

MINUTES OF NORTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2023 - held at 7.30pm at the Village Hall, North Wootton

Present: Cllrs Marshall-Grint (Chair), Cox, Edwards, Lemmon, Harper, Nurse, Blackmore

Also in attendance - Clerk Rachel Curtis, Borough Cllr Paul Bland, Borough Cllr Richard Coates, County Cllr John Crofts, and 4 members of the public.

- 1. To accept any apologies** – Cllrs Merrey, Border, Blood, Lamb, Simpson - 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 6th July 2023 be accepted.
- 4. Matters Arising**
23/00905/AG / Prior Notification: Agricultural storage building, standing of steel storage container and formation of access road / Land Opposite Chrysella 174 Nursery Lane and E of Pond, Nursery Lane – The application for this has been withdrawn.
Telemast on Wootton Park – After a meeting with SWPC and Tracey Brooker from the Borough Council it was agreed to reject some of the Heads of Terms drafted and proposed by the communications company. Awaiting to hear an update from Tracey.
Priory Lane Land Purchase – No further update at present.
Proposed project for easing of traffic at North Wootton Academy – This is still ongoing, further discussion with north Wootton Academy.
- 5. Law and Order** – Cllr Coates said he attended the last SNAP meeting and the matter of gas cylinders found in the woods in both North and South Wootton was mentioned. The police have said that finding them proves nothing illegal has happened and not to touch them but report.
- 6. Open Forum** – Cllr Marshall Grint welcomed County Cllr Crofts to the meeting after his election to office. Cllr Bland said that much work was being done at the Borough on the Corporate Strategy. Cllr Coates reminded the PC that he has a Councillor Grant to be awarded to groups and organisations who may need assistance and suggested permanent goal posts for Wootton Park. This would be raised at the next Wootton Park meeting for discussion as no decision can be made at the Parish Council on this.
- 7. Correspondence**
 - Some residents complained about the condition of the memorial bench, this has been acted upon and Cllr Lamb has carried out some repair work – thanks goes to him for doing this.
 - NCC Highways wrote to the Clerk regarding the corner of Manor Road/Station Road where some obstructions have been placed to stop lorries eroding the verge. After some discussions with the Highways Officer, Cllr Marshall-Grint confirmed that it had been agreed that permanent bollards would be put in this area.
 - The new Leader of the Council has written to all PC Chairs with the offer of a meeting inviting them to get together to discuss matters relating to Parishes and their working with the Borough.
- 8. Finance – to agree the payments list presented at the meeting**

Balance Brought Forward	45,374.50
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Less: Payments	
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Online	Westcotec – July 23	250.48
Online	Total Energies – June 23	1,868.79

Online	Veolia – July 23	108.26	
Online	CGM - July 23	440.27	
Online	P Witt – July 23	105.00	
Online	BCKLWN – Newsletter Printing	99.06	
Online	R Curtis – Salary Aug 23	588.03	
Online	Westcotec – Aug 23	250.48	
Online	F Davies – NW Sign	1,978.00	
Online	Total Energies – July 23	1,930.12	
Online	CGM – Aug 23	552.77	
Online	Veolia – Aug 23	158.21	
Online	P Witt – Aug 23	75.99	
Online	C C Planning – N Plan	4,140.00	
Online	R Curtis – Salary – Sept incl N Plan	721.67	
Online	CGM	135.24	
Online	CGM	80.04	
		13,472.41	
	Add Income	17.96	
	Wayleave	4,899.00	
	N Plan Grant		
			36,819.05
	<u>Made up as follows</u>		
	Lloyds Gold Deposit A/C (Easy Saver)	174.00	
	Lloyds Current A/C	883.85	
	Lloyds Treasurers Account	35,761.20	
			36,819.05

The payments above were approved.

9. Highways

- There is an overhanging tree on the corner of Nursery Lane within South Wootton, Cllr Bland to report to their Clerk.
- The Hedgerows along Nursery Lane are becoming overgrown. Clerk to contact the landowners and make them aware.

10. Wootton Park

There is some tree work ongoing.

It was brought to the attention of the meeting that a charity event is being held on the Park on 23rd September. Cllr Nurse will check with Cllr Border that he is aware of the activity.

11. Street Lighting - none

12. Planning

- Applications to Consider
23/01528/F – 37 Ford Ave, Side extension - Support
- Decisions
23/01528/F – Application for Telemast on Priory Lane – Application Refused
- 22/01492/F – Application for conversion of Lodge Cottage and building of 4 dwellings at Manor Road – Application Refused
- 23/00887/F | First floor extension - 45 Hayfield Road – Application Permitted

A meeting will be held with NWPC, SWPC and Kanda on Monday 18th Sept to look at some of the Conditions on the Knights Hill application regarding access and Reserved Matters.

House on the Green – it was noted that work has started on the site.

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

Feedback from Statutory Consultees was discussed by the Steering Group and amendments made where necessary and the draft Regulation 15 documents has been sent to the Borough Council for their review.

14. Village Hall

- Finances are healthy, this is enabling the committee to build up some reserves to be used for 2 potential upcoming projects - replacement roof tiles and new areas of flooring to be laid.

15. The Village

SAM 2 Sign - As Cllr Blood was not at this meeting, so there was no update for this month.

Village Sign – this is now complete and in place and some positive feedback has been received. Councillors pass on their thanks to Cllr Lamb and Cllr Border for their help with this project.

To consider a suggested bus shelter at the top of Manor Road

The Clerk contacted Highways to ask about the process of consultation, permission and planning of putting a bus shelter at the top of Manor Road. The Officer reviewed the file taking into account previous correspondence regarding this matter when the PC looked into this about 5 years ago. Steps were set out that PC would need to take for this to be considered by Highways once again and to grant a licence. Criteria included specifications for the design and appearance of the shelter, taking into account the number of people who would use it. Councillors considered the fact that Cllr Coates noted that 2 people brought this to his attention while canvassing for election to the Borough and that he has seen 2 more people use the bus stop. The quotes for a timber bus stop in keeping with the area about 5 years ago were in the region of £8,000, this would be considerably more now. Taking into account the controversy the matter caused when the PC considered it previously and the cost implications - the majority of Councillors agreed not to pursue the matter further.

16. Open Forum

The area of grass outside the Wootton Surgery has not been cut for some time. The Clerk will find out who is responsible for this.

17. To confirm any items for the future agenda

None at present

Dates of next Meetings

Thursday 5th October, Thursday 7th November 2023

The meeting finished at 8.45pm

..... Chairman

Date 5th October 2023