

MINUTES OF WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 6th July 2016 AT THE JUBILEE
HALL, WITHINGTON AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Councillors Glenys Webb (Chairman), Cllr Mavis Lady Dunrossil, Cllr Jeremy Theyer, Cllr Nicky Lowe, Cllr Bruno Brenninkmeijer, Cllr Jane Gibbs 9 members of the public and the Clerk/RFO.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Jane Bruce, , County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, District Councillor Robin Hughes,
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.** Cllr Brenninkmeijer (planning application, Woodland Management Plan)
3. **MINUTES of the Meetings** held on the 4th May 2016 were circulated prior to the meeting to Councillor's; they were signed and agreed as a true and accurate record.

3.1 Progress report and comments on the meeting held:

3.2 **2000 trees update** – Mr Platt updated the meeting that although the CDC have granted a licence of 9999, he has spoken to the organisers and has told them that, they the owners of Upcote Farm, do not want any more than 6000 tickets to be available for future 2000 trees festivals. He said that if this cannot be competitive for them they will have to find another venue. The Parish Council thanked Mr Platt for his update and for taking into consideration the concerns of the village.

Bromford update - Parking at Compton Rise – there has been some action from Bromford after Cllr Hodgkinson pressed them again, they have started a consultation with residents in May which should now be complete. The fence has been removed from the car park, Cllr Hodgkinson will follow up on the results of the consultation.

4. Adoption of Standing Orders for 2016

Copies of this were given out at the last meeting for Councillors to go away and consider, no views were forwarded to the Clerk, the Council formally adopted the Standing Orders and the Chairman signed them.

5. Withington Parish Council Risk Register and Asset Plan

The Clerk send out a risk register with the agenda and an asset plan, these are both requested under the audit of accounts requirements. The Council discussed the Risk Register. The Clerk was asked to make sure it is ok with GAPTC. Cllr Brenninkmeijer asked about depreciation on the Asset Plan.

6 Planning applications

6.1 16/02332/LBC Withington Court. This was discussed, there was a mix of voting amongst Cllr, with 3 abstentions but were in favour by one vote. The concerns raised were:

- There does not seem to be any notices up in the village that inform the villagers that this application is in. There was also no copy of the application for planning permission on the website.
- The detailed drawings are very small and it was difficult to see what materials would be used from the plans. It was raised that there is concern with the Vine house, not

clear of the dimensions and as it will be clearly seen from the Mill Inn, it was hoped it would be of a suitable material in keeping with the main house especially in a conservation area.

- The Porch detail does not go into materials and was also raised as a concern that it is also in keeping with the rest of the property.

Action 1 for the Clerk to respond to the CDC planning website with the councils views.

6.2 16/01657/FUL Withington Estates (Application submitted by Cllr Brenninkmeijer - who declared an interest)

A number of parishioners attended the meeting to discuss this application:

- This is the second time that a request for a turbine has been put in, this time although by an electricity Pylon it is the other side of a bridle path.
- Concern that it would set a precedent for more than one at a time. Also once two have been granted what is there to stop more being applied for, precedent already set at that point.
- Concern that once one is passed it would open the flood gate and this beautiful area would be covered in them.
- Concern if it is accepted what is there to stop it being moved to the original site which is nearer the estate.
- Concern that the original application was below the horizon, this one is above. Which is worst?
- Concern that the applicant has not taken account that the community were against this last time and still very much against it this time, the applicant should have a little thought to the effect this will have on his neighbours and outside the village.
- Concern as to how far this will be seen, the map shows a large area which it will be visible too. Shocked at distance.
- Do not accept that it is gov policy for renewable energy, if this is the case they have got rid of subsidies.
- Concern that if the owner sold up who is responsible for the turbine for repair and long term ownership, there have been cases where they have been left abandoned because of this scenario.
- Concern to wildlife and Birds
- Concern for the house which the turbine will be very near.

Councillor Brenninkmeijer left the room while the vote was taken, the Parish Council unanimously voted against this planning application.

Action 2 for the Clerk to respond to the CDC planning website with the councils views.

7. Playground inspection report

The Parish Council went through the report there are a number of things that have been highlighted such as the birds mess and some minor works to equipment such as lubricant and rust control. The report was very positive and reported that the play equipment is fit for purpose.

8. Woodland Management Plan (Withington Estates)

Cllr Brenninkmeijer declared an interest because this report is about his estate. He summarised the plan which is a very large document, he said if you want to plan woodland areas, to identify areas to work in and plan in case of diseases such as Ash die back, coming to the area then you need to adopt a plan, this is for better diversity to encourage wildlife, the Parish Council asked questions. It was suggested that a full report copy was given to the Council when it has been adopted for their records. There were no concerns raised.

9. Notice Board

The notice board is still broken, Cllr Theyer will have a look at it, the key is stuck in the top of it and it cannot be opened.

10. Finance

Clerks salary for May, June = £266.17 including allowances

HMRC, £52.54 + £52.54

Wickmedia - £36.00

John Hicks Playground Inspection £68.40

11. Correspondence

E-mail update was read out from Lyndon Stow regarding the proposal to join forces with West Oxfordshire and create a separate unitary authority. From the outset we made it clear that we wanted to explore the feasibility of creating a 'one stop shop' local authority, building on the significant efficiencies that we have already achieved through working in tandem with West Oxfordshire. Unfortunately, some people reacted as if this was a done deal, and I was disappointed when I read some ill-informed and negative comments in the press about such an innovative proposal; in particular, I was amazed to read the spurious notion that we intended to break away from the traditional boundaries of Gloucestershire.

The appointed consultants produced an interim assessment indicating that the lack of support from other authorities in Gloucestershire would prove to be a significant barrier to progress. Reluctantly, we decided to withdraw the proposal but I still think that it was well worth exploring the option. We will continue to work collaboratively within Leadership Gloucestershire to produce an ambitious devolution deal, for the benefit of Gloucestershire residents and businesses.

E-mail – titled Adopt your Venue and maintain its listing status. This was about the village hall – the Chairman took it and will speak to the village hall committee about this.

E-mail - from Becky Lane introducing herself as the main contact for County Councillors, Parish & Town Councils at Amey Highways.

E-mail about Pump Hunt – already come under this water board nothing to be done about this.

12. Any Other Business

Dates of the next meetings - 1st September, 1st November 2016

Meeting Closed at 21.10