

**Minutes of the Meeting of Witton and Ridlington Parish Council held on
Tuesday 21st September 2021 at 7pm remotely on Zoom**

Present: Richard Barker (Vice Chairman in the Chair)
Gillian Owles
Jane Simpson
Catherine Moore, Parish Clerk

Also present: Two members of the public were in attendance

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Clive Stockton, Amanda Sands and Rebecca Barringer. County Councillor Lucy Shires had also sent apologies.

2. Public Forum

a) Public
None.

b) District Councillor
Not present.

County Councillor

Report circulated. A query was raised as to whether Witton and Ridlington was scheduled to receive improved broadband through the fund allocated for the 5% of the county that has a poor connection – the Clerk was asked to enquire.

ACTION: Clerk

3. Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda

Richard Barker declared in interest in an item of correspondence relating to Stacy Barn as he knew the householder.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20th July 2021

The minutes of the meeting **agreed** and would be signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

a) Noticeboards

Hold over to the next meeting.

b) Dog Fouling at Witton Bridge

Nothing had been heard from North Norfolk District Council, however there was less mess on the paths.

6. Co-option of a Parish Councillor

It was **agreed** to co-opt Stirling Byford to the meeting, proposed by Jane Simpson, seconded by Gillian Bridges, all in favour. Stirling signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took his seat for the remainder of the meeting.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes (Continued)

b) Dog Fouling at Witton Bridge

It was felt that residents should be canvassed to see whether this was still a problem.

c. Witton Phone Box
It was noted that the phone box was obscured by weeds. The Clerk was asked to put this on the next agenda. **ACTION: Clerk**

d. Parish Partnership – Highways Schemes
It was **agreed** that the Highways Engineer would be asked for a site visit to look at possible speed reduction schemes. **ACTION: Clerk / RB**
It was felt that there should be a village name sign for Witton, at the parish boundary near Ash Tree Farm Bungalow. The Clerk was asked to request a price for this. **ACTION: Clerk**

7. Finance

a. Financial Update
The financial update was noted, reporting that the Council had £8,421.14 in the bank as of 31st August 2021.

b. Payments
It was **agreed** to pay the following:-

C Moore	Salary & Expenses	£342.92
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8. Correspondence

a. Parish Council Notice Board
A letter was received from the Village Hall regarding the notice board. It was **agreed** that Richard Barker would liaise with the Village Hall to discuss this. **ACTION: RB**

b. General Correspondence
A letter had been received requesting the Council to reiterate their support for the planning application at Stacy Barn, as conservation officers were requiring unworkable changes. It was **agreed** to write reiterating the support of the Council for the original application. **ACTION: Clerk**

9. Planning

New Applications
None.

Applications Considered Between Meetings

PF/21/1459 Heathers, Pollard Street, Bacton: Change of use from residential care home to two dwellings (reconsultation) **NO FURTHER COMMENTS**

10. Other Matters

a) Vattenfall Update
Soil samples were being taken, and the Clerk was asked to find out whether any interesting archaeology had been found. **ACTION: Clerk**

b) Parish Partnership – Highways Schemes
Covered earlier in the agenda.

c) Problems with Playing Field Grass Cutting
The Clerk reported that CGM had only carried out 5 cuts between March and August, two being a week apart and one being two months after the previous. It was felt that this was not an acceptable level of service. It was **agreed** that councillors would find out from the community whether they wish to continue to have the playing field. **ACTION: ALL**

The pricing for grass cutting 2022 would be brought to the next meeting.

ACTION: Clerk

d) Parish Clerk Vacancy

The Clerk reported that she wished the Council to find a permanent Clerk, as she had completed her remit of restarting the Council and had now been with the Council 18 months. The draft advert, job description and contract were **agreed** and would be advertised on the website, notice board, Norfolk ALC and NPTS websites. The closing date would be 8th October and interviews would be held week beginning 18th October with a view to a 1st November start date.

ACTION: Clerk

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place on Tuesday 16th November 2021 at 7pm at Witton and Ridlington Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

CHAIRMAN

DRAFT