

Minutes of the meeting of Wimblington Parish Council held on Tuesday 11th June 2024 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. Clark; Cllr. Abbott; Cllr. Best; Cllr. Campbell; Cllr. Dent; Cllr Harding.
12 members of the public

Number	Title & Agenda No		Action
085/24	Apologies for Absence - 1	Cllr Gowing; Cllr Johnson; Mr Law	
086/24	Absentees	None	
087/24	Chairs Additional items - 1a	<i>Confidential item – to be discussed at the end of the meeting. To exclude the public (including the press) from a meeting of a committee it is necessary for the following proposition to be moved and adopted: “that the public be excluded from the meeting for items which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph 1 of Part 1 of the Schedule 12 A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) as indicated</i>	
088/24	Declarations of interest - 2	i)declaration: Cllr Abbott re F/YR24/0449/0: ii)written dispensation requests: There were none. iii)dispensation grants: There are none.	
089/24	Public Participation - 3	Re F/YR24/0449/0: Member of the public raised concerns on behalf of the other 8 attendees, that considerations against this application need to be flooding and drainage and asked for support from Councillors in objecting to the application. A lady asked whether construction traffic on the single track Bridge Lane would be a consideration in objecting to this application. Cllr Davis said that if it was passed then there could be conditions to it regarding movement of vehicles. There are also only 2 passing places on Bridge Lane and people already park in them. There is already difficulty with sewage in Bridge Lane properties. Cllr Davis asked for name etc and details. A man asked whether Bridge Lane would be modernised/widened should the application be passed, it’s already difficult enough now without construction traffic using it. A man asked whether it is Parish or District council who considers amenities – District. A resident said that he was spoken to by the developer of the Eaton Estate development, who then went on to mis-represented him in a planning committee meeting, telling them something which was not true. He thanked Cllr Johnson for her help. Also there are trees overhanging the A141/Manea Rd. junction obliterating road signs. He also asked whether there was any movement from Clarion about the request for benches there. Clerk has communicated with them and they say they will look at it. A lady said that grass was being cut at the land leading off Morley Way behind the new gates.	PA
090/24	Confirmation of minutes - 4	RESOLVED – that the minutes of meeting held on 14 th May 2024 were correctly recorded and that they be signed as being a true record. Proposed: Cllr. Best; Seconded: Cllr. Campbell ; All in favour.	
091/24	Fenland District Council - 5	Cllr Davis reported that there is nothing new relevant to report regarding Wimblington. There were only 2 motions at FDC at the last meeting neither re Wimblington.	
092/24	Cambridgeshire County Council - 6	Cllr Gowing could not attend	
093/24	Clerks report - 7	Clerk reported that Zurich have finally agreed and paid the full amount of the claim for reconnection of the street light on Manea Rd. less the excess. Clerk received message saying that the street light on Manea Rd has finally been connected to power. Cambs CC have advised that the spraying programme will begin on 24 th June, including villages, but they don’t mention highways – clerk has asked for clarification. Mr. Law not able to attend as at an agricultural show. Due to a complaint about the length of branches on trees adjacent to the access road to the allotments, our tree contractor has quoted and been authorised by the chairman, to cut back and crown lift them to avoid any damage to cars, at a cost of £450.00.	
094/24	Other Matters - 8	a) Parish Nature recovery plan: To be addressed when volunteers come forward. b) Citizens advice: Further to the latest figures being received, clerk has passed on costs for 3 visitors to Doddington. The figures show that over the last financial year we paid £705 for 13 visitors, less Doddington’s contribution - £162.69 = £542.31. Cllr Davis has an ongoing dialogue with FDC to find out whether it can be paid for by them. For next agenda.	PA

		c) Safety of Lithium ion Batteries and e-bikes and scooters: Clerk forwarded to Cllrs on 22.5.2024 a request for support of a proposed bill to Parliament, to introduce stricter measures in the importation and sale of lithium ion batteries, in particular for e-bikes. After discussion resolved to support with a letter. Proposed: Cllr. Abbott Seconded: Cllr. Harding d) Fireproof cabinet: Further to the updated Financial regulations – 16.1, clerk raised concerns with Cllrs Davis and Campbell who with the clerk amended the new regulations for review at this meeting, about the safety of Councils legal documents relating to ownership of land and buildings. This lead to a recommendation to purchase a fireproof safe to be located in the Parish hall archive cupboard, to house the documents. Details were forwarded to Cllrs on 7.6.2024. Purchase £199.99 Proposed: Cllr Dent; Seconded: Cllr Best. e) Allotment gates: Further to a report to the Vice chair that the allotment gates were becoming difficult to close, the company who refurbished our other gates adjusted as much as possible but reported that they needed a permanent solution. They suggested a top rail and quoted £420.00 to supply a galvanised and powder coated steel top rail and install. Add height on sides for fire engine – new quote.	PA PA PA
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095/24	Payments - 9		a) The members to consider the following: accounts for payment:				
		Payments		NET	VAT	£	
		Salaries	*Including tax & NI			2585.53	
		Giff gaff	Pavilion data	8.34	1.66	10.00	
		Groundworks UK	NHP underspend refunded			1578.21	
		Southern electricity	Street light electricity April	308.22	17.18	325.40	
		Idverde	Grass cutting May	584.47	116.89	701.36	
		Southern electric	Hall gas Feb-May	386.48	77.29	463.77	
		079/24b	Onlineplaygrounds	Zip wire service	496.60	99.32	595.92
			Wave	Pavilion water March-June			17.24
			Wave	Hall water March – June			121.77
		079/24d	Generis Security	CCTV additions at WMPF	1532.44	306.49	1838.93
			Wave	Cemetery water March-June			30.67
			Grahams bin clean	Hall bin clean May & June			25.00

097/24	Planning - 11	Planning: the clerk reported that the following planning applications had been received for comment: a) F/YR24/0329/F - Retention of 16 monitoring boreholes (retrospective) at Land North Of Chatteris, North Of A412 And East Of A141 Isle Of Ely Way – no objections F/YR24/0451/VOC -Variation of conditions 4 (ecology), 7 (access), 13 (landscaping) and 14 (list of approved drawings) of planning permission F/YR21/1421/F (Formation of a car park and access, the erection of 2.0 metre high palisade fencing, gates and 10 x 3m high	
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		lighting columns) - to enable relocation of Public Footpath at Land North Of Knowles Transport Blue Lane – surprised to see that there are now 8 more parking spaces added which is not a VOC. MTD F/YR24/0449/O – erect up to 44 dwellings (outline application with matters committed in respect of access) at Land South of 2A Bridge Lane – Cllr Hennen said that this is a single traffic Lane which accesses Woodman’s Way/footpath. Recently another application was refused due to increased concerns about flooding this would also increase the risk of flooding. Wimblington must retain its historic visual and there is already many more vehicles due to the 88 houses in front of this piece of land there is a need to respect the health and well being of residents the proposal would result in a large scale development and would erode an important visual gap. LP3, LP12.LP 16 it had to address surface water flooding LP14 S6 NPPF. Cllr Campbell re-iterated concerns about flooding and sewage capacity. There is also the matter of access via a single track Road and the LFA have already objected. We should include access as a big issue with only 2 passing places on the road. It will be almost impossible for construction traffic to access the site. The water main is also placed it appears, under the access road. Flooding is a huge concern. Anglian Water cannot help with sewage which is already a problem having had to call them out several times recently due to lack of sewage facility/smells and not being able to flush the toilet. Cllr Dent is also concerned about the filling in of a drain and the impact on wildlife in the area. Lack of doctors' appointments and any local NHS dentists. Badgers.– object. F/YR24/0458/PIP –Permission in principle to erect up to 7 x dwellings at Land East Of Hill View, Eastwood End – All of these properties are close to the tight bend on Eastwood End’s rural, narrow country lane. What Morton & Hall fail to include is their other planning application F/YR22/0884/PIP for 9 dwellings north of Hill View Eastwood End. The access of this development is almost adjacent to the above application which has two access points one directly on the tight bend the other opposite the other proposed site. This will mean four access points for numerous vehicles along the narrow road from the A141 entrance to the tight left hand bend. Not a safe proposition. This application is not in keeping with the rural settlement character of Eastwood End, it is introducing a ‘cul-de-sac’ off of the rural lane taking the built form of Eastwood End out of line with the frontage already exposed. This will be the third application PIP or Outline that has incorporated a cul-de-sac off of a narrow rural road which already has a constant movement of HGV’s regardless of the weight limit of 7.5tonnes. Object F/YR23/0819/F – Erect a storage building – at Laws Fertilisers Land East Of 22 Eastwood Industrial Estate Eastwood End – Originally objected in November 2023. – see confidential section at end of minutes. b) Neighbourhood plan: Cllr Johnson: was not able to attend.	MTD
098/24	Highway matters/Street lighting/Transport – 12	a) Street lights reported: None. b) Footpaths and highways issues: Cllr Best asked about the road markings adjacent to Sisco garage – we believe that a local person has done this (yellow arrows) we will report to highways. It was done during the early hours of Saturday morning. Cllr Campbell has reported the trees overhanging the footpath at junction out of Addison Rd into Doddington Rd.	PA MDT
099/24	War Memorial playing field – 13	a) Benches and litter bin: Further to last months decision re benches and litter bins a comparison document was forwarded to Cllrs on 20.5.2024. We have also been asked by a few youngsters for another covered seat or one in the toilet block recess. After discussion resolved to purchase 1 Multi coloured picnic table with benches; 1 bench & litter bin near ninja trail; 2 new benches for the children’s play area. Proposed: Cllr Best. Seconded: Cllr. Clark. b) Tree work, further to a complaint received from a resident of a house adjacent to the WMPF, the trees adjacent to the access road have also had to be cut back as they were scratching cars using the road – see clerks report. c) MUGA worn area & path: Further to an email received from online playgrounds, clerk asked them to view and quote to replace the grass mats in front of the multi goal, as they are not working properly. There is no grass growing through them due to heavy use and the plastic mats are very hard should anyone in the goalmouth fall on them, also a basketball does not bounce on them. The quote has arrived to replace with resin bound rubber, the same as the footpath at £1650.50 net. To remove old slabs , dig out take away turf and soil and replace with same resin bound rubber £2587.00 net. Total £4237.00. After discussion resolved to approve all of the above work. Proposed: Cllr. Hennen Seconded: Cllr. Campbell.	PA

100/24	Parkfield - 14	Report received from Parkfield: 'Business continues to be steady throughout the week and increases as expected when there are sporting events taking place. Football season, is coming to an end and the cricket season has commenced. There are planned matches for both Saturdays and Sundays pretty much for the next three months. There is no further news regarding the planned extension at present. We continue to receive very positive feedback regarding our 'special events' such as the Sunday carvery and curry night and will look to host more of these in the future.'	
101/24	Doddington Rd. Cemetery – 15	Cllr Dent reported that 2 headstones are leaning and that there appears to have been a hole cut in the hedge adjacent to the parking area for Doddington Rd. houses. Clerk to address both issues.	PA
102/24	Parish Hall - 16	a) Fire risk assessment: Further to information received from our Fire alarm contractors, they suggest that if we wish to do an interim assessment ourselves that we should use the latest assessment they have submitted and add comments with dates at any relevant point. As the last decision was made in January 2024 018/24b, a different decision would either have to be taken next month as resolutions cannot be altered within 6 months, unless 5 Councillors submit a written request and as next month will be 6 months since the decision, the time frame would be no different. After discussion resolved to do annual professional fire risk assessment. – next agenda – check with Cambs ACRE for weekly checks needed. b) Hall bin cleaning: Clerk has received notification that the hall bin clean will increase from £12.50 to £15.00 as from 1.7.2024. There has been no increase in their prices for the last 5 years. After discussion resolved to approve the increase in cost. Proposed: Cllr Campbell Seconded: Cllr. Dent c) EV charging points: Further to minute number 073/24d. Clerk asked CCC whether: Q1. We have to have 3 charging points. – Answer: no 3 is the maximum, but each point has capacity for 2 cars; Q2. Are we allowed to restrict use during hall hire times. – Answer: yes as long as residents could access overnight. Q3. Would we incur legal costs. – Answer: only if we wished to have legal interpretation of the agreement. After discussion resolved not to go with this scheme. Unanimous by show of hands.	PA
103/24	Correspondence /other business -17	Cllr Dent said that the Cemetery grass is desperate for cutting -clerk to chase.	PA
104/24	Confidential item - 18	Confidential items comprising exempt information, members of the public asked to leave the meeting: To exclude the public (including the press) from a meeting of a committee it is necessary for the following proposition to be moved and adopted: “that the public be excluded from the meeting for items which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph 1 of Part 1 of the Schedule 12 A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) as indicated Proposed Cllr. Davis: Seconded: Cllr. Best Cllr Davis informed Cllrs that our handyman has a shoulder injury and is struggling with certain heavy jobs, which really are outside the remit of ‘handyman’ but jobs which he enjoys doing and is very capable of. She suggested to Cllrs that to retain his expertise for large jobs that he take on the role of supervisor for all projects and to reflect this, possibly be paid extra or by project. After discussion resolved to consider in time for the next meeting. F/YR23/0819/F – Erect a storage building – at Laws Fertilisers Land East Of 22 Eastwood Industrial Estate Eastwood End – Originally objected in November 2023. – Cllrs were informed of latest developments. – Decision was not to change original objection.	
105/24	Date of next meeting - 19	Next meeting: Tuesday 9 th July 2024 at 19.00. Meeting closed at: 21.15	

Appendix a*

	June 2024	NET	VAT	£
Handyman	Handyman duties			543.86
Clerk	Clerk duties incl. home wkg all.			1191.50
Hall steward	Hall steward duties			137.40
Cleaner	Hall cleaning			297.44
Inland revenue	Staff tax & NI			415.33
Total				2585.53