

# Witherley Parish Council

Atterton, Fenny Drayton, Ratcliffe Culey and Witherley

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 7.30 p.m.  
At the Parish Room, Witherley.

**PRESENT:** Councillors: B Conway, (Chairman), M Simpson, K Liggins, R Reading, R Trivett, D Flude, A Wright, A Brittain, A Cartwright, G Robinson, M Cook. **Other Attendees:** Borough Cllr K Morrell, County Cllr I Ould, Angela Forsyth (Clerk), three members of the public.

The meeting began at 7.33 p.m.

**19/180: WELCOME & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**19/181: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were no declarations of interest.

*7.38 p.m. Councillor Trivett entered the meeting*

**19/182: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** A Witherley resident brought shards of plastic debris which was strewn across local gardens and roads from the recent fire work event. The firework casing shards were sharp and could have caused injury to pets paws. The size of the fragments and amount was alarming. Cllr Reading raised the matter of a large amount of ash was also spread during the display. Clerk to follow up.

A Ratcliffe Culey resident thanked the Council for the provision of new play equipment in the playing field at Ratcliffe Culey.

**19/183: APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the October 2019 meeting were agreed and signed as correct.

**19/184: BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT:** Cllr Morrell's report was circulated at the meeting.

**19/185: COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT:** Cllr Ould's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Since circulation he advised he had attended a meeting about specific school placement planning, as all the local primary and secondary schools are at maximum capacity or oversubscribed.

**19/186: CRIME REPORT:** Cllr Robinson reported theft from a vehicle in Ratcliffe Culey by 3 masked men. Theft of fuel and tools from a tractor in Sheepy Magna. Forced entry of a first floor window the property was ransacked in Sheepy Magna. Fuel was stolen from a trailer unit in Fenny Drayton. He reminded everyone to be alert and aware of security now it is dark early.

**19/187: CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Hedge and Trees initiative emailed from Rural Services and The Woodland Trust.
- LRALC Round Robin advising that the parish precept levels are not capped by the Government for 2020/21.
- Cheque received from MG Evans & Sons payable to Witherley FC. The cheque and explanatory letter were given to the Club Chairman for responding to the family.
- Pocket Parks grant information passed to the Witherley Memorial Playing Field Trust.
- Email received from a family requesting support to place a memorial bench on the verge in Fenny Drayton. This matter cannot be revisited until January 2020 at the earliest. Clerk to bring it to the Council then.
- Email and telephone call regarding the tree in Fenny Drayton playing field. This work is in hand with a different contractor than originally tasked. Clerk to advise the resident when the work will commence.
- Email from smartmotorwayskill.co.uk requesting support. It was agreed that Councillors will respond individually.

**19/188: CLERK UPDATE:**

**Atterton:** Traffic calming gates in hand with LCC Highways, prices being obtained for whole project.

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

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## **Fenny Drayton:**

- Demolished signs on Fenn Lanes reported.
- Covert cameras requested for Church Lane around Rookery Farm drive as dog mess has been left in the drive.
- Maintenance of the bench on A444.

## **Ratcliffe Culey:**

- Playing field equipment grand opening on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 2 p.m.
- Footpath from Sketchley Lane to T34 footpath was consulted 24<sup>th</sup> October for 1 month.

## **Witherley:**

- Flooding has remained the big issue, Mythe Lane pumping station reported out of order.
- Silt and mud on road and in gullies reported to Highways for removal prior to next rainfall.
- Coping stone on Riverside walling still not completed.
- Council insurance broker details passed to Witherley Memorial Playing Field Trust (WMPFT) for information.
- Liaised with WMPFT regarding the annual inspection of the play equipment £95.

## **Parish:**

- Provisionally booked St Peter's church for December meeting subject to there being a general election and the Council's agreement. See later item.
- Grass cutting tenders ready to be sent out.

## **19/189: PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

- 19/01090/HOU & 19/01104/LBC 11 Church Lane, Fenny Drayton – alterations to kitchen and garage, and replace sash windows. No objections.

**19/190: FINANCE & CHEQUES FOR SIGNATURE:** Clerk discussed the circulated budget setting document for 2020/21, A meeting with representatives from each village will take place before the next meeting to identify future projects and operating costs which will affect the level of next year's precept.

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| • Clerk expenses £30.55          | M & BG Ltd (grass cutting) £592.00                  |
| Playdale Playgrounds £13,354.00  | Screatons Ltd £16.22                                |
| Community Heartbeat Trust £3.00  | ESPO (goal posts) £145.20                           |
| L Burchell (ground work) £170.00 | L Burchell (annual groundwork) £1200.00             |
| Naturespot (website) £200.00     | Ratcliffe Culey Church Committee (room hire) £84.00 |

## **19/191: VILLAGE UPDATES:**

**Atterton:** Cllr Flude had reported fly tipping to HBBC, which was removed.

## **Fenny Drayton:**

- Cllr Wright reported a resident in Fenny Drayton has reported the trees in Rookery Close need attention. Clerk will re-visit this.
- Signage on Fenn Lanes has been demolished and reported.
- There are moles in the verge in Rookery Close. Clerk advised the eradication of the moles had been priced up previously £200. They have been reported to LCC as it is the highway.
- Cllr Cook asked for clarification on the encroachment issue 2 Drayton Lane. Clerk advised Highways have dealt with this issue.

## **Ratcliffe Culey:**

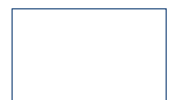
- Goal posts spares ordered and received by Cllr Cartwright.

## **Witherley:**

- Fire incident on Atterton Lane requiring attendance by the fire brigade, Clerk to make enquiries.

Clerk

Clerk



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cllr Reading reported on the Community Resilience Action Plan meeting. Witherley will formulate their final plan and it can be used as a template for the other villages.</li><li>• Cllr Robinson advised the replacement of pitch fibre drains on Atterton Lane by Severn Trent is still ongoing, but hopefully will be resolved by 25<sup>th</sup> January 2020.</li><li>• Clerk to continue urging authority to hard close Mythe Lane during flood instances.</li><li>• Cllr Liggins reported WMPFT investigating available grants.</li><li>• Complaints of speeding traffic in the middle section of Kennel Lane. VAS to be repositioned to capture this.</li></ul>	Clerk
<p><b>19/192: CHANGE OF LOCATION FOR TWO COUNCIL MEETINGS:</b> Clerk requested authority to change meeting locations on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019 due to general election and the Parish Room being used as a polling station, and the April 2020 meeting to move to Ratcliffe Culey church as the Parish Room is double booked. It was agreed. Clerk to arrange and advertise.</p>	Cllr Conway
<p><b>19/193: ROADSIDE MEMORIAL POLICY:</b> The Council has developed a roadside memorial policy to aid the Council when deciding what actions can be taken as a result of a tragic incident. Advice and guidance has been sought from many sources and the draft policy cleared with LCC Highways. Cllr Reading proposed the adoption of the policy. Seconded by Cllr Cook. All agreed.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>19/194: NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP) UPDATE:</b> Cllr Conway reported that assessment of the SHELAA sites and those put forward by landowners has been completed. The landowners of those sites that have the most potential for limited residential development will now be contacted for further discussion.</p> <p>The cost of the consultants has risen beyond the element of the Locality grant received specifically for site assessments. The funding bid estimated 6 possible sites coming forward, however, 11 sites have been investigated. This requires an additional £2,000 of funding which Locality has approved, to be reassigned from the allowance for other work and is therefore cost-neutral.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>19/179: ITEMS FOR INCLUSION AT THE NEXT MEETING:</b> Draft budget discussion.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 9.17 p.m.</p>	

Chairman's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

