Swilland and Witnesham grouped Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Sarah-Jayne Bailey, 38 Weyland Road, Witnesham, IP6 9ET Tel: 07719176917 Email: swill-witpc@outlook.com Web: swillandandwitnesham.onesuffolk.net

Annual General Meeting

20th May 2015 at 7.30pm at Witnesham Village Hall

MINUTES

- 1. Vice Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting
- 2. No declaration of interests
- 3. Mrs Camp, Mr Everett, Mrs Shaw, Dr Nicol, Mr Hindle, Mr Lightfoot in attendance. Mrs Pace, Mr Darrel-Brown, Mr Wilks, Mr Rush gave apologies.
- 4. Mr Laughlin proposes Mr Rush continues as Chairman, seconded by Mr Lightfoot
- 5. Mr Laughlin leaves the room. Clerk proposes Mr Laughlin continues as Vice Chairman , seconded by Mr Lightfoot.
- 6. Vice Chairman asked if all on finance committee were happy to continue; all those present confirmed yes. Planning Mr Hindle expressed an interest in joining committee. Communication all happy to continue. Footpaths all happy to continue. Tree Officer Mr Hindle has agreed to take on this role. SALC Mr Rush to continue. VHMC Mrs Shaw will continue. PFMC Mr Wilks is happy to continue. Allotments Mrs Camp happy to continue. Highways rep Mr Everett happy to continue. Community group Mrs Camp happy to continue. Village Recorder Mr Henley happy to continue in this role. Swilland village recorder Kim happy to do this. SNT rep Linda is suggested for this role. Dr Nicol asked if we had new members. Vice Chairman confirmed that two people have shown an interest in being Parish Councillors, Nick Stanley and Chris Templeman.
- 7. Chairman's report Vice Chairman will ensure everyone gets a copy of this. Will be adopted at the next meeting.
- 8. Minutes from 18th March 2015 agreed. Proposed by Mr Lightfoot and seconded by Dr Nicol.
- 9. Council's standing orders have not changed since last year so all agreed that they were happy to adopt these again. All Councillors need to register their interests online. Web link to be sent by Clerk once received from SCDC.
- 10. County Councillor report received today and read out by Vice Chairman. Mr Everett mentioned the issue around the flooding on the B1077. There is still no clarity over how and when the work will be carried out. Mr Hindle suggested that the issue is raised with Councillor Bellfield now as this is taking a long time to resolve; clerk to check with Chairman when back from holiday about this and also the clearing of hedgerow on footpaths down by Barley Mow. Mr Everett has been

to Ashbocking Parish Council Meeting where speeding on the B1078 was an emotive issue. Matthew Hicks, County Councillor for Ashbocking is looking at getting a speed limit reduction for Ashbocking part of road. Could Councillor Bellfield liaise with him about this?

- 11. Mr Whiting confirmed he will be with Mr Hicks and Mr Bellfield tomorrow and will raise the above issue with them. Mr Whiting introduced himself. He has been a District Councillor for Rushmere St Andrew for 16 years and is very happy to be elected to this area. No increase in council tax this year again. Community enabling budget is £5,500 between R St A, Playford, Westerfield, Tuddeham. He advises that we get any bids in for this funding asap. Dr Nicol welcomed Mr Whiting to the meeting. Mr Hindle had a quick question about broadband installation.
- 12. Clerk went through bank balances. Mr Hindle queried payment for changing room at Playing field and when we started paying this.
- 13. Recent payments agreed. Proposed by Mr Lightfoot and seconded Mrs Shaw.
- 14. Obstruction at footpath at Newton Hall is still unresolved. Mr Hindle not heard back from Council about this and will chase. Stile near Cockfield Hall Lane is in need of repair as this can't be used. Mr Hindle has requested a kissing gate. A second one in disrepair has also been reported. Dr Nicol reported that sign for the footpath outside his house is always being moved and may need some attention also. Mr Hindle has had call from a regular walker stating that he is concerned about the dog mess bags that are left at the kissing gate at the end of Hall Lane. Footpath cutting will commence in May/June.
- 15. There has been one planning committee meeting on 30th March. It has been quiet since. Application off Tuddenham Lane has been withdrawn but there may be another big application in the pipeline. Mr Hindle objected to the application for Tuddenham Lane and feels he was not notified about decisions at committee level regarding the decision process. Shouldn't objectors be notified when it goes to Council Committee? Mr Whiting feels that planning has room for improvement and that we should be informed of the process. Suggests we keep monitoring the planning website for decisions but it is acknowledged that the website needs improving. Geoff Halcroft is portfolio holder for planning currently so it may be worth passing on ideas for improvement to him.
- 16. Police report was read out, 20 crimes in last year. Priorities are primarily tackling anti-social behaviour. Sally Thomas is currently on a secondment and Krista Robertson is now our PCSO. Krista will be looking at holding police surgeries at the Baptist Church in the coming months. Clerk to put report on website.
- 17. SAVID stands for Safer Village Driving Constitution. The group will be formally launched on 27th June 2015. We could become members if we are nominated and if we accept the constitution. Mr Everett has attended two SAVID meetings to date as an observer and the current villages represented are Debach, Gt Bealings, Clopton, Boulge, Otley, Charsfield and Burgh. Tuddenham and ourselves have shown interest in becoming new members. Mr Lightfoot feels that this fresh approach is really good and that we should support this both in terms of a nominated member and in term of financial support if necessary. Mr Everett confirmed to Dr Nicol that there will be no costs at present. Mr Hindle also agrees

that we support it as it's a very important issue. Graham Saward was mentioned as he is the village speed watch co-ordinator. Proposed by Mr Hindle to join SAVID and seconded by Mr Lightfoot. Mr Everett happy to be representative and all are in favour.

- 18. PFMC Clerk summarised the draft minutes from the playing field management committee meeting. Suffolk County Council have cut the poplar trees at the school. There is some news on the 'The Button' and it looks as though agreement to make it a separate dwelling will be given if the owner rents and does not sell. There is a rotted post on the playing field main gate. It was agreed that this should be paid for when costs come in.
- 19. Recreation ground is looking really good says Mr Hindle however we are currently waiting for the installation of a picnic table. Mrs Camp has heard lots of positive comments about the area but has heard that grass cutters may have clipped one of the play mats. Clerk and Vice Chairman confirmed that this is in hand. Clerk is looking in to getting a litter bin. Dr Nicol reported that the current seat that is in situ has a nail sticking out of it and may need attention.
- 20. Kim says that there is nothing to report. There is a meeting next week.
- 21. Nothing to report in regard to allotments
- 22. Next thing on calendar is flower show and garage sale on 11th and 12th July respectively.
- 23. Meeting dates have been sent around and can be sent out again if needed.
- 24. Mr and Mrs Bloomfield have asked for a Fido bin to be installed at Hall Lane Car park. Clerk has looked in to this and confirmed a new bin would costs £160 plus VAT. Some discussion over where Fido bin would be best situated. Mr Hindle has also had a request for Fido bin to be put at other end of Hall Lane near gate. It was agreed by all that two Fido bins to be installed at car park and end of Hall Lane. Proposed by Mr Hindle and seconded by Dr Nicol.

Mr Hindle raised the trees that have been felled as you come down from Swilland corner and that the telegraph poles are really ugly. Should we approach BT to see if facilities could be put under ground to improve the aspect of the village? Mr Everett feels that UK Power networks may have a scheme where this is possible. Mr Hindle will look into this.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm