

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF NORTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**THURSDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022 - held at 7.55pm in the VILLAGE HALL**

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

Also in attendance - Clerk Rachel Curtis, 1 member of the public and Bor. Cllr Elizabeth Nockolds and County Cllr Nick Daubney

1. Election of Chair, Vice-Chair, Responsible Finance Officer, election of Committees and Representatives

Chair – Cllr Marshall-Grint, proposed by Cllr Border and seconded by Cllr Edwards. There being no other nominations, Councillor Marshall-Grint was elected as Chair.

Vice Chair – Cllr Nurse, proposed by Cllr Border, seconded by Cllr Marshall-Grint. There being no other nominations, Councillor Nurse was elected as vice-chair.

Responsible Finance Officer – Cllr Will Border, proposed by Cllr Edwards, seconded by Cllr Harper. There being no other nominations, Cllr Border was elected as Responsible Finance Officer.

Vice Responsible Finance Officer – Cllr John Marshall-Grint, proposed by Cllr Cox, seconded by Cllr Merrey. There being no other nominations, Cllr Marshall-Grint was elected as Vice Responsible Finance Officer.

Planning Committee – Cllr Derek Cox, Cllr John Merrey and Cllr Malcolm Edwards, proposed by Cllr Marshall-Grint, seconded by Cllr Simpson. There being no other nominations, Cllrs Cox, Merrey and Edwards were elected as the Planning Committee.

Wootton Park Representatives – Cllr Will Border (Chair of WPA), Cllr John Marshall-Grint and Cllr Bridget Nurse. Proposed by Cllr Merrey, seconded by Cllr Cox. There being no other nominations, Cllr Border, Cllr Nurse and Cllr Marshall-Grint were elected as Wootton Park Representatives.

Village Hall Representatives – Cllr Will Border, Cllr John Marshall-Grint, Cllr Jason Harper, Cllr Bridget Nurse and Cllr Antony Lamb, proposed by Cllr Edwards and seconded by Cllr Cox. There being no other nominations, Cllrs Border, Marshall-Grint, Harper, Nurse, Lamb were elected Village Hall Representatives.

Trinity Almshouses Representative – Cllr Simon Kilham, proposed by Cllr Edwards, and seconded by Cllr Cox. There being no other nominations, Cllr Kilham was elected Trinity Almshouses Representative.

Armed Forces Representative – Cllr Bridget Nurse, proposed by Cllr Marshall-Grint and seconded by Cllr Harper. There being no other nominations Cllr Nurse was elected Armed Forces Representative

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group – Cllr Keith Simpson, Cllr Jason Harper and Cllr Blood, proposed by Cllr Border and seconded by Cllr Cox. There being no other nominations, Cllrs Simpson and Harper were elected to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Police Liaison Representative – Cllr Keith Simpson, proposed by Cllr Marshall-Grint and seconded by Cllr Edwards. There being no other nominations Cllr Nurse was elected Armed Forces Representative

Cllr Cox confirmed he would be happy to continue to administer the website.

2. **Apologies** – None

3. **Declarations of Interest** - None

4. **New Councillor to sign paperwork**

Cllr Jim Blood signed the necessary paperwork and was welcomed to the PC by Cllr Marshall-Grint.

5. **To consider prospective Councillor application and undertake the co-option process**

Simon Lemmon referred to his application which Councillors had seen prior to the meeting.

Councillors did not have any questions for Simon. The co-option process was followed and Simon left the room for Councillors to consider his application and upon his return unanimously voted him onto the PC.

6. **Minutes of last meeting** - It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 be accepted.

7. **Matters Arising**

- The cycle restrictors have been removed from Wootton Park.

- There was some discussion regarding the replacement LED lamp project and which areas had been done and which are still to do. ACTION: Clerk to contact Westcotec and ask how payment is required. Cllr Border will need some information also to confirm with the Borough that the lamps have been changed.

8. **Law and Order**

SNAP meetings are continuing via Zoom for the time being. Cllr Simpson said he is impressed with how the group are addressing issues being raised by Parish Councils.

9. **Open Forum**

Cllr Nockolds reported that the Borough Council are allocating more money to the budget to help partnerships collect fly tipping. There is a change to the bin collection rota which has been reconfigured to try and use less fuel. The Borough has produced its summer events programme with entertainment planned for the Tuesday Market Place at weekends and has given a grant to the Festival and Festival Too Committees.

Cllr Daubney thanked NWPC for the warm welcome during his first year of office at County. He said There will be changes in the charges for DIY waste at the tip in the near future. Fast fibre for the County is continuing to be rolled out, giving the area some of the best coverage in the country. Work is planned for the entrances to Kings Lynn via the Development Board, with a focus on the South Gates initially. There is also more discussion on the community hub/library plans for the old Argos building in town. Consideration is still being given as to what the old library building will be used for.

10. **Correspondence**

A letter asking when the cycle restrictors would be removed as the rust is dangerous. They were removed the day after this letter/email was received.

11. **Finance**

It was noted that year end adjustments were made to the March reconciliation as follows;

Expenditure – Chq 0020076 - £103.49

Income 07/05/21 £1,863.09, 17/02/22 £300, 31/03/22 £124.73

Therefore the new balance to carry forward at 31/03/22 was £54,546.53

BALANCE b/fwd (end of April)

£49,731.79

002170	Norfolk ALC Subs	433.12
002171	NW Village Hall – Flag	8.06
002172	Total Energies – Mar 22	1,212.96
002173	Westcotec – April 22	250.48
002174	BCKLWN – W Park Land Rent	20.00
002175	CGM – WP and Greens – March 22	351.50
002176	Jet Reach – Apr 22	50.00
002177	R Curtis – Salary – May 22	544.70
002178	R Curtis – expenses incl Veolia	101.15
		<hr/> 2,971.97

Income Parish Precept 42,899.00

### **Made up as Follows**

Saffron Building Society	14,244.68
Lloyds Gold Deposit A/C (Easy Saver)	65,166.40
Lloyds Current Account	10,247.74
Total to carry forward	<b>89,658.82</b>

The Clerk reported that the Parish Partnersip application for the SAM2 sign had been successful and £2,403 needs to be paid to NCC for the Parish Contribution.

The funding for the village gates was also successful, thanks goes to Cllr Daubney for his contribution from his members fund.

Councillors discussed David Goddards request for £250. A draft strategy is being prepared by David and Ben Colson to achieve some improvements to reduce the traffic generated by the Knights Hill development. The amount requested would go towards the solicitor fee for speaking at the planning committee when the reserved matters come forward for the Knights Hill application. Councillors felt that the PC has contributed a lot of money over the years to this cause and questioned whether a professional would put the case across any better than a passionate community minded volunteer. Therefore the PC voted unanimously not to contribute on this occasion.

### **12. Highways**

- Scrapping back of weeds to expose the pathway has been completed by the Ranger on the corner of Ling Common Road.
- The potholes are still a problem on Cranmer Ave – Clerk to report again.

### **13. Wootton Park**

Nothing to report

### **14. Streetlighting**

Nothing to report.

### **15. Planning**

Applications considered

- 22/00539/F – 5 Old Rectory Close, extension and alterations - support
- 22/00523/F – 25 Carlton Drive, extension - support
- 22/00559/F – 73 Pingles Road, extension - support

Decisions received

- 22/00090/F - 9 Pingles Road - Front extension - Application Permitted
- 22/00462/PAGPD - 2 Julian Road - Single storey rear extension which extends beyond the rear wall by 4.95m with a maximum height of 3.99m and a height of 2.44m to the eaves GPD HH extn - Approved

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

The next meeting with the consultants will be 23<sup>rd</sup> May to discuss the issues and options report. Meanwhile the steering group will meet on 16<sup>th</sup> May to discuss evidence gathering based on the templates the consultants have provided for green spaces etc.

## **17. Village Hall**

Preparations are well underway for the Jubilee celebrations.

## **18. The Village**

- The culvert on Priory Lane near the bus shelter has been cleared and Cllr Border also cleared the pipe leading into the woods behind Woodland Gardens. The Clerk has informed Lord Howard of the work done.
- Cllr Marshall-Grint and the Clerk attended a meeting re the haulage traffic through the village – notes of which are below.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 at Harvest House – with John Marshall-Grint (PC Chair), Rachel Curtis (Clerk), Megan Scourfield (Cruso & Wilkin) and colleague**

In response to a letter sent from the PC to Eaubrink Farms asking to discuss the frequency and loads of haulage traffic using the village, Megan contacted Rachel to arrange a meeting. Cruso & Wilkin represent Eaubrink Farms who Megan said were very keen to participate in any discussion on the subject.

The aim of the meeting was to ensure Megan was aware of the issues caused by the heavy haulage traffic and to see if there are any possible solutions to lessen the trips through the village and explore the possibility of an alternative route out through the marshes and onto Edward Benefer Way.

John and Rachel explained that as a PC we represent the residents of the village, and some who live on Manor Road have contacted the PC to express their concern at the number of lorries, frequency of trips, weight of the vehicles and how this is affecting their health in terms of sleep disturbance and stress and the damage which is being done to the roadways and potential damage to their properties. With the development of the Knights Hill site, the traffic which comes through North Wootton is going to increase as it will be used as a 'rat run' at busy times when people avoid the A149/A148 junction.

The tracks which already exist on the farmland were looked at in detail on a map and it was understood that Eaubrink Farms (who are tenants of the land) do not have a right of access over these. The only way this could happen is if the roadways become subject to a compulsory purchase order by Highways and then adopted by them, which would seem unrealistic. Even then there is a physical barrier between the land farmed by Eaubrink and the suggested access in terms of a bridge which would probably not hold the weight of the lorries and also marshland area.

It was concluded that the only access and right of way is through the village via Manor Road. Megan said that both Eaubrink and the organisation which owns the land are keen to keep a dialogue open with the PC and she suggested that if there is a large event being held at the church or scout hut to let her know and she would try and ensure that the lorries avoid that time of day if possible. John asked if hauliers could be better briefed as to the route, including any third party contractors.

## **19. Open Forum - Northing to discuss**

## **20. To confirm any items for the future agenda**

The meeting finished at 9.10pm

..... Chairman

Date 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022