

**MINUTES OF NORTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 1st JUNE 2023 - held at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, North Wootton**

Present: Cllrs Blood, (Chaired the meeting), Lamb, Cox, Merry, Edwards, Simpson, Lemmon

Also in attendance - Clerk Rachel Curtis, Borough Cllr Paul Bland, Borough Cllr Richard Coates and 13 members of the public.

Cllr Blood welcomed our two new Borough Councillors to their first meeting of the Parish Council. The sad news of the passing of County Councillor Nick Daubney was marked with a minutes' silence.

- 1. To accept any apologies** – Cllrs Marshall-Grint, Border, Harper, Nurse - apologies were accepted.
- 2. Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Lamb – Item 13, Planning
- 3. Minutes of last meeting** - It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and the Annual Residents Meeting held on Thursday 11th May 2023 be accepted.

4. Matters Arising

North Wootton Sign Refurbishment – The new post will be installed next week and the sign will be in place next month.

SAM2 Unit – The Clerk, Cllr Blood and Cllr Simpson attended a training session for using the sign at Westcotec recently. Cllr Blood has now put the sign up in its first position on Ling Common Road. It is hoped that the sign will encourage safer driving and also monitor the volume of traffic in the village.

Street Numbering on Manor Road – the Clerk reported that following discussions at last months meeting she has confirmed with the Borough Council that the PC will not support the renumbering of properties on Manor Road.

- 5. Law and Order** – Nothing to report.

6. Open Forum

- Many residents attended the meeting to voice their objections to the proposed agricultural building on Nursery Lane. It was noted that the applicant must, before beginning the development, apply to the Local Planning Authority for determination as to whether prior approval will be required as to the siting, design and external appearance of the building, the siting and means of construction of the private access way. It will be up to the Borough to establish whether it falls within Permitted Development criteria and establish any concerns they may have. Residents have objections to the proposed application on the following grounds

- Potential increase in traffic movement including heavy vehicle movements turning at the top of Station Road.
- Environmental impact to the area including the pond, wildlife and Church.
- Loss of views over a tranquil area of the village.
- Could this development then lead to applications for residential properties in this area.

There were also questions raised over the choice of field for the building, the nature of the business selling hay and if this will be seasonal or year long.

Cllr Simpson urged residents to put their concerns in writing to the Borough Council, and to write individually. Councillors agreed for the Clerk to contact the applicant to try and seek some clarification to the questions arisen from this discussion.

- Cllr Coates brought to the attention of the PC that some residents told him they would like a bus stop at the top of Manor Road. The Clerk had explained to Cllr Coates that the PC considered this 3 years ago and the majority voted against the proposal, therefore it was not taken any further. However, due to

residents raising the matter again the PC agreed to discuss further at the July meeting.

7. Correspondence

- A Letter from Canon Mark Diamond at Kings Lynn Minster asking if a Councillor would like to join the Walsingham Way Group which are trying to plan the pilgrimage route from Kings Lynn to Walsingham. Cllr Simpson volunteered to be the NWPC representative.

8. June Payments

Balance Brought Forward		55,223.98	
Less:	Payments		
<u>Chq No:</u>			
Online	P Witt – Bin Bags	5.99	
Online	Total Energies – April 23	2,214.70	
Online	Westcotec – May 23	250.48	
Online	J Blood – Laptop for SAM2 Sign	186.97	
Online	CGM- May 23	860.36	
Online	W Border – Framing	19.99	
Online	R Curtis – Salary and Expenses	624.63	
		4,163.12	
			51,060.86
	<u>Made up as follows</u>		
	Lloyds Gold Deposit A/C (Easy Saver)	174.00	
	Lloyds Current A/C	955.79	
	Lloyds Treasurers Account	49,931.07	
			51,060.86

The auditing of the accounts has not been completed as yet, agreement of these will be deferred to the July meeting.

9. To carry out the annual review and agree the Policies and Procedures for the PC

Councillors had reviewed the following documents sent to them by the Clerk and Cllr Simpson proposed their acceptance, this was seconded by Cllr Edwards and unanimously agreed.

Standing Orders
Financial Regulations
The Effectiveness of Internal Control
The Effectiveness of Internal Audit
Financial Risk Assessment and Management Document
Information and Data Protection Policy
Co-Option of Councillors Procedure
Complaints Procedure
Equality and Diversity Policy
Freedom of Information Policy
Retention and Disposal Policy

10. Highways

- Nothing to report. The Clerk asked Councillors if they had anything for the Rangers as they are coming to the village next month.
- It was questioned how often the Borough Council are coming to cut the grass verges as in places the weeds are growing quite long – Clerk to find out their schedule.

11. Wootton Park

The Picnic in the Park event will be held on 10th June 2023. There was nothing else to report as Cllr Border was not at the meeting.

12. Street Lighting

Nothing to report.

13. Planning

- 23/00731/F | Extension and alterations to dwelling including location of log cabin garden summer room | Shir-Eam 41 Priory Lane, PE30 3PT – Support
- 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
- Discussed in item 6.
- *To hear an update re access to the Knights Hill development*
David Goddard held a meeting with the new Borough Councillors to discuss a strategy to challenge some of the Reserved Matters in the Knights Hill Application. North Wootton PC agreed for Paul Croker to speak on behalf of the PC’s at the next Planning Committee Meeting.

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

The consultants are considering the comments received and a meeting in planned for mid June with the Steering Group for an update.

15. Village Hall

In the absence of Cllr Harper there was nothing to report.

16. The Village

- Hayes and Storr had sent through the draft Deed of Covenant setting out the overage provision for the PC to consider. As the document had only recently been received it was agreed that Councillors would review and give any comments to the Clerk via email. On first impression the document appeared clear and concise.
- Cllr Marshall-Grint, Cllr Border and the Clerk recently met with NCC representatives and the headteacher of North Wootton Academy to further discuss the potential project of a car park/drop off point being created in the grounds of the school to help alleviate the traffic situation. Initial feedback from the Portfolio Manager at NCC needs to be considered before moving forward.

17. Open Forum

A parishioner asked if the PC had ever considered looking into a weight restriction being put on Nursery Lane. The Clerk said this had been looked into several years ago and taken no further by Highways.

18. To confirm any items for the future agenda

- SAM 2 report
- Manor Road bus Stop

Dates of next Meetings

Thursday 6th July, no meeting in August, 7th September

The meeting finished at 8.20pm