

WITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL



CLERK:

*Mrs S J Bell
17 Astley Close, Sutton
ELY, Cambs CB6 2PG
Tel: 01353 778147*

To All Members of the Council

MEMBERS: 6 QUORUM: 3

**Members are summoned to attend a Meeting of the
Parish Council to be held on Wednesday 12 February 2025
at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Witcham,
for the purpose of transacting the following business:**

A G E N D A

- 25/016 To receive and accept any apologies for absence.
- 25/017 To receive declarations of interest from Councillors in respect of any items on this agenda in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct
- i) Pecuniary interests.
 - ii) Personal interests.
 - iii) Prejudicial interests (and to inform the Chairman if they wish to speak on the matter during public participation).
- 25/018 Dispensations:
To note any new Dispensations granted: Nil.
- 25/019 To note recent monthly reports from County and District Councillors
- 25/020 Public Participation
To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public, and Councillors declaring the existence and nature of a prejudicial interest, to address the meeting in relation to the business to be transacted at this meeting.
At the close of this item, members of the public will no longer be permitted to address the Council unless invited to do so by the Chairman. (3 minutes each to combined maximum of 15 minutes total for this agenda item (Standing Orders 3f and 3g)).
Chairman to close meeting to public.
- 25/021 To approve and sign the minutes and confirm agenda of meeting of 8 January 2025.
- 25/022 Matters arising from previous minutes **(for information only)**.
- 25/023 Mepal/Witcham Primary School
To receive information that the school bus for Witcham youngsters to travel to Mepal infant school had been replaced by taxis.

- 25/024 Planning Matters
To note the following ECDC decision:
24/00746/FUL Witcham House, Headleys Lane Detached double garage/store, single storey orangery, demolition of garage and construction of two storey extension to front of dwelling – approved.
- 25/025 Neighbourhood Plan
To receive any updates, including to note receipt of next Locality grant £2523 to cover project to 31.3.25
- 25/026 Haddenham GP Surgery
To receive and consider correspondence regarding Haddenham Surgery Patient Group and Information Sharing - old group dissolved due to lack of interest in 2024
To discuss proposed new arrangements for membership/attendance. (Circulated 16.1.25)
- 25/027 Recreation Ground and Cemetery Matters
- a) To receive and consider Annual Recreation Ground Inspection Report. (Circulated 3.2.25)
 - b) To receive monthly report on weekly inspections of play equipment and recreation ground.
 - c) To receive further request to use recreation ground for private football training.
 - d) To receive any updates regarding Cemetery.
- 25/028 MVAS, Speed Watch and Speed Reduction Measures Mepal-Witcham
- a) To receive monthly speed data report. (Circulated 18.1.25)
 - b) To receive update following meeting 10 February regarding Joint Working for Application under Local Highways Initiative Programme (Witcham and Mepal Parish Councils) – Extend 40mph speed limit for remainder of Mepal Road, Witcham and Witcham Road, Mepal (C127). (GB/SW/Clerk)
- 25/029 Finance and Administration Matters
Exclusion of Press and Public
To consider whether under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the special and confidential nature of the business about to be transacted at Agenda Items 25/029a) to 25/029c) listed below, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded from this meeting and they are herewith instructed to withdraw.
- a) To receive correspondence from RSPB regarding renewal of Lease and respond (Circulated 9.1.25)
 - b) To receive update from regarding Deed Public Right of Way and Parking for Village Hall – further information regarding laying of cable for future events on Recreation Ground.
 - c) The Pensions Regulator – To note Automatic Renewal due April 2025. (Clerk)
- Chairman to re-open meeting to the public.
- d) To approve receipts and payments for February 2025.
 - e) To receive and approve quarterly accounts to 31.12.25 and budget report.
 - f) To confirm bank mandate amended.
 - g) To discuss arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting 2025.
- 25/030 Consultations
To consider and respond to CCC Planning Local Validation List Consultation. (closes 10.3.25)
- 25/031 Witcham Events Committee
To consider request to use telephone kiosk for advertising and information centre.

25/032 Highways and Streetlighting

a) To note any items reported to Highways Authority.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>

b) To note streetlight at Headleys Lane had been repaired.

25/033 Correspondence

To receive and note the following items of information/interest and invites (previously circulated):

Community Speedwatch Coffee morning 8 March 2025, 10-12noon.HQ Huntingdon.

CCC The Library Presents www.library-live/the-library-presents

NALC & CAPALC Bulletins and training opportunities.

CCC Parish and Community Forum 15 January 2025 Littleport Leisure Centre.

CCC Local Highways carriageway surface treatment 2025/6 listings (none for Witcham).

Cambs ACRE newsletters.

CCC TMC Incident Report.

CCC Events.

ECDG news updates, agendas and minutes – Audit, Planning, Finance and Assets Committees.

ECDG Hate crime awareness and 3rd party reporting centre.

<https://www.cambs.police.uk/ro/report/>

<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-informaton-anonymously>

25/034 Date of next meeting: 12 March 2025.

SJBell

SJ Bell
CLERK/RFO

Applications for Dispensations must be submitted to the Clerk on the application form at least 4 days prior to the meeting.

NOTES:

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting and there is provision for public participation. Details may be obtained from the Clerk or Chairman prior to commencement of the meeting.

If the Council wishes to exclude the public and press from the meeting a resolution in the following terms will be passed:

“It is hereby resolved in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the (*special*) (*confidential*) nature of the business about to be transacted at Agenda Item (*No*) namely (*state subject listed*) it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded from this meeting and they are herewith instructed to withdraw. (*Mr/Mrs/Cllr*) to be invited to remain.” (as applicable)

Code of Conduct para 12(2) ‘If a Councillor with a prejudicial interest wishes to speak on an agenda item then that interest and intention must be stated immediately after the first item of the Agenda. The public will be allowed a maximum of six speakers who may provide information for up to three minutes only and each person may only speak once. The Chairman will look to secure a balance of public speakers. The public participation is not to be a part of the debate but merely fact giving and answering questions in the same manner as the councillor with the prejudicial interest’.