

**MINUTES OF NORTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY 5TH JANUARY 2016 AT 7.15 P.M.
AT NORTH WOOTTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

Present: Councillors Pulsford-Harris, Marshall-Grint, Border, Edwards, Cox, Malik, Crome, Kilham, Nurse, Duval, Irwin
In attendance: Mrs R Curtis (Clerk)

1. Apologies – Cllr Merrey

2. Declaration of Interest – None

3. Minutes of last meeting

It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 1st December 2015 be signed as a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Law and Order

Cllr Nurse said there had been reports of several attempted break ins before the Christmas period.

The meeting was closed for Open Forum.

6. Open Forum

There were no comments from the public.

The meeting was re-opened.

7. Correspondence

Norfolk County Council – Highways HGV use in North Wootton – There are no weight restrictions in place on these roads and therefore HGVs cannot be prevented from using the highways at any time of day.

Norfolk County Council Parish Councils will not be subject to referendum principles in 2016/17. However, the government expects town and parish councils to behave responsibly and protect taxpayers from excessive precept increases; if they fail to do so, the government has the option of making them subject to referendum principles in the future.

Norfolk ALC The Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd has been created to replace the Audit Commission to take over the appointment of external audits and the setting up of audit fees for smaller authorities from 2017. The company will formally appoint external auditors on behalf of parish councils as before from the financial year 2017/18, this will be done automatically unless the parish council decides to opt out.

With reference to the correspondence regarding the HGV restrictions, the Council still feel that it is unacceptable for HGV's to drive through the village at unsociable hours and causing damage to the

grass verges and kerbs. Clerk to reply to Highways and make the following points;
 i) The junction at Manor Road is dangerous, there have been several near misses witnessed and children regularly use the path on the junction and along Station Road to walk to the scout hut.
 ii) Enquire as to how the Parish Council would go about asking for weight restrictions to be applied to certain roads in the village.

8. Finance

Bal. b/fwd.	£46,126.79
--------------------	-------------------

Less:

DD – EON ,	769.81
Chq 001497 – Westcotec – Maintenance - Dec	250.48
Chq 001498 – SWPC – Recharges for July – Sept	716.22
Chq 001499 – CPRE – Membership Renewal	36.00
Chq 001500 – R Curtis – Clerk Salary – Jan (dated 31/01/16)	444.60
Chq 001501 – R Curtis - Expenses	32.66
Chq 001502 – HMRC - Clerks Tax M08	0.40
Chq 001503 – NORSE – Clearance of dyke at Wootton Strip	1,170.00

TOTAL	42,707.02
--------------	------------------

Made up as follows

Saffron Building Society	13,863.00 (maturity date 7.11.15.)
Lloyds Gold deposit a/c (Easy saver)	23,859.51
Lloyds current a/c	4,984.51
	42,707.02

The above expenditure was approved for payment.

9. Highways

- i) A parishioner had notified Cllr Pulsford-Harris that the street sign at Little Carr Road has been knocked over by a lorry, Clerk has reported to the Borough Council.
- ii) The Clerk reported she had asked the Borough Council to sweep the leaves outside the Church and Wyndham House. There was some discussion about the schedule, frequency and route of the road sweeper, Clerk to contact the Borough Council and enquire.

10. Wootton Park

- i) Next meeting is Tuesday 26th January 2016. Cllr Pulsford-Harris asked that Trustees for the association be added as an agenda item.
- ii) It was noted that there is still debris on the side of the dyke on Wootton Strip, Clerk to ask Tracey at SWPC to get Ryan to clear.

11. Street lighting

- i) The Clerk reported that she had received a compliance tool in the form of a spreadsheet to populate from Salix who provide finance options for funding the LED replacement heads. Clerk to complete and forward to Finance Officer to consider.
- ii) The light in the bus shelter is not coming on, Clerk has contacted the supplier several times and the issue is that the sun is not bright enough in the winter to charge the battery sufficiently. Cllr Pulsford-Harris suggested that a window could be knocked into the side of the shelter to allow light to come through from the existing street light.

12. Planning

15/02044/F – Land rear of The Green – erection of 2 dwellings and garages - Application Supported by Council

15/02072/F – 21 Alban Road – erection of detached garage – Application Supported by Council

Decisions received – 15/01778/F – Rugby Club – Retrospective permission for use of storage containers for the collection and storage of consumer goods – Application Refused

13. Village Hall

Cllr Irwin has ground out the metal stump which was a trip hazard. He will look at the drain at the back of the Hall to see if it is used or not.

Clerk will obtain 3 quotes for cutting back the conifer trees within the boundary of the Hall and ask Kelly at Highways what can be done with regard to the other conifers which are overgrown situated in privately owned gardens.

14. The Village

Cllr Irwin reported he had been given a quote to lay pipe work and fill in and make safe the open dyke area on the piece of land behind the bus shelter at Priory Lane, the cost would be around £3,000. Cllr Pulsford-Harris said the piece of ground was waste ground left over from the Woodland Gardens development and belonged to Norfolk County Council. Clerk to write to them and express concern as to the safety of the area around the dyke especially when it fills up with water. Clerk will copy in Lord Howard and Cllr Law. Cllr Irwin will ask NORSE for a quote for the same work to be carried out.

The noticeboard opposite the bus shelter on Priory Lane was found pushed over before Christmas. Clerk ensured the site was made safe and Cllr Irwin has the board at his house. There was discussion as to whether to reinstate the board on posts in its original position or mount the board on the bus shelter. Cllr Pulsford-Harris will ask the owner of Meadow Stores if he would display the notices on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Clerk reported that the Council will no longer empty the litter bins in the village. A new contract with Kier, (via the Borough Council) would cost £579 per annum, if emptied weekly. The new contract only allows for the collection of 140 litre wheeled bins, which would be provided by the Borough Council, however the housings would need to be bought by the Parish Council at a cost of around £2,250 and additional cost would be incurred as these would have to be mounted on to concrete pads. The Council discussed whether SWPC would agree to collect the rubbish which the cost would be recharged to the Council. Another alternative would be to find someone to empty the current style of bins and then have a trade waste bin located in the village to contain the rubbish. Clerk to ask SWPC their thoughts initially.

15. Any Other Business

Cllr Malik asked if there was anything to be raised at the next SNAP meeting, the Council asked that parking at St Benets Drive and outside the School and also speeding along Priory Lane be mentioned.

Cllr Malik also asked if the Clerk had received any acknowledgement to the letter sent to the post office regarding their name, the Council agreed that the Clerk write again.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.25pm

..... Chairman Date