

**MINUTES OF NORTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019 7.15 P.M.  
NORTH WOOTTON VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Councillors Pulsford-Harris, Marshall-Grint, Crome, Border, Edwards, Cox, Merrey, Kilham, Doak  
In attendance: Mrs R Curtis (Clerk)  
3 members of the public were present

**1. Apologies**

Cllr Nurse – ill health. Acceptance of these apologies was proposed by Cllr Pulsford-Harris and seconded by Cllr Border and unanimously approved.

**2. Declarations of Interest - None**

**3. Minutes of last meeting**

It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019 be signed as true record of the meeting.

**4. Matters Arising**

- A letter of resignation, with immediate effect has been received from Cllr Malik. He has been a Parish Councillor since 2002 and is leaving his position due to ill health.
- Cllr Pulsford-Harris said that she is not going to stand for re-election in May and that the April Residents meeting would be her last. She cited ill health and wishing to spend more time with her family as her reasons for stepping down. She has been a member of the PC for 25 years.

The PC acknowledged these resignations said both Councillors had worked extremely hard for the village and would be sorely missed.

**5. Law and Order**

- Cllr Doak reported he had attending the SNAP meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The main theme of the meeting was speeding. Clerk to forward information on speed watch schemes to Cllr Doak. In future SNAP meetings are going 'on the road' and communities can suggest places for the meetings to be held to try and encourage community engagement. Beat manager for the Woottons Natalie Nunn has put together the following information from a request made by Cllr Border:

Since I took up the post of Beat Manager for North and South Wootton which was August 2018 - present date there have been 15 calls/emails to Police reporting Anti-Social behaviour at Wootton Park and the surrounding residential areas.

Some of these were attended by Officers, some were sent to me for awareness.

The majority of the complaints have been about screaming and shouting coming from the play park and the time for the complaints are around the 6.30pm until 11.30pm.

There have been a couple of reports of groups of youths banging on residents front doors and windows and running off. At present there have been no youths identified.

There have been three reported crimes:

36/64431/18 - Damage to basketball Hoop - Reported: 13/10/2018

36/69102/18 - Damage to village noticeboard - Reported: 03/11/2018.

36/72661/18 - Damage to children's train - reported: 17/11/2018.

HI visibility patrols have been increased and foot patrols conducted of Wootton Park and I have started tweeting to show visibility.

Natalie will try and attend a meeting the next time she is on duty.

- Cllr Cox said he had a frustrating experience trying to report an incident using the telephone number 101, where he was on hold for more than an hour and then did not get a satisfactory response when emailing the police. Clerk to write to the Police to comment on the 101 system not being user friendly and frustrating, copy to be sent to Superintendent Dave Buckley.

## 6. Correspondence

Cllr Pulsford-Harris summarised the following: (Cllrs had received copies of all correspondence prior to the meeting)

- 1 Objection to the potential cost of the proposed bus shelter on Manor Road.
- 1 Objection to the potential cost of the proposed shelter and questioning how many people use the stop.
- 1 Objection to the PC's decision making process in terms of letting the public speak in open forum and where this is placed on the agenda. Also concern for an elderly neighbour whose property is close to the bus stop. The resident is concerned about the cost of the shelter being expensive and questioning how many people use the stop and the need for a shelter when there is natural shelter there by way of a hedge.
- 1 Objection to the timber frame proposal as it would be difficult to remove graffiti from it should it be vandalised.

The PC discussed the comments made and in order to address - agreed to ask the bus company to liaise with NCC to get the bus stop assigned and then ticketing information will be recoded from this stop and this will give an accurate report of how many people use it. It was also agreed for the Clerk to obtain quotes for a bench seat at the bus stop. It was also reiterated that the PC would always obtain 3 quotes for any work it seeks to complete and this would be the case in terms of the bus shelter, this ensures the PC always has best value. Guidance states that the public has no right to speak at a meeting unless the PC authorises this.

## 7. Finance

BALANCE b/f 50,092.95

### Less: Payments

#### Chq No

001839	Veolia – Village Hall Bin	74.83
001840	Jet Reach – Bin Emptying	40.00
001841	Westcotec – Lighting Maintenance	250.48
001842	CGM – Flail Wootton Park Perimeter	234.00
001842	Norfolk ALC – Election Training	228.00
001843	Total Gas and Power - Lighting	1,169.36
001844	BCKLWN – Dog Bin Emptying	633.36
001845	R Curtis – March Salary	462.80
001846	R Curtis - Expenses	9.02
001847	Veolia – Village Hall Bin	69.05
001848	NALC – Election Training	55.00
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		3,225.90

### Add: Income

15.00

50% Training costs for Clerk from North Runcton PC

46,882.05

### Made up as follows

Saffron Building Society	14,170.27
Lloyds Gold Deposit A/C (Easy Saver)	28,405.45
Lloyds Current A/C	4,306.33
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	<u><u>46,882.05</u></u>

The above expenditure was approved for payment.

- Cllr Border presented year to date figures for the accounts which shows the bottom line to be 5% over budget. There is however, income still to be received of a half year VAT repayment and SWPC payment for recharges on Wootton Park.

## **8. Highways**

- The section of Priory Lane opposite the pyramid near the bus shelter has sunk slightly. This area has been a site for works in the past due to an underground stream running through. Clerk to make Highways aware.

## **9. Wootton Park**

- Cllr Border proposed that the PC agrees to make a contribution by way of their share of the lighting for the infant play area on Wootton Park.

## **10. Street lighting**

- Cllr Border's work is ongoing to update the street lighting database and to review the costs of the electricity supply.

## **11. Planning**

16/00223/OM – 600 Homes at Knights Hill - David Goddards campaign objecting to this application is gathering momentum. The Planning Committee meet to decide the application at the Town Hall on 13<sup>th</sup> March. Letters have been delivered to all properties in South Wootton, North Wootton and Castle Rising, at the time of this meeting had led to an additional 181 objections being logged on the Borough Council planning portal. John Marrow (South Wootton resident and part of David's campaign team) wishes to speak at the planning meeting and the PC agreed he could have the available slot allocated to North Wootton PC. The PC has previously submitted their objections regarding infrastructure, additional traffic causing highways issues overcrowding at schools, doctors surgeries and the hospital. Cllr Pulsford-Harris suggested that a judicial review could have been sought for the granting of the application for Hall Lane, however this has not been progressed by the campaign team.

David Goddard has asked if the PC would fund £500 towards the campaign to help pay for protest banners to be placed along Knights Hill – the PC considered this and agreed to contribute, (a vote took place and 8 Councillors were in favour and there was 1 abstention). It was agreed to make David aware that if any more funds were needed, the PC would like to be kept informed before expenditure is committed.

The consultation period for the revised Local Plan for Kings Lynn and West Norfolk is now open. The PC agreed to make comments regarding the wording of the document which states 'at least' in front of the number of houses allocated to preferred sites, which has led to an increase in the number of houses in allocations recently.

The PC has received a letter from Sinclair Dalby regarding the proposed site of the telephone mast at Wootton Park. It states its determination as to whether the prior approval of the local planning authority will be required as to the siting and appearance. The PC has already sent objections to Sinclair Dalby along with Wootton Park and a resident. The PC agreed to object again on the same grounds and offer a suggestion of an alternative site.

19/00247/F – Cart Lodge at Wootton Halt – Support

19/00342/F – Extension and roof conversion at Lingwood – Support

19/00331/RM – 2 dwellings at the Red Cat – Support

19/00389/F – Extension at Bede Close – Support

Decisions received from BCKLWN

18/02236/F - 11 Woodland Gardens, extension and alterations – Application Permitted

**12. Village Hall**

Cllr Border presented the accounts for the village hall;

- Year-end bank balance is £7,979.50. A total of £11,552.12 has been received in income during the year and £14,116.42 expenditure. There is £4,736.07 remaining in the refurbishment account. Cllr Border requested that the loan which was given to the Village Hall by the PC of £1,074.73 be written off – this was unanimously agreed.
- There is a vacancy for a North Wootton Councillor on the village Hall Committee; this will be raised at the May meeting after the elections.
- There will be an official opening of the Hall on 30<sup>th</sup> March with the Mayor in attendance. Trade’s people will be invited and an open invitation to all parishioners of the village. The committee wish to put a banner under the North Wootton sign at the start of All Saints Drive to promote this which the PC agreed.
- The PC wished to extend their thanks to the Village Hall committee for their hard work, it was agreed that the Hall looks lovely.

**13. The Village**

- The flowers are in full bloom on the Green and around the village and all agreed how pretty everywhere looks.

The meeting was closed for Open Forum.

**14. Open Forum**

- John Marrow addressed the meeting and said that he wished to speak at the Planning meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March focussing on aspects of ecology. He thanked the PC for allowing him their representation allocation.
- A resident said she is concerned with Ling Common Road being used as a rat run if the new development goes ahead and asked what is happening with the House on the Green. Cllr Pulsford-Harris said there was no news from the Borough Council on this.
- It was suggested that a template could be put on the PC website to help people to object to planning applications as sometimes people are unsure of how to word an objection letter. Clerk to work on this.
- Children have been spotted picking the daffodils around the village which the PC and Wootton Park have planted, Clerk to write a letter to the school to make them aware and ask the children not to.
- It was noted that the potholes are deep along the road behind the Green.

**15. Any Other Business**

- Ben Page has written to the PC to ask for help to raise money for a trip to Costa Rica with Camps International Expedition. It was agreed to put his leaflets on the notice boards.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

In a closed session after the meeting, correspondence from a resident was considered regarding matters relating to the debate of the proposed bus shelter.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

..... Chairman ..... Date