

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

Present: Councillors Pulsford-Harris, Border, Edwards, Duvall, Cox, Merrey, Malik
In attendance: Mrs R Curtis (Clerk)

3 members of the public were present

1. Apologies – Councillors Marshall-Grint, Nurse, Crome, Kilham

2. Declaration of Interest – None

3. Minutes of last meeting

It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 7th June 2016 be signed as a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising

Clerk has responded to the correspondence listed at June's meeting requesting that the PC pay for the moving of a streetlight. No response has been received.

5. Law and Order

Nothing to report.

The meeting was closed for Open Forum.

6. Open Forum

- A resident had noted a newspaper article reporting a project in Tittleshall, where solar panels were installed to their village hall funded by grants from Breckland County Council and the Love Norfolk Fund.

- A resident said it was nice to see the noticeboard reinstated opposite the bus shelter.

The meeting was re-opened.

7. Correspondence

Highways

17th June 2016 – Cranmer Ave

Could not find a problem due to Highway damage, no further action to be taken at this time.

Clerk to forward Cllr Cox's email again and explain that the bumps in the road are raised ironworks.

**Tony and Marcia
Goddard - Residents**

18th June 2016 - NWPC

Well done to the people clearing North Wootton strip, well done for the new waste bins adjacent and opposite the bus shelter. And thanks to the Parish Council for the good work done.

**Kelly Edwards –
Highways**

20th June 2016 – Triangle of Land behind Bus Shelter

The land is owned by NCC and cut by Borough Council in the past. Reductions have been made to their grass cutting schedules and several sites now not being cut. The area will be checked, if visibility is an issue can arrange for it to be cut, if not no further action will be taken. **Clerk has requested that a firm answer is given, so that**

alternative arrangements can be made if necessary. In the meantime, the grass was cut on 16th June by CGM as a goodwill gesture.

Clerk to contact NCC again and request that they consider gifting the land to the PC. If not, The PC would arrange for the grass to be cut and then send the bill to NCC.

A resident

4th July 2016 – Small Business Advertising in the Newsletter

A request asking if a mention can be made in the newsletter supporting a local electrician business.

The Parish Council decided against letting small businesses advertise in the newsletter as it may open the floodgates to many more requests and make the newsletter too long. The June issue was a one off, suggest to the resident that they get in touch with the Contact magazine.

Lord Howard

Cllr Pulsford-Harris has spoken to Lord Howard regarding the plight of the village hall. The land opposite the House on the Green is owned by Lord Howard and he has put forward a suggestion to lease the land to the PC and build a new village hall, funded by himself. The Clerk and Cllr Pulsford-Harris have made enquiries to confirm that the village hall on its present site at Priory Lane is on land owned by the PC and awaiting a response from the Land Registry.

A resident

The Clerk confirmed that she had responded to the website comments about cats causing a nuisance in residential gardens explaining that there is very little the PC can do regarding this.

There has been no response to the correspondence sent by the Clerk to the resident regarding the confidential matter of the status of one of the village green's discussed at June's meeting.

8. Finance

Bal. b/fwd. £68,346.16

Less Expenditure:

DD – EON Charges for April	770.15
Chq 001538 – Glazewing – Charges for May	27.60
Chq 001539 – CGM – Wootton Park, May	429.85
Chq 001539 – CGM – Village Greens, May	121.16
Chq 001540 – Westcotec – Maintenance for June	250.48
Chq 001541 – SWPC – Wootton Park – Jan – Mar 2016	631.16
Chq 001542 – Jet Reach – Notice Board	45.00
Chq 001542 – Jet Reach – Empty Bins - June	40.00
Chq 001543 – CGM – Wootton Park, June	429.85
Chq 001543 – CGM – Village Greens, June	121.16
Chq 001544 – BCKLWN – Newsletter Printing	67.38
Chq 001545 – R Curtis - Expenses	61.21
Chq 001546 – R Curtis – Clerks Salary – July (dated 31/07/16)	448.93
Chq 001547 – North Wootton Community School – Donation	150.00
Chq 001548 – Bev Eady – Internal Audit Fees	150.00

Add Income:	
UK Power – Annual Rent	17.70
TOTAL	64,619.93

Made up as follows

Saffron Building Society	13,863.00
Lloyds Gold deposit a/c (Easy saver)	46,861.81
Lloyds current a/c	3,895.12
	64,619.93

The above expenditure was approved for payment.

9. Highways

The issue of speeding outside the school was discussed; Clerk to research VAS (Vehicle Activated Signs).

10. Wootton Park

Cllr Border reported on the following being discussed at the latest WPA meeting held on 28th June 2016.

- Trees have been removed as per the agreed programme.
- The Green Gym sessions are well underway and well attended.
- The community payback groups have been a success. MSC students to provide manpower for a week in August to rejuvenate the infant play area.
- Two picnic tables have been installed on the park, funded by picnic in the park and the woodland trust.
- Cllr Border was congratulated by the PC on his efforts in the Park.
- Next Wootton Park meeting is 27th September 2016.

11. Street lighting

Day burn on the lamp mounted on the telegraph pole opposite Manor Road junction, Clerk to report.

12. Planning

Applications Received

16/00987/F – Priory Road, demolition of 4 properties and development of site to provide 9 residential units - Support

Decisions

16/00738/F – 3 Fredrick Close, extension – Application Permitted

16/00417/O – 3 new dwellings at The Priory – Application Refused at Planning Committee on 4th July 2016

The proposed development at Nursery Lane was discussed. A planning application is expected to be submitted to the Borough Council in August. Clerk to send a comment from the Parish Council, highlighting the access and exit point of the development is onto a very busy road and the green area of land to be built on is one of the few pieces of green land left between North and South Wootton.

13. Village Hall

The plight of the hall was discussed; the cost of maintaining the hall annually is £7,000. Cllr Border proposed that the precept could be increased to fund this cost and the hall is then run by the PC via a working group. Councillors felt that although they did not want to lose this asset to the

Village, it would have to be financially viable for the Parish Council to take over the running of the Hall. The hall needs to be updated which could be arranged with the help of voluntary groups which have carried out work on Wootton Park. Possible work to be done includes; install a lower ceiling to help with the heating in the winter, update the kitchen and toilets. In light of the offer from Lord Howard, a decision would have to be made as to whether the hall is closed straight away or if work is done to make it more appealing to hirers in the short term until the new hall is finished. It was agreed that if the hall is to be maintained, it needs to be advertised and promoted to encourage use, also fees to be looked at, as the rate per hour is high for the hall in the state it is in compared to other venues. Cllr Pulsford-Harris suggested the following course of action which was agreed by Councillors;

- a) Cllr Pulsford-Harris to write to Lord Howard to confirm the PC are interested in his generous offer of funding a new village hall.
- b) Contact the Village Hall Committee and say that the PC are happy to take the keys back.
- c) The PC meet at the hall on 10th August at 6.30pm (if there are no hirers using it) to get an idea of cost implications.

14. The Village

- It was agreed that Cllr Border will arrange for plaques to be made for the notice boards with the wording 'North Wootton Parish Notices'.
- It was also agreed that Cllr Border can purchase new paint to re-paint the benches in the village.

15. Any Other Business

None

The meeting was closed at 8.35pm

..... Chairman Date