

Minutes of the meeting of Wimblington Parish Council held on Tuesday 8th October 2024 at Wimblington Parish Hall, Addison Rd. Wimblington PE15 0QT. at 7.00 pm.

Present M T Davis (Chairman), Mrs P Amos (Clerk), Cllr. Clark; Cllr. Campbell; Cllr. Abbott; Cllr. Dent; Cllr. Best; Cllr Harding; Cllr. Johnson; Cllr Hennen

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	discussion resolved to register an expression of interest for the footpath outside the WMPF to be repaired. Proposed: Cllr. Hennen. Seconded: Cllr. Johnson.	
	e) Wimblington News: Further to the 2024 invoice and note from Jan Bellamy, clerk asked whether the Parish Council could support the newsletter with a donation? After discussion resolved to donate £500.00 Proposed: Cllr. Best; Seconded: Cllr. Abbott.	PA
	f) Neighbourhood Plan endorsement: Further to information from our planning consultant, the Parish Council must formally endorse the proposed Neighbourhood Plan. It has been available to be read on our web site and via the emailed document. After discussion resolved to endorse the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Proposed: Cllr. Hennen. Seconded: Cllr. Best.	PA
	g) May 2024 minutes: Further to clerk looking for a minute number, it was found that 3 words had been omitted. Clerk asked permission to add 'agree the work' to minute number 079/24c After discussion resolved to approve the addition. Proposed: Cllr Best. Seconded: Cllr. Hennen	PA
	h) Lithium ion batteries bill: Further to a recent email from Lord Redesdale's aide we have been asked to write to Baroness Jones urging her to either support Lord Redesdale's Bill or to slot it into the Government's own Bill. After discussion resolved to write to her as above, Proposed: Cllr Johnson. Seconded: Cllr. Dent.	PA
	J) CamSAR donation: Further to a donation request with supporting information, to purchase an all-terrain vehicle - forwarded to Cllrs on 2.10.202, would Cllrs like to donate to CamSAR? After discussion resolved to donate £500.00 Proposed: Cllr. Best. Seconded: Cllr. Hennen.	PA

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		Clerk advised the meeting that the external auditors report and certificate has been received, saying 'no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.'	
178/24	Risk Management/ Policies & Procedures - 10	a) To review policies/procedures: Dignity at work; Lone working policy, forwarded to Cllrs. on 12.9.2024 and revised versions 3.10.2024. At the end of the Dignity at work policy it says that it will replace the 'Bullying and Harassment' policy which Parish Council changed to anti-bullying. The Clerk said that there are two points to make about this: firstly it doesn't specify in the anti-bullying policy that it's just about employees or whilst at work, so surely it should apply to all Councillors too, who are not classed as employees. Whereas the 'dignity at work' specifies 'at work'? Secondly, as the anti-bullying policy was approved in June of this year, technically we can't revoke that decision for 6 months so we shouldn't remove the policy – if we want to – until January 2025. It was resolved that we look more extensively at both policies and reword. Cllr Glen Campbell agreed to re-draft both policies and bring them to Council again.	PA GC
179/24	Planning - 11	Planning: the clerk reported that the following planning applications had been received for comment: a) F/YR24/0723/VOC - Removal of condition 5 (highway markings) of Planning permission F/YR20/0324/F (Erect 3 x dwellings (2-storey 3-bed) and associated works involving the demolition of existing building) at Land To The North Of 45 King Street - no objection. b) Neighbourhood plan: Cllr Johnson: said that the NHP is almost complete and ready to go to FDC. There is little left to do and our consultant is altering small items from the FDC feedback including adding the maps. IT will go to FDC tomorrow, they need 2 weeks to go to the communications department for it to be advertised. The 6 week consultation should start on the 26th October. Then it takes 6 weeks, we have to contact organisations etc. advising them of the NHP. Cllr Johnson asked Cllrs. to lobby everyone they know to complete the questionnaires.	PA
180/24	Highway matters/Street lighting/ Transport – 12	a) Street lights reported: Cllr Dent advised that there is an illegal billboard on one of our street lights. Clerk advised that it could affect our insurance - to be removed. b) Footpaths and highways issues: Ask highways to re-paint the double white lines in the centre of March Rd. at the Bellway's site. Manhole cover at entrance to Parkfield is dropped, rusty and dangerous. The public ROW 5 number 5 is still blocked by a fence - clerk to report. c) MVAS warranty offer: Further to an email received Elan City are offering to extend the 2 year warranty on the first 2 MVAS bought from them, for an additional 3 years at a cost of £199.00 each MVAS. Email and info forwarded to Cllrs on 3.10.2024. After discussion, resolved to take up the offer. Proposed: Cllr. Dent. Seconded: Cllr. Hennen.	MD MD PA
181/24	War Memorial playing field – 13	a) Wild flower area: further to the quote received from our contractors on 10.9.2024, they would charge £655.00 for the first cut and subsequent collection of dead dry grass then £550.00 for the second. After discussion, even though it would be beneficial for a nature recovery plan, Cllrs resolved that because they could not justify the cost, not to go ahead with the wild flower area. Proposed: Cllr. Johnson. Seconded: Cllr. Best. b) Hedge cutting: Cllr Davis asked whether we should have the front of the hedge - ie adjacent to the footpath - cut more often as there is a lot of bramble growing in the hedge and it can be difficult to get past at times. After discussion resolved to trim in June/July as well as the 2 other cuts. Proposed: Cllr. Johnson. Seconded: Cllr. Best - ask them if they can use battery operated so as not to disturb any birds. Clerk advised Cllrs that the WMPF Charity annual return for 2023/24 has been completed and submitted to the Charity Commission.	PA PA
182/24	Parkfield - 14	a) Defibrillator: Further to an email received by the chairman, would we like to purchase another part funded defibrillator and cabinet and site it on the outside wall at Parkfields? London hearts - from whom we purchased the last one - are offering 50% funding - we would only have to pay £750.00 towards the cost of the defib and cabinet. Clerk has asked Parkfield whether they are willing to house, check and supply electricity to it and they are more than willing. After discussion resolved to buy one to be placed at Parkfield and a second one which will be placed somewhere else in the village. Proposed: Cllr. Clark. Seconded: Cllr. Abbott.	PA MD
183/24	Doddington Rd. Cemetery – 15	Parish Council will investigate the possibility of having an area in the cemetery where ashes could be scattered without having the recognition of a formal cremation plot and marker. There would have to be a designated area marked off and there would be a charge for this.	PA

184/24	Parish Hall - 16	a) Fire risk assessment: Further to the new/latest FRA, the only additional item which we could implement - but not necessary - would be to change the kitchen door to a Fire door. Clerk had found quotes, forwarded to Cllrs on 26.9.2024. After discussion resolve not to change the door. Proposed: Cllr. Abbott: Seconded: Cllr. Johnson b) Chairs and china: Clerk has looked for rubber bungs for the bottom of the hall chairs as many are missing, which causes scratching of the floor. Quotes for bungs and options for new chairs forwarded to Cllrs on 30.9.2024. After discussion resolved to buy new chairs, vote by show of hands 6 for to 2 against with 1 abstention. Weigh our current chairs first to make sure new ones would be much lighter than those. Proposed: Cllr. Johnson. Seconded: Cllr. Abbott. Clerk and chair advised that further to the McMillan's coffee morning it was apparent that we were short of cups. Chairman approved purchasing 20 mugs to supplement the cups we already have at a cost of £30.00 - see payments Clerk has booked in the annual air con. Service for this week.	PA
185/24	Correspondence /other business -17	Chair asked for a volunteer to lay the poppy wreath at the November remembrance day service - Cllr Clark volunteered. Chair also asked for a volunteer to attend the upcoming funeral service of Mrs Gowler who sadly passed away suddenly last week, as Cllr Davis will be on holiday on the day of the funeral. Cllr Dent volunteered. A condolence card has been sent on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Davis said that re the application for 20mph on Church Road we came 90th in the list so we will not get the 20mph.	
186/24	Date of next meeting - 18	Next meeting: Tuesday 12th November 2024 at 19.00. Meeting closed at: 20.50	

Appendix a*

	October 2024	NET	VAT	£
Handyman 1	Handyman duties			543.86
Handyman 2	Handyman duties			279.12
Clerk	Clerk duties incl. home wkg all.			1191.50
Hall steward	Hall steward duties			137.20
Cleaner	Hall cleaning			297.44
Inland revenue	Staff tax & NI			485.33
Total				2934.45