



# WOODNEWTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

## MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, ORCHARD LANE, WOODNEWTON, PE8 5EE at 8.00PM

### MINUTES

**Present:** Cllr Hansford (Chairman), Cllr Blackmore, Cllr Flack, Cllr Jenner and Amy Miller (Clerk and RFO)

#### **1. Declarations of Interests from Councillors**

None

#### **2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence received from Cllr Neville

#### **3. Public Time**

A member of the public expressed concerns over increasing incidents of dog fouling on the Playing Fields near to the allotments and openings at the top of the Playing Fields. It was suggested previous Parish Council attempts at preventing this behaviour such as adverts in the newsletter, signage round the Playing Fields were not effective and more needed to be done. This was considered later in the meeting under agenda item 8(c)

#### **4. Minutes of Meeting Held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019, having been previously circulated, were AGREED and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **5. Matters arising from Previous Minutes (not covered elsewhere on Agenda)**

None

#### **6. Speeding in and through the Village**

Cllr Blackmore has received from ENC Highways after being granted the Section 50 Licence a speed detection device that was ready to be used. It is a non-data gathering device but would clearly display vehicle speed in an attempt to make drivers more aware. After discussion of suitable sites it was agreed to start on Main Street for initial trialling of the equipment.

## 7. Planning

The Council **NOTED** the following applications:

- (a) Application No. 19/01900/TCA – Tree Pruning, 32 Main Street, No Objection, GRANTED
- (b) Application No. 19/01884/FUL – Replacement Conservatory Roof and Wall Frames, 3 Sycamore Close, Council had No Objection.
- (c) Application No. 19/01817/TCA - Returned from Planning GRANTED
- (d) Application No. 19/01416/FUL - Returned from Planning GRANTED
- (e) Application No. 19/01650/FUL - Returned from Planning GRANTED
- (f) Application No. 19/01631/FUL - Returned from Planning GRANTED

## 8. Playground/Playing Fields

- (a) **Monthly Playground Inspection Report** – No report was received but expected in the next few days from Cllr Neville.
- (b) **Update on Repairs, Improvements and Provision of Additional Equipment** – Council hope the new bin will be fitted this month if the weather continues to hold.
- (c) **Loose dogs and increased dog fouling on the Playing Fields** – Cllr Flack echoed the words expressed earlier by the member of public and highlighted concerns that this was a children's play area not a cut through for dogs or a dog exercising area. There is a green lane that runs adjacent to the playing fields where dogs are free to roam. It was noted that dog excrement is particularly dangerous to children as well as being offensive to the general public. Council discussed at length failed attempts to prevent this. A suggestion of blocking off routes in and out of the playing fields was raised but these are required for air ambulance and medical services.

Council **REQUESTED** the Clerk reach out to NCALC to take guidance on what would be required to get a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) requiring dogs to be kept on a lead and the ability to fine for dog fouling.

The Council would also like to thank many of the public who do clear up dog mess after others that feel it isn't their responsibility.

## 9. Parish Precept Year 2020/21

The Clerk updated Councillors on expected year end cash flow and carry forward reserves for the next financial year and proposed budget for 2020/21. The financial benefits of the new streetlights were being felt which would pay back the interest free loan but rising costs for grass cutting and village maintenance swallowed up nearly 70% of precept. With this in mind and growing uncertainty surrounding the Local Government Re-Organisation in Northamptonshire Councillors unanimously **AGREED** a budget for 2020/21 which covered all known costs and also attempted to build up reserves for contingencies. The budget would require a precept increase of £863 or 6% (£14,382 to £15,245) and was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Blackmore and **SECONDED** by Cllr Jenner.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should provide the necessary details and apply for the above precept amount from East Northamptonshire Council.

2020/21 Budget to be added to these minutes.

## 10. Accounts

Council **AGREED** the following payments by BACS:

(1) Clerk Salary (December)	£268.45
(2) Woodnewton Village Hall Hire	£36.00
(3) EON Electricity (Oct-Dec)	£116.87

Council **NOTED** the EON electricity bill had reduced by 2/3 for the last quarter in line with the ew LED street lighting, as the project had predicted, and Maintenance was no longer being charged with the ten year warranty on the lights.

## 10. Dates of Meetings in 2020

Council **STILL TO CONFIRM** a provisional date for the Annual Parish Meeting.

## 12. Correspondence

- (a) Council **AGREED** the Clerk should apply for the village mowing grant from Northamptonshire County Council for 2020 and invoice for the 2019 payment.
- (b) Council had received a request from the 1<sup>st</sup> Nassington and Kings Cliffe Scouting Group to hold their campfire, activities and games at the rear of the village hall. Council **REQUESTED** the Clerk to decline whilst the bonfire is still in existence but hopes to host soon.
- (c) The Clerk updated Councillors of new funding schemes available but it was felt non fitted current Parish Plans at present.
- (d) Cllr Blackmore agreed to be the delegate for the upcoming JAG meeting 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020.
- (e) Council **AGREED** the Clerk could attend a training course on preparing for the financial year end and audit at a cost of £36.

## 13. May 2020 council Elections

Council **CONFIRMED** there were two Councillor vacancies that had been made public and were being advertised.

Cllr Hansford **PROPOSED** to co-opt Peter Gutteridge as a new Councillor at the next meeting.

**14. Village Bonfire**

Concerns were raised about the continuing existence of the bonfire as it continued to be added to and worries of animals nesting in it. The Council **AGREED** it was the responsibility of the Village Hall Committee to action this issue and requested the Clerk to write to the Village Hall Committee requesting a plan of action.

**15. Councillors' Opportunity to Update Colleagues**

Cll Jenner requested the next Village Clean up day to feature on the February agenda.

Cllr Flack requested we provision for the allotment lawn mower service circa £50.

Cllr Hansford discussed ideas for the Village Newsletter adverts budgeted for in the next financial year.

**16. Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020 8pm in the Village Hall.

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45pm**

Chairman's Signature.....

Date 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Prepared by Amy Miller Clerk and RFO

E-mail: [woodnewtonpc@gmail.com](mailto:woodnewtonpc@gmail.com)

Telephone 07767 308859

13<sup>th</sup> January 2020