

**MINUTES OF NORTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
THURSDAY 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 - held at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, North Wootton**

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

Also in attendance - Clerk Rachel Curtis, 2 members of the public

**1. To accept any apologies** - Cllr Lemmon - apologies were accepted.

**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 12<sup>th</sup> July be accepted – thanks to Wendy Border for completing these in the Clerks absence.

**4. Matters Arising**

*Cleaning of the pyramid, Priory Lane* – Cllr Lamb said this will be done with a pressure washer and will liaise with the resident who enquired about the progress on this.

*Almshouses Representative* – It was confirmed that Cllr Lamb will work alongside Cllr Kilham on this and not replace him.

*Four Oaks Campsite* – Councillors agreed that their concerns about the business are not founded. And that although there is some increased traffic movement it is not enough to cause a disturbance.

ACTION: Clerk to feed this back to the Borough Council.

*Purchase of land at Priory Lane* – Solicitors have provided an update detailing that NCC has been asked to meet any additional legal costs regarding their request for an overage deed as it did not form part of the original agreement with the PC – awaiting a response.

**5. Law and Order**

- Cllr Simpson reported that the next SNAP meeting will be 5<sup>th</sup> Oct. Issues to be raised - patrols at the House on the Green would be appreciated. It was noted that late night patrols of Wootton Park have been completed.

**6. Open Forum** – nothing raised.

**7. Correspondence**

- *Trees outside Linnymead, Manor Road* – the Clerk discussed the request from the resident to cut back the trees from outside his property with the Borough Council Arboricultural officer. The resident was unhappy with sap dropping on his cars and also concerned that some branches may cause an issue with the overhead electricity cables. The Borough Council officer noted that a formal application to remove all overhanging limbs of the trees will likely be refused. ACTION: To ensure the safety of the electricity cables, the Clerk will contact UK Power Networks to make them aware so that they can make their own judgement.
- *Ivy on Tree Trunk outside Oakdean* – A resident requested permission to remove ivy growing on a tree outside his property which is on Parish Council land. Councillors agreed to this.
- *Overhanging trees at Manor Road/Priory Lane Junction and outside the Wootton's Surgery* – this was raised by Cllr Lemmon – Cllr Border confirmed that the trees near the surgery are part of Wootton Park strip and are on the schedule to be attended to.

**8. Finance**

BALANCE b/fwd	£94,328.33
<b>August</b>	
002198     Westcotec – LED Light Conversion	39,639.12

002199	Westcotec – Maintenance July 22	250.48
002200	Total Energies – June 22	905.44
002201	Jet Reach – July 22	50.00
002202	Veolia – June 22	112.80
002203	V Hall Wayleave	16.62
002204	MC Nurse	36.00
002205	R Curtis Expenses incl Veolia	187.52
002206	R Curtis – Salary Aug 22	544.70
002207	R Curtis – N Plan Jul 22	71.82
<b>Sept</b>		
002208	CGM – July 22	260.71
002208	CGM - July 22	522.15
002209	Westcotec – Aug 22	250.48
002210	W Border – Jubilee Trees	142.40
002211	Total Energies – July 22	914.39
002212	BCKLWN – Newsletter Printing	84.91
002213	Jet Reach – Bins – Aug 22	50.00
002214	R Curtis – Salary – Sept 22	544.70
002215	Play Inspection Co – WPark Toddler Area	438.00
002216	Picnic on the Park – Stalls	20.00
002217	Will Border – Paint and varnish for bench	41.21
		<b>45,083.45</b>

#### Income

31/05/22 Picnic in the Park Stall	10.00
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08/07/22 Go Fund Me –Toddler Park	48.30
13/07/22 Go Fund Me Toddler Park	52.90
25/07/22 W Park Income	1,534.58
28/07/22 Go Fund Me Toddler Park	<u>38.34</u>
	1,694.12

#### Made Up As Follows;

Saffron Building Society	£14,244.68
Lloyds Gold Deposit A/C (Easy Saver)	£25,174.00
Lloyds Current A/C	£11,520.32
	<b>£50,939.00</b>

Concern was noted at the rise in energy prices and how these may affect the cost of powering the street lights. Cllr Border said that the LED lamps will help to offset the cost increase significantly. The rising costs will be monitored and it was suggested that discussions may be needed in the future to decrease the amount of time the streetlights are lit in the evenings. ACTION: Clerk to make enquiries to find out potential savings on this

## 9. Highways

- It was noted that weeds are still an issue on the kerbs around the village, the Clerk noted that weed spraying has been decreased to once a year by NCC due to budget cuts. Councillors suggested that this could be done by volunteers to help keep the village clean and tidy, however this could prove a health and safety issue if people are using pesticides. ACTION: Clerk to contact Highways to seek advice on whether intervention by the PC would be appropriate.

- Cllr Marshall-Grint reported there have been some cars parked inappropriately around the village, the protocol with the Borough Council is that if a resident has an issue with parking near their property, they

should make a complaint to the Borough Council neighbourhood nuisance team directly, after trying to speak to their neighbours first.

## **10. Wootton Park**

- The toddler play area has been successfully completed and officially opened on 25<sup>th</sup> Aug 22. There was an overspend of £9,500 due to the costs of materials to replace the whole area of flooring to make the project complete. This should be met by the following - £2,500 from Picnic on the Park (Agreed by the Picnic on the Park Committee), £1,000 from Wootton Park Account, £2,000 from the 200 Club, £1,500 from North Wootton Parish Council (Agreed by NWPC). £1,500 from South Wootton Parish Council. £500 from North Wootton Village Hall (from the goodwill gesture from Anglian Water to use as they see fit for the community) and £500 from South Wootton Village Hall (from the goodwill gesture from Anglian Water to use as they see fit for the community). Costs were cut in other ways including reusing benches and some work being done by volunteers to try and offset this overspend
- It is hoped that some used trim trail equipment may be donated by the College and Anita Howard is in communication with them on this. The monkey bars have been condemned and need to come down, they are rotten at the bottom.
- The Woottons Football club have asked for a five year agreement, as if this is in place, they can apply for a grant from the FA to help with the ground maintenance over the five year period, this will be worth about £40,000, which can only benefit the park.
- The Sandbach Road Car Park is not open yet. A resident had approached 2 Councillors and asked if the PC could contact SWPC to find out the position.

## **11. Street Lighting**

- Cllr Border has completed the CIL sign off paperwork including completion report and submitted to the Borough Council in order to receive the £10,000 grant for this scheme. The PC thanked Cllr Border for his hard work in getting this project completed.

## **12. Planning**

Applications considered

- Decisions received

Applications considered –

22/01196/F - Single storey side extension to dwelling at 1 Marsh Farm Cottages Marsh Road North Wootton King's Lynn Norfolk PE30 3QJ - support

22/01282/F - Proposed two storey extension on each side of the detached property and front extension single storey. at 24 The Howards North Wootton King's Lynn Norfolk PE30 3RS - support

- Decisions received

22/00895/F North Wootton 4 Hayfields Road North Wootton King's Lynn Norfolk PE30 3RT - Single storey rear extension, front porch extension and associated works. Application Permitted

22/01175/PAGPD North Wootton 57 Hayfields Road North Wootton King's Lynn Norfolk PE30 3RR - Single storey rear extension which extends beyond the rear wall by 4.76 m with maximum height of 3.6 m and a height of 2.99 m to the eaves Application Withdrawn 3 August 2022 Withdrawn Application

Update on Knights Hill – comments were sent from the PC for the Reserved Matters application. Comments echoed those of SWPC and CRPC.

Update on House on the Green – application for 5 houses has been submitted and the PC has objected.

Update on telecom mast on Wootton Park – there has been a non material amendment to the application which did not require PC comment, which related to the concrete base and fence.

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

The next meeting will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> Sept for the steering group to discuss the first draft of the plan.

## **14. Village Hall**

The accounts are healthy with the current account balance of £26,000 and the premium account of £15,000. AWA are awarding the Hall £2,000 as a goodwill gesture following the disruption of water

supply in July.

## **15. The Village**

- Village Gateway signs – Clerk to meet with the Highways officer on 15<sup>th</sup> Sept, to discuss suitable placing for these. Cllr Lamb and Cllr Blood will try to attend also.
- SAM 2 signs – positions have been agreed in principle with the Highways officer, a consultation process now has to be completed with residents close to the sites of the signs.
- Parking on the green is still an issue at the north of the village. ACTION: Clerk to send letters to remind people this is not allowed.
- Cllr Marshall-Grint noted that people are placing large items such as bicycles on grass areas in the village to sell, Councillors felt that this was not an issue and to be tolerant.
- Discussions had taken place several months ago with the Drainage Board regarding the dykes leading from Station Road and the need to keep them clear. ACTION: Clerk to contact the Drainage Board again before the winter weather sets in.
- Potential Social Media Presence for the PC – This discussion was suggested following the AWA issue and how it was handled on local social media and how various local Councillors reacted to the situation. It was suggested that the PC should think about contingency plans in emergency situations and how it could play a part in helping the community. It was noted that during the Coronavirus pandemic help was offered in the form of the Woottons Helping Hands, but very few people came forward asking for assistance. The pros and cons of having a NWPC facebook page were discussed and while updates could be communicated in this way, it is also open to abuse and outlet for content not relevant to the Parish Council. The Woottons Community facebook page has been used in the past to communicate messages regarding the Neighbourhood Plan which was successful. However, it was agreed that the PC would not react to social media posts regarding complaints – residents should contact the Clerk or a Councillor if they have a problem which they feel the PC could address.

## **16. Open Forum**

- North Wootton Sign – ACTION: Clerk to find a company who can repair the sign.
- The noticeboards have not been delivered yet, ACTION: Clerk to chase up.

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

The meeting finished at 8.45pm

..... Chairman

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