

**GREENS NORTON PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF MEETING ON MONDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2024 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Steve Hiscock (Chair), P.Agness, T. Collier, C.Croft, N. Smith and S. Pentland.

Also present Cllr Charles Manners, Unitary Member for the Ward, Mrs L Paice, Parish Clerk and two members of the public

|        |  |   |               |
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| 24/108 | <b>APOLOGIES</b> were received and accepted from Cllr Bowmer(away), Cllr Docking (unwell) and Cllr Mr CllrBrennan McCord (away), Cllr Trotter (away),. Cllr Foss continued on leave of absence.  |   |               |
| 24/109 | <b>CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> were noted.  |   |               |
| 24/110 | i) No <b>DISPENSATION REQUESTS</b> prior to the meeting had been received.<br>ii)No <b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> were made.<br>iii)The <b>REQUIREMENT TO UPDATE REGISTER OF INTEREST FORMS</b> following any changes within 28 days of such changes was stressed  |   |               |
| 24/111 | <b>MINUTES</b> – Having been previously circulated and duly proposed and seconded it was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2024 be signed as a true record in line with Standing Orders.   |   |               |
| 24/112 | i)A <b>MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC</b> present gave an update on the forthcoming consideration of the DHL application by the WNC Strategic Planning Committee highlighting several matters of great concern regarding the non existence of a save footpath/cycle route to the site making it unsustainable and conflicting comments from Statutory Consultees the only support comments being largely from WNC Departments. The Case Officer's recommendation was for Approval of the application.<br>ii) Cllr Manners as <b>UNITARY MEMBER</b> reported on final agreement between North Northants and West Northants on the sharing of financial commitments which came pre Unitary. He also updated the latest position of the Mill Lane bridge damage and the completion of the Towcester Relief Road now being 2026. He was thanked for attending. |   |               |
| 24/113 | <b>PLANNING –113.1a)</b> Submission of comments since tha last meeting as follows was noted:   |   |               |
|        | Application No showing weblink   | Details   | Comment       |
|        | 2024/3556/FULL   | Proposed side/rear extension linking to existing garage to from new garage/workshop at 33 Bengal Lane   | No objection  |
|        | 2024/3378/PA   | Prior approval under Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q for the change of use of an agricultural building (Use Class SG) to dwellinghouse (Use Class C3)Details  | Noted         |
|        | b)It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the following <b>APPLICATIONS</b> be considered and comments submitted accordingly:  |   |               |
|        | Application No   | Details   | Comments      |
|        | 2024/3421/COND   | Discharge of Conditions 3 [Materials], 4 [Architectural Detailing], 5 [Landscaping], 6 [CEMP], 11 [External Lighting] and 13 [Bat & Bird Boxes] [Community cafe-lounge, external terrace, staff accommodation, 8 bed extension to original building and change to the loft floor flat to a 3 bedroom flat], pursuant to planning permission granted under ref. 2023/5977/FULL at The Lakes Duncote Hall | Noted         |
|        | 2024/3493/COND   | Reduction and reshape to 1 x Beech Tree at 50 Home Close  | No objection  |
|        | 2024/3104/FULL   | Erection of a sprinkler water tank with associated ancilliary   | No objections |

|  |                                    |  |
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|  | pump house at Caswell Science Park |  |
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113.2 –**PERMISSION** received was noted for Littleworth Flower Farm site.  
 113.3 No **REFUSAL** notices had been received.  
 113.4 The **MAJOR PLANNING PROJECTS** had not been progressed further until the DHL application going to the Strategic Planning Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> September had been determined. The Clerk had registered for Cllr Bowmer to speak at this meeting and confirmation was awaited. The Woolgrowers site was likely to be the next major application progressed.  
 113.5 **OTHER PLANNING MATTERS** – i) Enforcement Officers were still trying to get responses from the landowner on the issue of a roadway under construction on Mill Lane. WNC Highways had determined that a Licence would be needed and the landowner was being pursued for that also.  
 ii) A response was still awaited from WNC in regard to an indicative cost for a Housing Needs survey, despite the Clerk advising Alan Munn that no progress had been made. This would again be followed up.  
 iii) The Council **RESOLVED** not to make comment on the WNC Draft Transport Plan.

24/114

**FINANCE** – 114.1a) Transfer of £6000 from the Unity Instant Access Account to the Current account was noted

b) It was **RESOLVED** that the following accounts be paid to be authorised online Cllrs Bowmer and Hiscock

| Online Ref | Amount                                  | Inc VAT of | Payee             | Details  | Power                          |
|------------|---|------------|-------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| OL9/1      | £3255.96)<br>£ 9.00)<br><b>£3264.96</b> |            | Linda Paice       | Salary & expenses<br>July salary<br>underpayment   | LGA 1972 s112<br>LGA 1972 s112 |
| OL9/2      | £984.29                                 |            | HMRC              | Tax and NHI –<br>2 months                          | LGA 1972 s112                  |
| OL9/3      | £2982.00                                | 493.00     | CGM               | Mowing   | Open Spaces Act                |
| OL9/4      | £600.00                                 | 100.00     | Bubble Creative   | Community<br>engagement                            | LGA 1972 s142                  |
| OL9/5      | £504.00                                 | 84.00      | PKF Littlejohn    | External audit fee                                 | Accs & Audit<br>Regs           |
| OL9/6      | £192.00                                 | 32.00      | Forde &<br>McHugh | Light repair                                       | Highways Act                   |
| OL9/7      | £835.18                                 | 139.23     | DNH Contracts     | Dog bin maintenance<br>and new bin                 | Highways Act                   |
| OL9/8      | £125.00                                 |            | Sue Ingram        | PF works – 2 Months                                | Open Spaces Act                |
| OL9/9      | £572.00                                 |            | WNC               | Business waste<br>collection                       | Open Spaces Act                |
| OL9/10     | £3107.34                                | 517.89     | WNC               | Replacement village<br>signs                       | Highways Act                   |
| OL9/11     | £1733.89                                |            | Gallagher         | Insurance renewal                                  | LGA 1972 s111                  |
| OL9/12     | £26.71                                  |            | Anglian Water     | Allotment water                                    | Allotments Act                 |
| OL9/13     | £50.00                                  |            | Robert Williams   | Playing field fence<br>repairs                     | Open Spaces Act                |
| OL9/14     | £729.00                                 |            | Mat Webber        | Jubilee Garden and<br>handyman works – 2<br>months | Open spaces Act                |

7.1c) To note payments made by Direct debit

| Online Ref   | Amount  | Inc VAT of | Payee  | Details      | Power                |
|--------------|---------|------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|
| Direct Debit | £157.74 | 8.95       | SSE    | Electricity  | Highways Act         |
| Direct Debit | £3.00   |            | Lloyds | Multipay fee | Accs & Audit<br>Regs |

7.1d) To note payments made on Multipay Card

| Online Ref | Amount | Inc VAT of | Payee | Details | Power |
|------------|--------|------------|-------|---------|-------|
|------------|--------|------------|-------|---------|-------|

|        | £127.07  | 21.18 | Safelines | Defib battery and pads | GPOC |
|--------|--|-------|-----------|------------------------|------|
|        | <p>114.2 <b>RECEIPTS</b> - £22.17 Blakesley PC shared admin costs – final receipt from this source.</p> <p>114.3 Council's bank balances at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024 were noted as £10341,85 in the current account and £84412.88 in the Instant Access account.</p> <p>114.4 Confirmation from PKF Littlejohn on the conclusion of the 2023-24 Audit was noted and would be posted on the website and noticeboard.</p> <p>114.5 Notification from WNC in relation to the payment of the second half of the 2024-25 Precept by the end of the month had been received.</p> <p>114.6 Details of Unity Trust account management processes were noted.</p> <p>114.7 Being formally proposed and seconded it was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Council's insurance cover be renewed with Hiscox in line with Gallagher's recommendation for one year from 1<sup>st</sup> October in the sum of £1733.89</p> <p>114.8 Details of the Internal Auditor from NCALC for the current year was noted as being Tina Charteress.</p> <p>114.9 It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Council's Finance Working Group hold the annual budget meeting on Monday September 30<sup>th</sup> at 3.30pm at the Council's Office.</p> <p>114.10 – It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Council renew its membership of CPRE for a further year in the sum of £36</p> <p>114.11. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllr Agness be removed as a bank signatory and replaced by Cllr Collier.</p>  |       |           |                        |      |
| 24/115 | <p><b>REPORTS</b> – 115.1 <b>COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT</b> – In the absence of Cllr Bowmer as <b>Lead Member</b> there was no report this month.</p> <p>115.2 <b>HIGHWAYS</b> – i) Cllr Collier as <b>LEAD MEMBER</b> queried whether data could be collected on reported issue to track frequency and progress. This would be investigated. No further reports were received.</p> <p>ii) Previously reported issues were tracked by the Clerk.</p> <p>ii) The VAS on Blakesley Hill was still not reinstalled and under repair and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> that a new replacement be purchased.</p> <p>iii) It was sad to again report that Licences were still awaited for grit bin installation and the Clerk would yet again renew the request with Kier for determination</p> <p>iv) The invoice now having been agreed for payment, an update on installation of the Duncote gateway features would be followed up.</p> <p>v) The application for consideration of 20mph speed limits around the village was due to be considered at a meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> September.</p> <p>vi) Clarification was given to the meeting on the position on Freemans Way where roads and lights were unadopted and remained the responsibility of the Developer.</p> <p>vii) A now out of date update from Persimmon on the Towcester Relief Road was noted</p> <p>115.3 <b>RIGHTS OF WAY</b> – nothing reported.</p> <p>115.4- <b>LIGHTING</b> - No reports received</p> <p>115.5 - <b>TREES</b> – No issues reported but the Clerk would seek a report on the possibility of reduction of the tree on the green which blocked one side of the village sign.</p> <p>115.6 - <b>PLAYING FIELD</b> i) Cllr Bowmer as <b>LEAD MEMBER</b> continues to make regular checks</p> <p>ii) Consideration of replacement of the basketball net was unchanged.</p> <p>iii) Enquiries were being made with Lappset regarding replacement of the broken seat on the swing roundabout</p> <p>iv) The stile and hedge works on the field were programmed by CGM for September.</p> <p>v) The Clerk had managed to get repairs carried out to the damaged fence on Towcester Road thought to have been caused by people using the crossing and jumping on the fence to gain access to the field rather than walking down to the gate.</p> <p>115.7 <b>JUBILEE GARDEN</b> – In the absence of Cllr Brennan McCord as <b>LEAD MEMBER</b> there was no report. The tree inspection by CGM should be carried out imminently</p> <p>115.8 <b>POCKET PARK</b>- i) In the absence of Cllr Bowmer as <b>LEAD MEMBER</b> there was no report this month.</p> <p>115.9 <b>VILLAGE GREEN</b> – All necessary agreements were in place with GN Village Show for September 7<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>115.10 <b>ALLOTMENTS</b> – Notification of a rent increase from WNC was being investigated.</p> <p>115.11 An update on behalf of the <b>GREENS NORTON VILLAGE CHARITABLE TRUST</b> was noted.</p> <p>115.12 – In the absence of Cllr Foss as <b>POLICE LIAISON</b> Member any information passed to the Clerk would be circulated.</p> <p>115.13 <b>COMMUNITY CENTRE</b> – Cllr Collier reported that planning permission had now been received for the cladding work on the back building and full costings were being sought. He advised</p> |       |           |                        |      |

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|        | <p>that WNC had changed their policy on waste collection from the building which was leading to an annual charge of £1200 which had come as an unexpected blow on the finances.</p> <p>115.14 Following concerns over the lack of Police presence generally and support when previous carpark suspicious activity issues have been raised was highlighted the Chair had sent the resolved invitation to the lead Police &amp; Crime Commissioner to attend the September meeting which sadly had not been possible due to annual leave. No future indication of attending a meeting had been given.</p> <p>115.15 <b>OTHER REPORTS</b> –i) No further progression as yet on the planned Welcome Pack project.<br/> ii) Cllr Croft gave the latest update on the planned 2024 Fireworks event.<br/> iii) Information from Anglian Water on planned works at Bengal was noted.<br/> iv) Information from NCALC on transitioning to a gov.uk address was noted and enquiries would be made regarding this for the Council website and possibly the Clerk only other e mail addresses to remain unchanged.<br/> v) Most annual asset checks had been undertaken and those outstanding would again be followed up. A list would then be compiled on works to be considered.<br/> vi) It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that Christmas decoration in the village be followed up as in previous years.</p> |
| 24/116 | <b>CORRESPONDENCE</b> – Tabled and general correspondence was noted. The Clerk would represent the Council at the NCALC Annual Conference.   |
| 24/117 | <b>CONSULTATIONS</b> – Current consultations had been advised for individual members to follow up as they wished.  |
| 24/118 | <b>ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING AGENDA</b> - None requested  |
|        | <i>Pursuant to the public bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the sensitive nature of the matter next to be considered relating to the staff issues members of the public and press were asked to leave</i>   |
| 24/119 | Following a recent meeting held with the Clerk the Chair and Cllr Bowmer tabled issues relating to the current Contract of Employment. Unanimous resolution was reached and details would be formally advised to the Clerk for necessary amendment to be made.   |
| 24/120 | <b>DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2024</b> at 7.30pm in Meeting Room 2 at the Community Centre there being no meeting in August.   |

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.25pm