

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 9 July 2025
at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Witcham,
for the purpose of transacting the following business:**

A G E N D A

- 25/114 To receive and accept any apologies for absence.
- 25/115 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).
- 25/116 Dispensations:
To note any new Dispensations granted: Nil.
- 25/117 To note monthly reports from County and District Councillors. (Circulated
- 25/118 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.
- 25/119 To approve and sign the minutes and confirm agenda of meeting of 11 June 2025.
- 25/120 Matters arising from previous minutes **(for information only)**.

- 25/121 Planning Matters
To note the following:
25/00619/TRE Glebe Lodge High Street T1 Lime - Crown reduce by approximately 3-4 metres. T2&T3 Limes - Crown reduce by approximately 2-2.5 metres. Trees are in the rear garden.
25/00286/FUL Land South West Of Ely Model Aircraft Club Hive Road
Retrospective change of use to mixed agricultural and straw thatching yard – ECDC approved.
- 25/122 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 25/122a) to 25/122d) 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 information from ECDC
 - b) To receive any update from regarding Deed of Right of Way and Parking for Village Hall.
 - c) To receive and discuss Discretions Policy for adoption (circulated 1.7.25)
 - d) To review Clerk's work and hours.
- Chairman to re-open meeting to the public.
- 25/123 Finance and Administration Matters
- e) To approve receipts and payments for July 2025 (to follow).
 - f) To approve the ordering of RBL Poppy wreath.
 - g) To approve summer newsletter (attached).
 - h) To make arrangements for annual village inspection.
- 25/124 Recreation Ground and Cemetery Matters
- a) To receive monthly report on weekly inspections of play equipment and recreation ground. (MH).
 - b) To rescind Minute 25/029b) regarding refusal to allow Christmas lights to be erected around infant play area.
 - c) To reconsider granting consent for Witcham Events Committee to erect Christmas lights at the infant play area, provided that a full risk assessment is included with their application, which is acceptable to the Parish Council.
- 25/125 MVAS, Speed Watch and Speed Reduction Measures Mepal-Witcham
- a) To receive and note monthly speed data report. (MH)
 - b) Local Highways Initiative Programme - to note arrangements for meeting between County Council representatives, M Housden and G Byrne regarding extending the 40mph speed limit on Mepal-Witcham road and reinstate footway on verge.
- 25/126 Highways and Streetlighting
- a) To note TTRO Witcham – Mepal Road closure 4-8 August 2025 – BT works
 - b) To note any items reported to Highways Authority
<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>
- 25/127 Consultations
- a) ECDC Licensing Policy – 5 year review.
 - b) The Future of Local Councils (circulated 23.6.25) .
- 25/128 Chairman to report on recent episodes of low pressure on the water supply system at Martins Lane.

25/129 To receive reports of any meetings attended by councillor.

25/130 Correspondence

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

CCC Essential Maintenance to Mepal Viaduct Bridge - Weekend Closures.
ECDC agendas and minutes, Licensing, Operational Services, Finance & Assets.
ECDC press release: Action on Climate Change.
ECDC Plans for Local Councils – Survey.
ECDC Food Waste Volunteer Project.
ECDC Black bag deliveries July-August. Anyone missed to contact ECDC by end September. Also to note that during very hot weather bin collections are earlier in the day.
East Cambs Parish & Community Forum updates.
Sanctuary Housing Customer Focus Day 6.8.25 Haddenham Recreation Ground
ECDC Youth Events Toolkit.
RBL 80 VJ Anniversary
CAPALC – new AGAR terms for 2025/26 – Assertion 10, incl slides
TMC Incident Report
Cambs ACRE newsletter - volunteers
NALC newsletters, bulletins
Cambridgeshire Community Archive Network – volunteers needed for Executive Committee.
CCC Waterbeach Waste Education Centre Newsletter
CCC Road Safety Education Newsletter “Way 2 Go”. Summer 2025

25/131 Date of next meeting: 10 September 2025

SJBell

SJ Bell

CLERK/RFO

2 July 2025

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’.