Cllrs think? Events group to discuss. Clerk to tell suppliers to hold fire on the installation due to state of the ground.	PA
056/24	Parkfield - 14	No report received – all is going well	
057/24	Doddington Rd. Cemetery – 15	Cllr Dent said all is well at the Cemetery,. She has a concern that the grass is very long now. Clerk to advise the contractors.	PA
058/24	Parish Hall - 16	a) King's portrait: further to an email received and forwarded to Cllrs on 12.2.2024, clerk asked Cllrs whether we wanted a free framed portrait of the King for display in the Parish Hall. After discussion resolved not to apply. Proposed: Cllr. Dent; Seconded: Cllr. Abbott; b) Fire Risk assessment: Further to Cllr Johnson and the clerks interim review of the hall Fire Risk assessment, this raised many questions. Cllr Hennen who does the weekly fire alarm test contacted Swift Fire, who complete our 6 monthly service and check of the system, and they have today forwarded advice. This is to use their completed RA and add any comments/additions and sign the front of their current form. They add 'the best person to complete this is the 'responsible person', providing they are competent and confident to complete this work'. However as a resolution was ratified in January 2024 to have 2 Cllrs complete the interim assessment, our Standing orders state: 'A resolution shall not be reversed within six months except either by a special motion, which requires written notice by at least (5) councillors to be given to the Proper Officer in accordance with standing order 9, or by a motion moved in pursuance of the recommendation of a committee or a sub-committee.' Therefore to change the resolution to have a professional risk assessment done every year, clerk would need written notice from 5 Cllrs to change the previous resolution. After discussion resolved to re-do our interim using the Swift Fire form and decide then whether we are happy to stay with 2 yearly professional assessment. Proposed: Cllr. Davis. Seconded: Cllr. Abbott.	
059/24	Correspondence /other business -17	Cllr Johnson said that the presentation at planning committee were well received. 9 houses on Bridge Lane -was refused as it is a flood zone. There was a focus on flooding. The entrance is at the narrowest part of Bridge Lane: 48 houses at Stoneleigh off Eastwood End – this application was deferred. We can write with further objections. Middle level's responses are against the development, although the officer said that they had not responded, which was a serious exclusion. Awaiting Anglian Water and Middle level replies and a more constructive maintenance/management plan.	
060/24	Date of next meeting - 18	Next meeting: Tuesday 9 th April 2024 at 18.45 followed by Annual Assembly and volunteer evening at 19.30. Meeting closed at: 20.12	

Appendix a*

	March 2024	NET	VAT	£
Handyman	Handyman duties			496.37
Clerk	Clerk duties incl. home wkg all.			1088.92
Hall steward	Hall steward duties			125.10
Cleaner	Hall cleaning			180.61
Inland revenue	Staff tax & NI			369.04
Total				2260.04