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**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
AT 19.30 HRS ON TUESDAY 8th JANUARY 2019**

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

1 Apologies for absence and any declarations of interest.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr M Hawes. 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 11th December 2018.

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

4 Progress report on matters arising from the last meeting.

4.1 Playground equipment – Cllr Bye has received a cheque for £172 from Waitrose Community Matters collection and reported that the funds from Just Giving for the sum of £773.58 will be received shortly. These funds will be added to the donations received from the Community Fund and Wicken Fete. A final quote has been requested prior to the grant application being submitted. The deadline for the application is 4th March 2019. (Ref 4.1)

4.2 Cycle path – Cllr Houghton reported that she had met with the Highways team and has been promised 100 tonnes of planings. These are to be used primarily for the passing places along the Padney Road with remaining planings being used for the cycle path. At this meeting the following was also discussed:

- Lack of response from Highways in relation to the damaged bollards at the top of Butts Lane.
- The surface dressing of the A1123 through the village. Photographs and diagrams by Cllr Hawes have been presented to the Highways team and they will review the standard of the work.
- The frustrations with the online reporting system. This system is to be reviewed and amended.

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- Regular meetings with a member of the Highways team in the future. A meeting with Bob Rossiter from the Highways team is scheduled for 9th January 2019.
- The process of how the Parish Council highway concerns for planning applications reach the highways department.

4.3 Mortuary Chapel/resurfacing of pathways– Cllr Rogers advised that a grant application will be submitted to Wren once the three quotes have been obtained. The next deadline for grant applications is the 13th March 2019. (Ref 4.4)

4.4 Wheeled bin in recreation ground –ECDC will install an extra waste-bin at the corner of Lower Road and Chapel Lane. The Parish Council would like a further bin near the zip wire. The Clerk will look into this. (Ref 4.5)

4.5 Overgrown hedge on Upware Road – Cllr Tory advised that the original report is no longer on the system and she has reported it for a second time. Cllr Houghton will discuss this at her meeting with Bob Rossiter. (Ref 4.6)

4.6 A1123 – Cllr Hawes to resend photos – this is minuted under item 4.2 (Ref 4.7)

4.7 Housing association development at Hawes Lane – There have been no further updates (Ref 4.10)

4.8 The speed sign outside the Mission hall has now been decommissioned. (Ref 4.11)

4.10 Mounting of the Poppy of Poppies – this is ongoing. The Parish Council will pay for the frame. (Ref 4.12)

4.11 Identification of pavements for repair – the council has identified the path outside the Maids Head. Cllr Houghton will inform Bob Rossiter. (Ref 5.1.1)

4.12 Application for Parish Clerk – The interviews had been held and an appointment made. Cllr Houghton thanked Cllrs Rogers and Tory for their assistance in the process. (Ref 8.1)

4.13 Speedwatch signs for Upware – Cllr Tory advised that there is a meeting at the end of January and will report back at the February meeting. (Ref 9.1)

4.14 Replacement of street light PC2, Chapel Lane/Lower Road – ongoing. The clerk will chase. (Ref 12)

4.15 Easement not already granted over land at Cross Green – ongoing (Ref 13)

4.16 Online GP booking system – Cllr Wilson will ask the Swallowtails for feedback and will report at the February meeting. (14.3)

4.17 Damaged post near war memorial – Cllr Day reported that there are now 2 posts that require replacing, he will source and replace. (Ref 14.4)

4.18 Breeds Drove – Cllr Houghton has discussed this with Martin from Wicken Fen. Although one side was cut up when work had been completed on the new footpath at the fen, it had been

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made worse by green laners before the fen had chance to 'make good'. The National Trust will roll over the path once the land and weather has dried.

5 County and District Councillor Reports.

There were no matters to report

6 Financial matters.

6.1 Bill payments

e-on	Direct debit for electricity for changing rooms 2/11/18 – 2/12/18	£14.14
Wicken Village Hall	July 2018 to September 2018	£72.00
Abbey Tyre Co	Repair of puncture to Cllr J Fuller's tractor. Puncture obtained whilst clearing village pond	£114.00

6.2 Monthly finance update

The financial update shows the Parish Council is in a stable financial position. The council noted that the contingency will be increased next year and funds will be required for further street lights.

6.3 Financial regulations

Cllr Rogers circulated completed financial regulations to the Council, seeking comments. One further amendment is needed changing the amount under item 11.1 (g) in 11.1 (i) from £1,000 to £1,500. With these amendments the council agreed the financial regulations. Proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Bye. All council members were in favour.

7 Planning matters.

7.1 18/01693/FUL. Demolition of bungalow and replace with 2 x 3 bedroom bungalows. 35 North Street, Wicken, Ely, Cambs CB7 5XW. Miss S Wilson

The council is pleased to note that the application is for bungalows. The council would prefer to see at least one of the bungalows as a 2 bedroom dwelling in line with the Local Plan for Wicken.

7.2 Update on planning applications granted.

The council noted that application 17/01301/CLE certificate of lawfulness of existing use or development for the existing studio accommodation in garden at Meadow View, Upware has been granted.

7.3 Transfer of Public Open Space – Land to South of 1-7 Old School Lane, Upware.

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A letter concerning the transfer of the Public Open Space had been received from Ashtons. The council would like the following points clarified:

- Who will be responsible for the boundaries
- Whether the Parish council's legal costs would be covered

The clerk will seek clarification from Ashtons. With a satisfactory response to these questions the council accepts the transfer of land. Proposed by Cllr P Fuller and seconded by Cllr J Fuller. All were in favour.

8 Items for information.

8.1 Cllr Rogers has reviewed the parish website and felt that it was out of date and required attention. The council would like to see if there were any parishioners who will undertake this as a project. The clerk will put this in the next edition of the Around and About.

There were no further items for information.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

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