

Widdington Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 4th September 2025 at 7:30pm

Present Chair Ian Southcott, Cllr. Maggs Webb, Cllr. Liz Follows.

In Attendance 2 members of the public, District Cllr. and Katrina Levy, Clerk to the Council.

09.25.01 CHAIR'S WELCOME

Chair Ian Southcott welcomed those present to the meeting.

09.25.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr. Chris Firmin, Cllr. Albert Edwards

09.25.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None

09.25.04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Pothole at Cornell's lane just the middle of the pothole has been filled. Highways sign from February is still by side of the road. Bunting on pub from VE day is starting to fade, overgrown hedges are pushing road users into the middle of the road.

09.25.05 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – None

09.25.06 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – Newport neighbourhood plan progressed, land allocated for development is the quarry and area near the station, for the 300 houses required under the local plan. Published in approximately a month's time, followed by 6 weeks public consultation. Have suggested that the quarry isn't infilled to original level and avoid visual of suburban sprawl towards Widdington and orientated towards Newport. Network rail planning to put traffic lights on railway bridge (near fire station) there to replace safe pedestrian crossing, engineers suggested moving entrance to chalk farm lane. Local plan expectation is that it will be approved by April 2026. District Cllr. Emanuel has a new role, member peer of the local government association and now co-chair of the planning committee. Uttlesford planning is now out of designation. Local government reorganisation first scenario has been published, UDC to vote on which scenario they support prior to their submission to the government, new authorities will start to exist by May 2026 and fully in place by May 2027.

09.25.07 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the July Parish Council Meeting were approved by Councillors as an accurate representation and Chair Southcott signed the minutes.

09.25.08 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported;

1. Wrote magazine article.
2. Started change notification of new email address as needed (clerk@widdington-pc.gov.uk).
3. Began process to change website address to the new domain name (www.widdington-pc.gov.uk).
4. Contacted EALC for advice.
5. Started process of chasing late payments for garage/car park ground rent.
6. Updated format for tracking planning applications.
7. Contacted Essex highways reference Footpath 17 Bridge damage.

09.25.09 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR- No applicants – 2 positions still vacant.

09.25.10 PLANNING

To consider making representation to the [Uttlesford District Council](#) in response to planning applications and to note planning decisions arising since July Parish Council meeting. (See Appendices).

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09.25.11 FINANCE

09.25.11.1 Invoices; The clerk presented a statement of accounts and reconciliation to cash books which were agreed and approved for signature.

Clerk Salary + Expenses (July)	£419.34
Clerk Salary + Expenses (August – includes £50.40 payment to parish online for cloud storage/office software package)	£514.67

District Cllr. Judy Emanuel joined the meeting

09.25.12 WIDDINGTON RECYCLING/HOLLOW ROAD UPDATE – September meeting has been cancelled until drains on Hollow road have been cleared by Essex Highways; work is scheduled for 22nd September for 3 days.

09.25.13 EMERGENCY PLAN – Cllr. Follows to put together costings for kit required – unanimously resolved. To visit the coffee morning and to submit article to the village magazine to reach out to vulnerable residents and volunteers. Resolved Cllr. Follows will liaise with local resources as needed.

09.25.14 GRANT APPLICATIONS POLICY – Unanimously resolved to develop a grants policy.

09.25.15 VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE – Taking advice to move towards a CIO structure. Would not need to be voted on by WPC but would be voted on by residents. Would like WPC to continue nominating one member as VH trustee and WPC to remain Custodian Trustee of Legal Title to VH property.

09.25.16 LEGAL MATTERS (held in camra) – update provided.

09.25.17 OTHER BUSINESS – Dogs show was a success, and residents have asked for it to happen again, didn't raise much money. Bus company didn't respond to our response to last email, clerk to chase again. Additional dog lane by Church lane?

09.25.18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at **7:30pm on Thursday 2ND October 2025**, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at: 9:05

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Appendix: Planning details for minute reference 09.25.10

Minute Number	Planning application Ref	Address	Outline	Deadline for comment	WPC decision	UDC Decision
04.25.9.1iv	UTT/25/0751/HHF	Old Post Office, High Street, CB11 3SG	Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of a replacement outbuilding.	22/07/2025	No Comment	Approve
06.25.10.1i.	UTT/25/1513/HHF	Churchfield Cottage Cornells Lane CB11 3ST	Proposed first floor extension over existing garage, addition of dormer window to front elevation, with associated works and alterations.	02/07/2025	No Comment	Approve with conditions
07.25.10.1ii	UTT/25/1745/TCA	Martins Farm High Street # CB11 3SG	Remove x1 Laburnum tree and grind stump below ground level. Remove x1 Crab Apple tree and grind stump below ground level.	DD 11/08/2025	No Comment	Tree No Objections
09.25.11.1	UTT/25/1897/CLE	The Little Lodge Wood End CB11 3SN	Certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of The Little Lodge as a separate residential dwelling	21/08/2025	No Comment	
09.25.11.2	UTT/25/1896/HHF	Bridgetts Hollow Road # CB11 3SL	Erection of double garage to serve existing dwelling	03/09/2025	No Comment	
09.25.11.3	UTT/25/1944/HHF	Oak House 1A Church View # CB11 3GU	Proposed first floor rear extension, and new solar panels to existing and proposed southern roof slope	21/07/2025	No Comment	
09.25.11.4	UTT/25/2022/FUL	Land To The South Of Cornells Lane	Proposed erection of 2 no. dwellings with cart lodge including 2 no. new vehicular accesses.	28/08/2025	Objection to be submitted late	
09.25.11.5	UTT/25/2052/HHF	Martins Farm High Street # CB11 3SG	Conversion of eastern outbuilding to form residential annexe to main house	11/09/2025	No Comment	
09.25.11.6	UTT/25/2053/LB	Martins Farm High Street # CB11 3SG	Conversion of eastern outbuilding to form residential annexe to main house.	11/09/2025	No Comment	
09.25.11.7	UTT/25/2051/LB	Martins Farm High Street # CB11 3SG	Installation of safety balustrade to first floor door, and replacement of the door.	11/09/2025	No Comment	
09.25.11.8	UTT/25/2055/LB	Martins Farm High Street # CB11 3SG	Partition wall within the existing south outbuilding to create both a storage area and garage.	11/09/2025	No Comment	
09.25.11.9	UTT/25/2057/LB	Martins Farm High Street # CB11 3SG	Removal of dividing wall in current study/cupboard designation. Proposed new shower room on first floor and extended through to roof space of the modern rear extension, and thermal upgrades to ceiling insulation on the second floor.	11/09/2025	No Comment	
09.25.11.10	UTT/25/2050/HHF	Martins Farm High Street # CB11 3SG	Installation of safety balustrade to first floor door, and replacement of the door.	11/09/2025	No Comment	
09.25.11.11	UTT/25/2054/HHF	Martins Farm High Street # CB11 3SG	Partition wall within the existing south outbuilding to create both a storage area and garage.	11/09/2025	No Comment	
09.25.11.12	UTT/25/2182/TCA	Priors Hall CB11 3SB	x1 Willow- Pollard to previous points	DD 24/09/2025		Tree No Objections
09.25.11.13	UTT/25/2220/TCA	Rectory Cottage High Street CB11 3SB	Reduce hedge line of x3 Western Red Cedar by 4 meters.	DD 25/09/2025	No Comment	
09.25.11.14	UTT/25/2231/DOC	Bishops End Wood End CB11 3SN	Application to discharge condition 3 (cladding) attached to UTT/22/2160/HHF	DD 14/10/2025		Discharge Conditions in full

DD – Determination Deadline