

GREENS NORTON PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF MEETING ON MONDAY 2nd OCTOBER 2023 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

PRESENT: Cllrs Steve Hiscock (Chair) , P Agness , C. Croft. T. Collier and Cllr Mrs Jane Docking, Joan Brennan McCord and Caroline Trotter.

Also present Mrs L. Paice, Parish Clerk,

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| 23/134 | APOLOGIES were received and accepted from Cllr Bowmer (away), Cllr Foss (covid), Cllr Pentland (work commitment). Cllr Cockerill was absent without apology. Cllr Charles Manners, Unitary Ward Member had also tendered his apologies. The resignation of Cllr Mrs Shepherd Cross was noted with regret. A formal letter would be sent and the vacancy for co-option procedure was in hand. A formal approach would be made to Cllr Cockerill highlighting his non-attendance record. | | | | | |
| 23/135 | CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS were noted. | | | | | |
| 23/136 | The Clerk alerted members to the importance of replying to requests for feedback the lack of which was hampering the proper administration of the Council. | | | | | |
| 23/137 | i) No DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST were made. REQUIREMENT TO UPDATE REGISTER OF INTEREST FORMS following any changes within 28 days of such changes. | | | | | |
| 23/138 | MINUTES – Having been previously circulated and duly proposed and seconded it was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on September 4 th 2023 be signed as a true record in line with Standing Orders. | | | | | |
| 23/139 | There were no MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC present. There was no report in his absence from Cllr Manners as UNITARY MEMBER . | | | | | |
| 23/140 | i) Following earlier advice it was RESOLVED that the existing GDPR Policies with minor additions be re-adopted. ii) It was RESOLVED that having been previously circulated and on proposition by the Chairman, an updated POLICY FOR HANDLING COMPLAINTS be adopted by the Council. | | | | | |
| 23/141 | PLANNING – 141.1. There were no APPLICATIONS to be considered. 141.2 – PERMISSION was noted for Approval of Permission in Principle for land north of Blakesley Hill 141.3 No REFUSAL notices had been received. 141.4 There was nothing further to be reported on the MAJOR PLANNING PROJECTS . 141.5 OTHER PLANNING MATTERS –No issues raised. | | | | | |
| 23/142 | FINANCE – 142.1a Payment of the following accounts since the last meeting was noted: | | | | | |
| | Online Ref | Amount | Inc VAT of | Payee | Details | Spending Power |
| | OL9/8 | £60.00 | | GN RBL | Poppy wreath donation – replacement payment | Section 137 |
| | 142.1b) It was RESOLVED that the following accounts be paid, Cllrs Hiscock and Trotter to authorise online - | | | | | |
| | Online Ref | Amount | Inc VAT of | Payee | Details | Spending Power |
| | OL10/1 | £1485.13 | | Linda Paice | Salary | LGA 1972 s112 |
| | OL10/2 | £378.23 | | HMRC | Tax & NHI | LGA 1972 s111 |
| | OL10/3 | £942.00 | 157.00 | CGM | Mowing | Open Spaces Act |
| | OL10/4 | £14.40 | | GNCCA | Room hire | LGA 1972 s111 |
| | OL10/5 | £300.00 | 50.00 | Bubble Creative | Community Engagement | LGA 1972 s111 |
| | OL10/7 | £50.00 | | Fay Wilkins | PF works | Open Spaces Act |
| | OL10/8 | £1708.19 | | AJGIBL | Insurance renewal | Accs & audit Regs |
| | OL10/9 | £124.80 | 20.80 | Edge IT Systems | Accs package band increase | Accs & audit Regs |

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| OL10/10 | £13528.02 | | PWLB | Loan repayment | Accs & Audit Regs |
| Ol10/11 | £42.00 | | B Cook | Pocket Park gate repair | Open Spaces Act |
| Direct Debit | £6.00 | | Lloyds Bank | Multipay card fee – Aug/Sept | Accs & Audit Regs |
| Direct Debit | £161.45 | 7.67 | SSE | Electricity | Highways Act |

142.1c) It was further **RESOLVED** that the following payments be made under Financial Regulation 6.5:

| Online Ref | Amount | Inc VAT of | Payee | Details | Spending Power |
|------------|----------|------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| OL10/12 | 40.82 | 6.80 | Printerbase | Shared admin costs | LGA 1972 s111 |
| Ol10/13 | £211.80 | 35.30 | DNH Contracts | Dog bin maintenance | Open Spaces Act |
| OL10/14 | 384.00 | 64.00 | Forde & McHugh | Light repairs | Highways Act |
| OL10/15 | £324.00 | | Mat Webber | Jubilee garden and handyman works | Open spaces Act |
| OL10/16 | £300.00 | 50.00 | CGM | Hedgework st PF | Open Spaces Act |
| OL10/17 | £1500.00 | | James Garnor | Firework deposit | LGA 1972 s144 |

142.2 **RECEIPTS** - Towcester Cricket Club £300: GNAGS for allotment water 152.87; Blakesley PC £26.53 shared expenses; £7036.74 VAT reclaim from 2022/23; £48083.00 WNC half precept.

142.3 Council's bank balance at 30th September 2023 was noted as £130,241.24

142.4 It was noted that the Finance Working Group were set to meet on 11th October to work on a draft Budget proposal for 2024/25 at the next meeting.

23/143

REPORTS –

143.1 **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** – In the absence of Cllr Bowmer there was no report from Bubble Creative.

143.2 **HIGHWAYS** - i) Car damage debris by the A5/Duncote junction would again be reported as would a damaged drain cover on the same road close to the A5

ii) The current traffic lights on High Street were causing visibility issues as you enter the village from the MacDonalds end.

ii) Updates were given on recent reports.

iii) In the absence of Cllr Foss there was no further update in regard to VAS signs

iv) Quotation had been received from CGM in regard to work on the village grit bins. After further consideration it was **RESOLVED** that all of the existing bins be removed and replaced with new lockable versions. An update on the quotations from CGM would be sought with delegated authority be given to the Clerk to place an order for works up to within the region of £3k. Funding for this non budgeting expenditure to be taken from the VAT reclaim recently paid into the bank.

v) Notice of a road closure on Blakesley Hill in January 2024 had been circulated.

vi) Cllr Trotter had advised that the Autumn Litter Pick was planned for Sunday afternoon 12th November

143.3 **RIGHTS OF WAY** – Nothing further to report

143.4 - **TREES** – The order had been placed with CGM for the works for the PC owned trees in the village to go ahead as agreed at the last meeting.

143.5- **LIGHTING** - No issues to report.

143.6 - **PLAYING FIELD** - i) Regular checks continued.

ii) Consideration of replacement of the basketball net was still to be determined.

iii) Notice of an impending charge increase from Fields in Trust relating to membership was noted.

iv) A verbal request had been received for a defibrillator to be installed at the playing field. A package price was being collated and it was **RESOLVED** that a grant application be made to the GN Village Hall Charity to fund this.

v) Cllr Bowmer had updated members via the Clerk in regard to the Cricket Club being moved into a different League which meant that siGHT screens would be needed on the field. These would be

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| | <p>removable and a request was being made for the Council's approval for the necessary hedging and a tree stump to be removed to create for field spaces for the screens. It was RESOLVED that this be progressed.</p> <p>143.7 JUBILEE GARDEN – i) Regular maintenance continued. ii) With the resignation of Sorrel Shepherd Cross, Cllr Mrs Brennan McCord volunteered to take on the role of oversight of the Garden for which she was thanked.</p> <p>143.8 POCKET PARK- No report this month but a request was being made for a replacement strimmer for the area at a cost of £140. It was a RESOLVED that this be agreed to be funded from PC reserves.</p> <p>143.9 VILLAGE GREEN – i) No further issues to report. ii) The Clerk reported that enquiries were in hand for the Christmas tree for both the green, the pub, the British Legion and the Post Office. Cllr Docking agreed to lead on a Christmas Tree decoration event as in previous years on the afternoon of December 3rd from 3-5pm</p> <p>143.10 ALLOTMENTS – Nothing to report.</p> <p>143.10. Cllr Agness gave a brief update on the latest position with the VILLAGE HALL Charity.</p> <p>143.11 –In the absence of Cllr Foss there was no POLICE LIAISON report..</p> <p>143.12 OTHER REPORTS –i) The defibrillator training and awareness session had been well received. Cllr Croft would be in touch with Mandy Lowe in relation to a Duncote defibrillator training. ii) The Clerk was chasing a delivery date for the bleed kit. iii) Cllr Trotter gave the latest update on the planned fireworks event. Agreement was given to the purchase of two further banners and arrangements for refreshments followed up with Cllr Collier who would get agreement for the CCA to this year provide the mulled wine earlier discussed. The was RESOLVED that a card reader be purchased by the Council for use at future village events. This would be followed up by the Clerk. Notices would be required advising of no field access from Noon on the day of the event for security and safety reasons. The Clerk had made contact with St John Ambulance as last year. iv) Further consideration of Friendship Visits would be left for the time being. v) There was further discussion in regard to an Emergency Plan for the village and it was RESOLVED that Cllr Foss be asked to ascertain as a starting point what arrangement the Police Authority currently had in place vi) Having checked the position the Clerk reported that there had been no further progress on signage for the school responses being awaited from Highways. vii) Sadly some PC assets checks were still outstanding despite several reminders of members responsibilities to do these.</p> |
| 23/144 | CORRESPONDENCE – i)The NCALC Update newsletter had been circulated and members were urged to read the article on Succession Planning for Parish Councils |
| 23/145 | CONSULTATIONS – Information on views on the interim bus policy from WNC was highlighted. |
| 23/146 | ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING AGENDA - None requested but Cllr Collier gave advance notice that his attendance may fluctuate for a while due to a death in the family and that's associated workload. |
| 23/147 | DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Monday 6th November 2023 at 7.30pm in Meeting Room 2 at the Community Centre |

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15pm

