

GREENS NORTON PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF MEETING ON MONDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2024 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

PRESENT: Cllrs Steve Hiscock (Chair), P.Agness, T. Collier, N. Smith, S. Pentland, C Bowmer and Jane Docking. Cllr Joan Brennan McCord joined the meeting at 7.40pm

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

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| 24/121 | APOLOGIES were received and accepted from Cllr Trotter (away), Cllr Croft (business commitment) and Cllr Foss continued on leave of absence. | | | | |
| 24/122 | CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS were noted. | | | | |
| 24/123 | i) No DISPENSATION REQUESTS prior to the meeting had been received. ii) A personal DECLARATION OF INTEREST was made by Cllr Smith in relation to planning application 2024/4142.OUT as a friend of the applicant. iii) The REQUIREMENT TO UPDATE REGISTER OF INTEREST FORMS following any changes within 28 days of such changes was stressed | | | | |
| 24/124 | MINUTES – Having been previously circulated and duly proposed and seconded it was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 2 nd September 2024 be signed as a true record in line with Standing Orders. | | | | |
| 24/125 | The VACANCY FOR CO-OPTION to the Council continued to be advertised. | | | | |
| 24/126 | i) A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC – none present ii) Cllr Manners as UNITARY MEMBER reported on final agreement between North Northants and West Northants on the sharing of financial commitments which came pre Unitary. He had no update on the latest position of the Mill Lane bridge damage but advised that Kai Lee at WNC was the link person. He detailed budgetary information related to both Adult and Children's Services and passed on information relating to devolution discussions and partnership working with North Northants and Bucks as being the preferred links.. He was thanked for regularly attending the meetings. | | | | |
| 24/127 | PLANNING –127.1. It was RESOLVED that the following APPLICATIONS be considered and comments submitted accordingly: | | | | |
| | Application No | | Details | | Comments |
| | 2024/4142/OUT | | Outline application for the erection of 1 dwelling (All matters reserved) | | No objections |
| | 127.2 – PERMISSION received was noted for GN Community Centre; Field Burcote Farm (both FULL and LBC) and 50 Home Close | | | | |
| | 127.3 REFUSAL notice had been received for the DHL Application and the applicants intention to go to Appeal detailed, | | | | |
| | 127.4 An update was given on the outstanding MAJOR PLANNING PROJECTS The land adjacent to Bell Plantation looking likely to go to the October/November Planning Committee meeting and the Woolgrowers site still being progressed through the system and largely on hold due to National Highways issues. | | | | |
| | 127.5 OTHER PLANNING MATTERS – i) As reported at the last meeting WNC 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 being progressed with WNC regarding a Housing Needs Survey. | | | | |
| | iii) a Campaigns Update from CPRE had been circulated and was noted. | | | | |
| 24/128 | FINANCE – 128.1a) It was RESOLVED that the following accounts be paid to be authorised online Cllrs Bowmer and Hiscock | | | | |
| | Online Ref | Amount | Inc VAT of | Details | Power |
| | OL10/1 | £1506.48) £ 8.48) £1514.96 | | Linda Paice Salary Expenses | LGA 1972 s112 LGA 1972 s112 |
| | OL10/2 | £561.34 | | HMRC | Tax and NHI – 2 months LGA 1972 s112 |
| | OL10/3 | £1134.00 | 493.00 | CGM | Mowing Open Spaces Act |
| | OL10/4 | £125.68 | 20.94 | Printerbase | Admin supplies LGA 1972 s111 |
| | OL10/5 | £300.00 | 100.00 | Bubble Creative | Community engagement LGA 1972 s142 |
| | OL10/6 | £16.67 | | Sue Ingram | PF work Open Spaces Act |

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| OL10/7 | £45.83 | | Fay Wilkins | PF work | Open Spaces Act |
| OL10/8 | £193.20 | 32.20 | Redlynch | Lappsett roundabout part | Open Spaces Act |

7.1b) To note payments made by Direct debit

| Online Ref | Amount | Inc VAT of | Payee | Details | Power |
|--------------|---------|------------|--------|--------------|-------------------|
| Direct Debit | £163.01 | 9.25 | SSE | Electricity | Highways Act |
| Direct Debit | £3.00 | | Lloyds | Multipay fee | Accs & Audit Regs |

128.2 **RECEIPTS** - £608.16 Unity Trust interest on Instant Access Account

128.3 Council's bank balances at 30th September 2024 were noted as £34992.14 in the current account and £85021.04 in the Instant Access account.

128.4 Confirmation of the final payment on the Community Centre Loan with PWLB was noted and the Standing Order would be deleted.

128.5 Details of Receipts and Payments to 30th September 2024 having been previously circulated were noted. Clarification of a £1595.89 overspend against the Miscellaneous budget was explained as largely relating to the Duncote gateway signage and the impending new village signs installation.

128.6 It was **RESOLVED** that membership of CPRE in the sum of £36 be approved for payment at the next meeting

128.7 A request for financial support had been received from Homestart Daventry & South Northants and after consideration it was **RESOLVED** that they be invited to make a presentation to the village at the next Annual Village Meeting on April 28th 2025

128.8 Addition of Cllr Collier to the Unity Bank account as a signatory was progressing.

128.9 Advice of a reduction in the interest rate on the Instant Access Account was noted.

128.10 Following the meeting of the Finance Working Party a Draft Budget recommendation was considered. The Clerk explained an adjustment to the street lighting figure budget heading following confirmation of the likely increase when a new contract came into force imminently which also led to an adjustment to the recommended Precept level for 2025-6. After consideration it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Draft Recommendation be adopted showing a Precept level of £86,000 a £10,206 reduction on the current level. Final details would be circulated.

24/129

REPORTS – 129.1 **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** Cllr Bowmer as **Lead Member** had circulated the latest data from Bubble and was generally content that they were doing exactly as they had been asked. More involvement would be needed in the build up to the coming May 2025 Elections

129.2 **HIGHWAYS** – i) Cllr Collier as **LEAD MEMBER** highlighted concerns about the patch of land close to the corner of Bradden Road and Home Close which had historically proved a problem. The Clerk would add the cutting back of this to the list of Handyman works. A highways metal notice frame at the junction of the Abthorpe Road and the Mill Lane turn which needed to be removed would be reported.

ii) Previously reported issues were tracked by the Clerk.

ii) It was **RESOLVED** that an order for a replacement VAS on Blakesley Hill be placed with TVM to be installed on the existing post.

iii) It was sad to again report that Licences had still not be received for grit bin installations on Blakesley Hill and the corner of Calvert Road it was **RESOLVED** that these now be installed and that at the same time CGM be asked to relocate the bin opposite the Court on Bradden Road to closer to the Home Close turn on the end of the existing footpath. All grit bins were now unlocked and CGM would be asked to break up the existing contents as agreed.

iv) The Duncote gateway features were now installed and the GN signs were due late November 2024

v) Feedback had been received following the recent WNC meeting that data collection was under way in regard to the request for a 20mph limit in parts of the village.

vi) Confirmation of acceptance of the increase in the urban mowing grant was noted.

vii) Highways would be asked to instigate the necessary actions to have permanent traffic light control installed on the Mill Lane bridge area.

viii) Impending closure of Blakesley Hill for resurfacing was noted

129.3 **RIGHTS OF WAY** – Nothing reported.

129.4- **LIGHTING** - The Clerk explained the position that an earlier offer via Resolve Energy for renewal of the unmetered supply contract for the village lights which had been withdrawn. She had that day been working with Clear Utility Solutions who had very quickly come up with a quotation from Tomato Energy for a three year contract, which they recommended, in the annual sum of £3633.66 pa. It was **RESOLVED** that this be taken up acknowledging the massive increase from the existing contract entered into in 2021 which had now run out. There would also be on further small contract to be renewed in November.

129.5 - **TREES** – A quotation was awaited for possible reduction works to the tree by the village sign.

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| | <p>129.6 - PLAYING FIELD i) Cllr Bowmer as LEAD MEMBER continues to make regular checks ii) Consideration of replacement of the basketball net was progressing. iii) Cllr Bowmer now had replacement parts were in hand relating to the seat on the swing roundabout. iv) The stile and hedge works on the field had now been completed. v) Cllr Bowmer would be working on a 5yr maintenance plan for the field. vi) The sight screens had now been stored for the winter.</p> <p>129.7 JUBILEE GARDEN – Cllr Brennan McCord as LEAD MEMBER reported that everything appeared to be in order. A report from the tree inspection by CGM was still awaited. A five year maintenance plan was suggested.</p> <p>129.8 POCKET PARK- i)Cllr Bowmer gave an update on latest activity. ii) Quotation would be sought for the required servicing of machinery at the site. iii) The Newt Agreement was explained.</p> <p>129.9 VILLAGE GREEN – It was RESOLVED that permission be given to the Community Choir to have Carols on the Green on 20th December.</p> <p>Cllr Brannan McCord left the meeting at 8.55pm</p> <p>129.10 ALLOTMENTS – Following notification of a rent increase from WNC it was RESOLVED that the increase to £250 per annum be accepted with back payment over the last three years at £75 per year. Going forward the Council would require the formal consultation on rent charges in the Lease to be adhered to. A payment would be processed for the next meeting and GNAGS advised of the rent increase from the current year.</p> <p>129.11 There was nothing further to report from the GREENS NORTON VILLAGE CHARITABLE TRUST</p> <p>129.12 –In the absence of Cllr Foss as POLICE LIAISON Member any information passed to the Clerk would be circulated. There had still been no response to recent e mails and Cllr Foss was due to return at the additional December 2024 meeting.</p> <p>129.13 COMMUNITY CENTRE – Cllr Collier reported that planning permission had now been received for the cladding work on the back building and full costings were being sought. Ken Nicoll had sent a letter relating to PWC liquidation which was noted.</p> <p>29.15 OTHER REPORTS –i) No further progression as yet on the planned Welcome Pack project its requirements and value beyond that of a single Welcome to the Village flyer were discussed. ii) Arrangements were in hand for the November Fireworks event and Cllr Trotter was asking for volunteers for set up at noon on the day, nine people to man the gates at 5.45pm and access to power sockets on the day. The provision of five meals for the Team was confirmed by Cllr Collier. iii) Transition to the .gov.uk address had been somewhat problematic. iv)Various issues highlighted through the annual check of PC assets would be progressed as far as possible v) Christmas trees for the centre of the village had been ordered and the usual installation team would be approached. No event would be added to the actual tree on the green this year. vi) Cllrs Pentland and Croft were progressing the suggested Emergency Plan and would present their report at the next meeting vii)The Council RESOLVED to be represented at the November Remembrance Day Service at the Church and Cllr Pentland offered to lay the customary wreath on behalf of the village.</p> |
| 24/130 | <p>CORRESPONDENCE – i) Tabled and general correspondence was noted. ii) A letter from Sarah Bool MP relating to Winter Fuel Allowance was noted</p> |
| 24/131 | CONSULTATIONS – A current consultation on the WNC Together with Nature consultation was noted. |
| 24/132 | ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING AGENDA - Patient Panel for the Medical Centre. |
| | <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> |
| 24/133 | An issue regarding payment to the Clerk for telephone and internet facilities was determined. |
| 24/134 | DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING –MONDAY 4th NOVEMBER 2024 at 7.30pm in Meeting Room 2 |

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30pm

