



Susan Woodroffe  
Parish Clerk  
21 Chapel Lane  
Wicken Cambs  
CB7 5XZ

Wicken Parish Council  
Email [wickenparishcouncil@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:wickenparishcouncil@eastcambs.gov.uk)

Tel 01353 721857

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL  
AT 19.30 HRS ON TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

In Attendance (a minimum of 3 Councillors must be present for business to be conducted): Cllrs E Houghton (Chair), Cllrs P Fuller, M Hawes, J Rogers, L Tory, C Bye, S Wilson and J Day were present. District Cllr H Ross and County Cllr Hunt also attended.

**1 Apologies for absence and any declarations of interest.**

Apologies were received from Cllr J Fuller. No declarations of interest were made.

**2 Public Participation. The meeting will be adjourned for up to 10 minutes to allow members of the public and Councillors who have declared an interest to make a statement on matters to be discussed.**

No comments were made

**3 Minutes of the last meeting, held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018.**

3.1 The minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman as such.

**4 Progress report on matters arising from the last meeting.**

4.1 Playground equipment – Cllr Bye will make the grant application next Spring.

4.2 Cycle path – ongoing

4.3 Hedges on Redit Lane – one of the hedges causing concern has been trimmed back.

4.4 Mortuary Chapel/resurfacing of pathways– ongoing.

4.5 Wheeled bin in recreation ground – this is not possible. ECDC will install an extra waste-bin at the corner of Lower Road and Chapel Lane.

4.6 Overgrown hedge on Upware Road – Cllr Tory has logged this problem on Highways reporting page, no response or action has been received.

4.7 A1123 – Cllr Hawes to resend photos – Cllr Houghton will add these to her list of discussion points with a Highways representative.

4.8 Upware Residents Association – Cllr Houghton has been made aware of the possibility of overhead fibre cabling.

4.9 Increase to charges for use of rec facilities – The recreation committee have suggested the following increases - pitch hire to £30, £15 for Wicken based teams and £25 for changing room hire, to start on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019. The Council agreed with this unanimously.

4.10 Housing association development at Hawes Lane – the housing association involved have reassured the Council that they (the housing association) will be responsible for the maintenance of the pumping station proposed for the site. They have not budgeted for a roundabout and felt this might increase costs to a level making the project not cost effective.

4.11 Mobile speed warning signs – the post on North Street has now been decommissioned and will be used by Speedwatch in future.

4.12 Mounting the Poppy of poppies produced for Armistice Day – ongoing

## **5 County and District Councillor Reports.**

5.1 County Cllr Hunt updated the Council on a number of wider issues. The following were of particular significance :-

5.1.1 Cambs CC have earmarked £900,000 for resurfacing pavements. He suggested the Parish Council identify pavements in the village that would benefit from repair and apply for this work to be done.

5.1.2 There is evidence that the free waste recycling centre at Witchford is being abused by commercial users bringing waste from their home area in an effort to save money. As a consequence, visits to the site will be limited to 12 per annum.

5.1.3 The A14 upgrade is at the halfway stage and is scheduled to open in 2020.

5.1.4 County Cllr Hunt wished to compliment the Parish Council Chair, Cllr Houghton, for her prompt and decisive action when the bollards on the build-out opposite the Maids Head were hit and effectively demolished by a lorry.

5.2 District Cllr Ross informed the Parish Council that the application for a dwelling on School Lane in Upware had been passed.

## **6 Financial matters.**

### **6.1 Bill payments**

Susan Woodroffe	Clerk salary November 2018	384.36
Susan Woodroffe	Allowance April-December 2018	262.40
Susan Woodroffe	Petty Cash top-up	25.00
Truelink	Grass cutting November	691.68
Jerry Woodroffe	Supply of three bags of tarmac filler	33.00
ACRE	Annual Membership	55.50
E.ON	Electricity for Pavilion	16.23

### **6.2 Monthly finance update**

The financial update shows the Parish Council is in a stable financial position.

### **6.3 Setting precept for 2019/2020**

In order to meet projected expenditure, this was set at £23,000 for the financial year 2019/2020.

### **6.4 Financial regulations**

Cllr Rogers circulated draft financial regulations to the Council, seeking comments. A small number of amendments were decided upon. Cllr Rogers will finalise these for the next meeting.

## **7 Planning matters.**

7.1 18/01643/FUL Garage and storage facility to existing house. 48 Drury Lane, Wicken, Ely, Cambs. Mr Paul Jugg

7.1.1 The Council had no objections to this application

7.2 Update on planning applications granted

7.2.1 No new applications have been granted.

## **8 Applications for Parish Clerk**

8.1 Three applications have been received. Interviews will be arranged. Cllrs Houghton, Rogers and Tory will form the interview panel.

## **9 Speedwatch signs for Upware**

9.1 In light of the cost of these signs, Cllr Tory will check if they are required.

## **10 New Life on the old West – Update**

10.1 Cllr Houghton walked the village with the people who will implement ideas. It is of note that the plant specialist requested the spoil heap in the cemetery should not be cleared as it is providing an excellent wildlife habitat.

## **11 Amendments to LHI bid following feasibility study**

11.1 In light of the cost of the application as previously stated, it was unanimously decided the following components should be requested.

Butts Lane - red inlaid surfacing reinstated at the section of the main road by the build-out. Signage and white lining to be improved.

Lode Lane – red inlaid surfacing and improved signage at the junction with the main road.

11.2 Following the village funded purchase of the interactive speed indicator signs, the Parish Council decided unanimously to reduce their contribution to £972.53, which is 10% of the overall cost.

## **12 Replacement of street light PC2, Chapel Lane/Lower Road**

This has failed completely and is beyond repair. An estimate for the cost of a replacement has been requested.

## **13 Easement not already granted over land at Cross Green**

There appears to have been an administrative error by Cambridge Design and Build when they negotiated the original easement and two small parcels have a restriction in favour of the Parish Council. The original builders wish this to be amended, which will be legally binding. As this is somewhat confusing the Council wish to take legal advice. They feel the costs of this, (estimated to be £660 plus VAT plus any disbursements and charges) should be met by the original builders and no action will be taken until an undertaking to this effect is received from their solicitor.

The Clerk was asked to check these two parcels against the area previously agreed.

**14 Items for information.**

14.1 Cllr Tory commented the noticeboard in Upware needs a new lock. She will arrange this.

14.2 Cllr Tory reported the Christmas Market at Upware was a great success and she thanked the Council for the use of the marquee.

14.3 Cllr Day expressed concerns that the new online system of making a GP appt may disadvantage patients who either do not have internet or uncomfortable with its use. Anecdotal evidence will be gathered and discussed at a future meeting.

14.4 Cllr Houghton informed the Council that a post by the memorial needs repair. Cllr Day offered to carry this out.

The meeting closed at 9.41pm.

DRAFT