

**MINUTES OF NORTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 4TH OCTOBER AT 7.15 P.M.
NORTH WOOTTON VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Councillors Crome (chaired the meeting), Border, Hughes, Edwards, Kilham, Cox, Malik, Merrey, Nurse
In attendance: Mrs R Curtis (Clerk)

5 members of the public were present

1. Apologies – Cllr Pulsford-Harris (holiday), Cllr Marshall-Grint (family matters)

Acceptance of these apologies was proposed by Cllr Crome and seconded by Cllr Border and unanimously approved.

2. Declarations of Interest – Item 14, Cllr Hughes

3. Minutes of last meeting

It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 6th September 2018 be signed as true record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising

The Clerk reported Lord Howard had spoken to her regarding the hedge along Ling Common Road. It has been cut, although some nearby residents felt it could have been cut back more. Lord Howard has stated he will cut the hedge more frequently and the Parish Council agreed that nothing further can be done to pursue this.

5. Law and Order

- It was noted that PC Natalie Nunn has visited the village on several occasions. She has spoken to the Clerk regarding a Community Speedwatch scheme, and it was decided that information should be included in the newsletter and a request for volunteers. Clerk to forward information to all Councillors and Cllr Cox to include on the website.
- There was a recent incident where an ambulance was unable to gain access to the Park following a 999 call, as they were unaware of the code to the barrier on Bede Close. The Clerk will contact the emergency services and remind them of the code and ensure they have it on record. Cllr Border will ensure the football club remember to lower the barrier when they are using the Park.
- It was noted that an arrest has been made following a recent spate of burglaries in the North and South Wootton and Reffley area, a recent North Wootton burglary might be attributable to the same arrested suspect.

The meeting was closed for Open Forum.

6. Open Forum

- A resident asked that a piece is put in the newsletter to remind people not to dump their garden rubbish in Wootton Park. Another resident noted garden rubbish and wood has been dumped in the woodland at the edge of Woodland Gardens. Clerk to report this to the Lord Howard and also put a piece in the newsletter.
- Parking outside the School was discussed and it was decided that the Clerk would write to the School regarding the situation and also mention in the newsletter.
- A resident of Manor Road attended to voice her objection to the proposed shelter at the bus stop on the corner of Manor Road, she stated as the buses run on time there is little need for a shelter, a structure of this nature would be open to vandalism and questioned if the shelter would be used by the groups of school children first thing in the morning.

- A resident raised the matter of signage on land near the marshes that used to show public footpaths. It is thought that over time they have been damaged and not replaced. Clerk to look into the matter.

The meeting was re-opened.

7. Correspondence

There was no correspondence for this meeting.

8. Finance

Bal. b/fwd. **£66,048.26**

Less Expenditure:

Chq Number

001785	Veolia - Village Hall Bins Aug	65.52
001786	Marion White - Mole Control	290.00
001787	Total Gas and Power Ltd - Aug	716.85
001788	Westcotec - Sept 18	250.48
001789	Westcotec - Light for Bush Shelter	979.96
001790	R Curtis - Expenses	77.74
001791	R Curtis - October Salary	462.80
001792	Norse - Grounds Maintenance	266.15
001793	Bev Eady - Internal Audit Services	150.00
001794	Wootton Park - Easement	3,666.66
001795	PKF Littlejohn - Audit Fee	240.00
001796	Jet Reach - Refuse collection, Village Bins	40.00
001797	CGM - Grounds Maintenance	452.40

7,658.56

Add Income:

TOTAL **58,389.70**

Made up as follows

Saffron Building Society	14,170.27
Lloyds Gold deposit a/c (Easy saver)	40,366.69
Lloyds current a/c	3,852.74

58,389.70

The above expenditure was approved for payment.

9. Highways

There were no Highways issues to discuss.

10. Wootton Park

Cllr Border reported the following;

- Community Payback team will be on the Park on 7th October, the Green Gym is finished now for the summer.
- Lighting on the Park was discussed after a resident had spoken to PC Nunn about the Park being so dark. The Parish Council agreed that lighting would be expensive to install and run and then the

columns may be open to vandalism. However, the idea will be discussed at the next Wootton Park meeting.

- Signage for the cycle path was discussed as there have been incidents of near misses as cyclists assume they have priority over pedestrians on the paths. The signage proposed states that the area is a 'shared space'. Cllr Border proposed that the PC approve this suggestion to take to the Wootton Park Committee, this was seconded by Cllr Nurse and all agreed.

11. Street lighting

Possible day burner outside Lodge Cottage on Manor Road, Clerk to investigate and report if necessary.

12. Planning

Applications Received

None

Decisions

18/00975/F – Acorns, Station Road - Extension – Application Permitted

18/01428/F – 17 Hayfield Road, Extension, front porch and garage conversion - Application Permitted

13. Village Hall

Cllr Hughes reported on the following;

- Work on the refurbishment is to be discussed with village hall committee representatives as MC Nurse builders have now been approved as the contractor.
- New flooring has been laid in the meeting room.
- Support is needed for West Norfolk Wins.
- Table Top sale for 5th October was cancelled.
- September's village market and the last bingo night were both successful.
- The Christmas Fair will be held on 1st December.

14. The Village

In order to complete a public consultation for the proposed siting of a bus shelter near the bus stop on the corner of Manor Road, the Clerk reported she had delivered 31 letters to residents of Manor Road and the surrounding area. There were 8 responses, all of these were objections. The Parish Council considered the responses and Cllr Border proposed that based on the objections received the PC does not proceed with the bus shelter, this was seconded by Cllr Nurse. Eight Councillors voted in favour of this proposal and there was one abstention. Clerk to write to the resident who requested the shelter and inform her of the PC's decision.

15. Any Other Business

To Approve an Addition to the Standing Orders regarding Councillor Apologies

The PC considered the amendments to the Standing Orders which the Clerk had previously circulated. These include Page 5 point **t ii.** - stating that the minutes will show 'the reason for apologies given' and Page 6 an additional point **y** stating that 'Councillors shall notify the Clerk prior to the meeting of any intended absence and give reasons. Apologies shall be considered and approved by those present at the meeting'. Cllr Cox proposed that these amendments be adopted and Cllr Border seconded and all agreed.

Councillor Vacancy

Sammy Doak attended the meeting to put himself forward for the position of Parish Councillor. He said that through his previous work he has experience of working with Parish Councils particularly in the area of community safety and feels he would like to make use of this skill set by becoming a

Parish Councillor. The PC had no questions to ask Mr Doak and thanked him for attending the meeting and his application would be considered and the Clerk would inform him of their decision.

There was no other business and the meeting closed to the public at 8.10pm.

In a closed session after the meeting Cllrs discussed Mr Doaks application. Cllr Merrey proposed that Mr Doak is co-opted to the position of Parish Councillor, Cllr Hughes seconded and all voted in favour. Clerk to inform Mr Doak.

The meeting was closed at 8.15pm

..... Chairman Date