

**MINUTES OF NORTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER 2021 - held at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, North Wootton**

Present: Councillors Marshall-Grint, (Chair), Border, Kilham, Edwards, Cox, Edwards, Lamb, Simpson

Also in attendance - Clerk Rachel Curtis, County Cllr Nick Daubney, James Bagge  
1 member of the public

**1. To accept The Commemorative Plaque from the Lord Lieutenant**

James Bagge, County Deputy Lieutenant attended the meeting to present a Commemorative Plaque to acknowledge the resilience of our community during the difficult days of the pandemic. The token was accepted by Cllr Marshall-Grint and it was noted that support was given to the Community in various ways during the pandemic. Keir Hughes and his wife Trish established The Woottons Helping Hands group which ensured there was a team of volunteers available for residents to call on to help with shopping trips, collecting prescriptions and generally a friendly ear. When restrictions allowed, the Village Hall committee provided opportunities for social interaction in the form of VE and VJ Day celebrations and holding the regular farmers markets and evening events. The PC thanked Mr Bagge for his attendance and for the presentation.

**2. Apologies** – Cllr Harper, family illness, Cllr Merry and Nurse, holiday –apologies accepted.

**3. Declarations of Interest** – None

**4. Minutes of last meeting** - It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021 be accepted.

**5. Matters Arising**

- There are still 2 vacancies on the PC, Councillors to encourage anyone interested to find out more.
- There was an instance of a motorbike driving along All Saints Drive and heading towards Priory Road about a month ago.
- The Clerk has submitted the application to the Parish Partnership for the SAM 2 sign.
- HGV – Clerk has written to the 3 land owners of the area where there is road access from the marsh farms onto Edward Benefer Way. One response has been received so far which is favourable. Await other responses before proceeding further.
- A surveyor for Norfolk Property Services is due to mark out the triangle of land on Priory Lane (3<sup>rd</sup> December) which the PC is in the process of purchasing. This is to denote the boundary area which NCC is retaining. The Clerk has instructed Hayes and Storr to act on its behalf for this transaction.
- The potholes on the road beside the Green have been filled.

**6. Law and Order**

- Nothing to report at this meeting.

**7. Open Forum**

- Update from Cllr Daubney - £2,000 can be funded by the members fund for the speed gates - to be discussed in item 16. Thanks to Nick from the PC for this. HGV issues are still being followed up with officers at County Hall. Consultation is currently taking place on the NCC budget for 22/23.

**8. Correspondence**

- A resident contacted the Clerk to report thefts of small items she had left on a grave at All Saints Church. The Clerk advised that she speaks to Rev Nash.

## 9. Finance

BALANCE b/fwd		£72,433.61
002114	CGM – Cutting Greens and WP	494.95
002115	Pheonix Fire Safe	664.80
002116	CGM – Cutting WP	133.20
002116	CGM – Cutting Greens	218.30
002116	CGM – Cutting WP	451.20
002117	Kings Lynn Signs – HGV Sign	20.52
002118	South Wootton PC – Tree Work	200.00
002119	Westcotec – November	250.48
002120	CPRE – Annual Subscription	36.00
002121	Total Energies – October 21	1,095.47
002122	VOID	0.00
002124	Jet Reach – November 21	50.00
002125	MC Nurse – Work to ditch at Priory Lane	234.00
002125	R Curtis – Clerk Salary – Dec 21	561.60
002125	R Curtis - Clerk Salary – N Plan	47.04
002126	R Curtis – Expenses	24.42
002127	SLCC – Annual Subscription	171.00
		<b>£4,652.98</b>

## Income

Made Up As Follows;

Saffron Building Society	£14,244.68
Lloyds Gold Deposit A/C (Easy Saver)	£52,267.40
Lloyds Current A/C	£ 1,268.55
	<b>£67,780.63</b>

Cllr Border presented a first look at the options for the precept for 22/23. Councillors discussed the current rates of inflation and how these will impact upon services the PC pays for. It was noted by Cllr Simpson that the payback from the streetlight change to LEDs will not benefit the PC in terms of savings for some 3 years. Further discussion and a decision to be made at the January meeting.

## 10. Highways

- Nothing to report at this meeting.

## 11. Wootton Park

- The car park area resurfacing is complete. There is now space for a total of 35 cars to be parked in all weathers. The old area around the edge will be re-shingled so the whole car park surface is the same.
- CCTV has been installed around the Pavilion area, one camera looking at the building and the other covering the path towards the car park.
- The WP committee recommended agreement for 4 new bins to be purchased for the Park, Councillors unanimously agreed to this also. The new ones will be made of metal, so more hard wearing and cost around £450 each.
- The budget for next year was proposed at £13,030, this is an increase of £1,695 from last year. The PC unanimously agreed this.
- The tree planting due to be completed on 4<sup>th</sup> December has been postponed as the area is currently waterlogged. On 7<sup>th</sup> December 2 larger trees will be planted, funded by the Rotary Club and 200 Club.
- Further to discussions at the WP meeting, Cllr Border will revisit the idea of putting lighting along the cycle path in the Park, further work and discussion required.

## **12. Street Lighting**

- Lamp out – outside 5 Rectory Close – Clerk to report.

## **13. Planning**

- Applications considered

21/01993/F - 7 Wheatley Drive - Demolition of existing side extensions. Construction of 2 storey side extension and single storey front – Support

**House on the Green** – nothing further to report.

**Knights Hill** – Public consultation today for the development. Cllrs Border, Kilham and the Clerk attended. There are still major concerns about transportation. The working party headed by David Goddard will be meeting NCC officials and Borough Council officers on 9<sup>th</sup> December to discuss these issues further.

## **14. Neighbourhood Plan – to hear an update on work relating to this**

A team from AECOM have visited the village and are now preparing the Design Code Report. This will focus on transportation, walkways and cycling etc.

The first meeting of the steering group should take place on 13<sup>th</sup> December via Zoom, to be confirmed.

## **15. Village Hall**

- Bookings remain consistent with regular hirers and also parties and functions.
- The Christmas Fair will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> December and Christmas Market on 18<sup>th</sup> December.
- A grant of £3,200 has been received from the national lottery for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.
- A fire proof cabinet has been purchased by the PC for the storage of minute books dating back 100 years. Clerk to arrange getting documents to the Hall.

The PC thanked the village hall committee for their continued hard work and commitment.

## **16. The Village**

- Work has been carried out by the PC to clear the ditch on the Wootton Park side of the culvert on Priory Lane. Thanks to the resident who contacted the Clerk to notify her work was being done. NCC have accepted responsibility for the culverts and will now proceed to clear them
- Councillors agreed to go ahead with a Parish Partnership Bid for village gates to replace the North Wootton signs on Ling Common Road and All Saints Drive. The style and wording was discussed, but a firm decision can be made if the bid is successful. It was suggested that it would be a good idea for speed roundels to be placed on them, as another reminder of speed limits entering the village.

## **17. Open Forum – None.**

## **18. To confirm any items for the future agenda – Precept Setting**

The meeting finished at 8.25pm

..... Chairman

Date 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022