

Witherley Parish Council

Atterton, Fenny Drayton, Ratcliffe Culey and Witherley

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 14th February 2019, 7.30 p.m. At The Parish Room, Witherley.

PRESENT: Councillors: B Conway (Chairman), A Cartwright, R Trivett, M Cook, M Simpson, R Reading, C Harding, G Robinson, K Liggins, A Cartwright, **ABSENT:** A Wright, A Brittain.

Other Attendees: County Councillor Ivan Ould, Borough Councillor Kevin Morrell, Angela Forsyth (Clerk).

The meeting began at 7.34 p.m.

19/25: WELCOME & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were sent by Councillors Wright and Brittain, their apologies were accepted.

19/26: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations made.

19/27: APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF MINUTES: The minutes of the January 2019 meeting were agreed and signed as correct.

19/28: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: There were 5 members of the public present. They stated they would like to comment on the planning application 18/01220/FUL. Comments made were:

- Piecemeal development of the property
- Grass and vegetation had been sprayed to create a footpath around the property boundary and hedgerow removed and a gateway created away from the driveway and onto the highway.
- Concern over devaluing of adjacent properties.
- Previously a planning application had been submitted for glamping pods, which has since been withdrawn, those pods are still in position.

19/29: COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT: Cllr Ould had previously submitted his report. This is available in full on the Parish Council website:

- Cllr Ould will represent the County Council as the Director of Leicestershire County Council's Children's Services at the historic Child Abuse Inquiry in March 2020.
- Cocaine use is now higher in rural areas than urban areas. There are currently 5 incidents of County Lines drug routes in Leicestershire; young people who are targeted and coerced into peddling drugs on behalf of traffickers. He urged residents to be vigilant and to report suspicious activity to the police.

19/30: BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT: Cllr Morrell read his report. This is available in full on the Parish Council website.

- The Residents Involvement Strategy has been approved by HBBC. This will enable residents to input into the development and future of council housing services.
- A Richard III legacy and sculpture trail is to be developed to encourage tourism around the area, it will include art work by local children.
- Further to a recent fly tipping incident, Cllr Morrell advises all land owners who experience fly tipping to report it to HBBC for investigation, and to not touch or remove any part of the material dumped to allow council workers to photograph any incriminating evidence for potential prosecution.

19/31: CRIME REPORT: Cllr Robinson reported 4 local crimes, including one theft from a van cut open with metal cutting equipment, and the arson incident at the Hunt Kennels on Kennel Lane, Witherley.

- All incidents of crime should be reported to 101 if they are not an emergency. Calls to this number may take a while to be answered, as it is the same team of operators handling calls to 999 which take priority.
- The Police Volunteer team are recruiting new volunteers, if you wish to lend a helping hand to the local force get in touch with Leicestershire Police, or Cllr Robinson.

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19/32: CORRESPONDENCE:

- Advanced notice of the closure Ratcliffe Road, Witherley for one day week commencing 13th March.
- A briefing note of changes to the dry recycling materials able to be processed via the blue lidded bins has been sent by HBBC. All households will be informed of the changes in their Council Tax bill, the details will also be posted on the Parish Council website.
- Renewal quotes for the Parish Council public liability and employer liability insurance received, this will be an agenda item at the March meeting.
- Email from a Fenny Drayton resident advised they removed branches left behind from the felling of the ash tree in Fenny Drayton playing field.
- Letter from a Fenny Drayton resident thanking the Council for removing the ash tree.
- A public consultation has been launched by West Leicestershire Clinical Commissioning Group for local residents to feedback to shape the future of community health services. Local interactive workshops to be held Wednesday 27th February 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm Heartwood Conference Centre, Rothley House, Coalville Business Park, Coalville LE67 3NR and Wednesday 6th March 2.00 – 4.00 pm Leicestershire Voluntary Action, 9 Newarke Street, Leicester LE1 5SN.

19/33: PLANNING APPLICATIONS: (Cllr Cook exempted herself from this discussion).

- 19/00011/HOU 47 Foxs Covert, Fenny Drayton. No objections
- 19/00088/HOU 30 Kennel Lane, Witherley. No objections
- 18/01220/FUL Land North West of Mythe Cottage Farm, Atherstone Road, Ratcliffe Culey. The Council decided it is against this development. Detailed response will be sent to the Planning Dept.
- 18/01171/FUL Footpath along Kennel Lane – permission granted. Clerk to apply to LCC Highways for the permit to undertake the work.

Clerk

Clerk

19/34: CLERK UPDATE:

Atterton: Reported damaged sign at A444 junction.

Fenny Drayton:

- Church Lane planning application: A technical response from LCC requires a redesign of the specification and materials, to create a full pavement with a kerb. Meeting at kerbside with Councillors decided to request LCC attend a site meeting. LCC's Director of Highways to review.
- Ash tree in the playing field was felled on Thursday 17th Jan. Local residents were all advised in writing the night before as the tree surgeon gave a day's notice of the work.
- Apple trees in the playing field were pollarded.
- Reported the fallen sign on Fenn Lane to LCC Highways.

Ratcliffe Culey:

- Applied to Sport England for supporting funds for the playing field equipment project. This was refused as they no longer support play equipment. Have reapplied for £10k from a similar fund.
- Walked the path around the stream from Ratcliffe Bridge looking at the fallen trees, they are on Garlands side of the stream. Nothing blocking the flow.
- Have obtained copy of a map to show where land has apparently been "adopted" by a resident so the Clerk can respond to the resident advising all is well and nothing untoward has occurred.
- Sent photos of the footpath sign which has rotted to Highways/Footpaths officer.
- Reported Sketchley Lane gullies to be revisited and gulped.
- Have taken photos and sent them to LCC to demonstrate severe fretting along Sketchley Lane.

Clerk

Witherley:

- Building works at Mythe Cottage, Ratcliffe Rd do not require planning permission, following an inspection by the HBBC Planning Enforcement team.

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Parish:

- Was unable to attend church PCC meetings to discuss Community Response Plans. I will be attending future meetings.
- Attended Clerk’s Quarterly Meeting at County Hall.

19/35: NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP) UPDATE: Cllr Simpson reported:

- Monday March 4th, 7.30 p.m. at Witherley Parish Room a public meeting will be held to begin the drafting of the plan policies. This will be done by 3 groups focused on 3 key areas of *Housing, Environment and Sustainability*. The Steering Group is keen to recruit new members to join the theme groups to be sure of reflecting all issues raised in the surveys. Anyone that would like to get involved should contact the NDP Chairman Kay Conway on 07711 764664.

19/36: UPDATE FROM VILLAGES:

Atterton:

- Cllr Harding reported the village now benefits from superfast broadband.
- The Clerk and Cllr Harding met with LCC Highways Inspectors to discuss how to effectively slow traffic through the village. Clerk will forward suggestions to Cllr Harding for discussion with residents for feedback.

Clerk

Fenny Drayton:

- Cllr Simpson reported a fallen fir tree in the playing field. Clerk to action the removal.
- Cllr Cook reported the mole hills on Rookery Close. Clerk will report to LCC Highways.
- Cllr Cook also reported a Rookery Close resident had complained of speeding vehicles through the village.
- Cllr Cook reported increased incidents of dog fouling along the jitty between Fox’s Covert and Drayton Lane. Clerk to report and ask HBBC for covert CCTV to be installed.

Clerk
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Ratcliffe Culey:

- Cllr Cartwright asked when the playing field equipment would be discussed. Clerk advised funding is not yet supported by grants, but they are being applied for. Hopefully at March meeting.

Clerk

Witherley:

- Footbridge on Mythe Lane is in need of urgent repair. Clerk to advise Lord O’Neill’s agent.
- Cllr Robinson has rectified some of the reflector posts along Atterton Lane as they have been knocked over by passing cars.

Clerk

19/37: FINANCE AND CHEQUES FOR SIGNATURE: Receipts and expenditure year to date circulated.

Cheques authorised in February were:

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Clerk expenses £40.85 | M & BG Ltd (grass cutting) £591.67 |
| HBBC (bin emptying) £244.92 | Screatons Ltd £15.26 |
| Megabrokers Ltd (copier paper) £12.50 | Witherley PCC (meeting room) £168.75 |
| B Conway (Software purchase) £119.98 | Twycross Tree Services £360.00 |
| Sheepy Benefice PCC £40.00 | LRLC (Councillor training) £40.00 |

The Parish had purchased MacAfee protection software for the 2 Council owned laptops, however the package allows unlimited users, the Chairman offered it to all Councillors, should they wish to use it.

19/38: CHURCH ROAD, WITHERLEY PARKING ISSUES: Cllr Liggins advised the Council of irresponsible parking habits of parents dropping and collecting children at school, drivers attempting to use the Church Road cul-de-sac as a route to access the A5, and teachers using the road to park all day despite having access to the school car park. Car engines are also allowed to idle and increase local pollution. The bus is unable to follow the designated route around the village because of the parking problems. The attendants to weddings and funerals are unable to access the church during the week, and local residents are at times unable to leave or enter their drive ways or park near their properties. The Clerk

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will contact LCC Highways to discuss measures available to prevent some of the problems; and contact the school to discuss peripatetic teachers parking.	Clerk
9.28 p.m. Chairman asked if the Councillors were happy to continue to the end of the agenda. All agreed.	
19/39: SHELAA RESPONSE: Land put forward for development within the Parish were discussed. There was decision to support the principle of a new garden village in the Borough to achieve its objectives and targets for housing, however there is not a suitable location within this parish. Consultation response to be submitted to HBBC together with the Council's views on land within the Parish contained in the SHELAA. Cllr Reading asked for his objection to the Garden Village proposal to be recorded.	Clerk
19/40 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION AT THE NEXT MEETING: Ratcliffe Culey Playing Field project, Public and Employer Liability Insurance renewal, other items to be forwarded to the Clerk by 3 rd March 2019. Meeting closed at 10.05 p.m.	All Cllrs

Signed _____ Date _____