



# WOODNEWTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

## MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020 REMOTELY at 8.00PM

### (DRAFT) MINUTES

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

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

None. The clerk declared an interest in item 7(d) for transparency.

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

None

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

No members of the public requested to join.

#### **4. Minutes of Meeting Held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020, 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 updated - the camera remains at the end of Orchard Lane facing the Apethorpe direction and will stay there until a suitable position can be found on Main Street. S50 licence amendments were being applied for by Mr Barber of ENC Highways for better settings on Main Street. Sites discussed were; where Main Street narrows, by the bend before the bridge facing the Apethorpe direction and by the Old School House. Difficulties lie in the need for the camera to be attached to a metal post of at least 3m in height.

It was also noted that Woodnewton had formally exceeded the three-month allocation for the loan of the camera but could continue to keep it until required elsewhere.

## 7. Planning

- (a) 20/00783/TCA – Tree works 48A Main Street - returned with No Objection
- (b) 20/00747/TCA - Tree works 19 Orchard Lane – returned with No Objection
- (c) 19/01803/FUL – Appeal Willowbrook Barn – The council noted the appeal and that it was awaiting ENC to appoint a case officer. The change of use had been removed from the application and the new roadway fell outside the village building line which is outside the Parish Council jurisdiction.
- (d) 20/00957/FUL – 25 Main Street – glamping pods – No objection.

## 8. Playing Fields/Playground

- (a) Cllr. Blackmore outlined the plans for the roundabout and rocker refurbishment due to begin at the end of the month. This would render both pieces of equipment out of action and closed off by the use of hazard warning tape with the roundabout further secured to prevent use.
- (b) The wording of the playground Operator’s sign was rolled forward to the next meeting pending further research by the clerk.
- (c) Both the MUGA and two Covid Signs have been fitted in line with the annual ROSPA playground inspection advice. Post protection from strimming etc. remains pending
- (d) Cllr. Neville had researched skate parks after a request by a member of the parish. Indicative prices of a basic bowl came in circa £40,000 and ramps circa £5,000. Whilst these were reasonable it was agreed the upkeep costs, the effect on insurance and the health and safety requirements would be a large burden on our small village precept.
- (e) A member of the parish had also contacted the clerk with regards to the matting round the roundabout being very slippy. It had been the victim of two cancelled village clean up days so had missed being jet washed. It has however, been noted and will be addressed before the roundabout is re-opened following the maintenance closure.

## 9. Cemetery

- (a) It was **AGREED** that this item be further considered and a Proposal will be on the October Agenda to agree an updated table of fees, when all the information gathered has been further considered.
- (b) The clerk briefed the Council on the updated Cemetery Details, rules and regulations which now have their own page on the Woodnewton hub. When the cemetery fees have been finalised these would also be added.

## 10. Accounts

As at 31/08/2020 the bank balance stood at £23,212.46

- (a) Council **AGREED** the following payments:
 

Clerk Salary (July and August) (BACS)	£536.90
Admin Costs	£63.98
UK Timber (pre agreed Mins ref)	£452.62
Muga Sign (approved July Meeting)	£25.68
HJ Horticulture	£2,296.31
PKF Littlejohn (external audit fee)	£240.00

ICO fee	£40.00
Playground Signs	£30.00
Wave (allotment water)	£24.53
RJC Countryside Management	£1,008.00

(b) Council **Noted** the following remittances:

ENC Grant	£10,000
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## 11. Financials

- (a) The **PROPOSAL** to update the Standing Orders thus bringing into line with the quarterly reporting of expenditure, income and budgeting with quarterly oversight from the Councillor overseeing the financials was proposed by Cllr Guttridge and Seconded by Cllr Blackmore, it was unanimously **AGREED** by all. Clerk to update Standing Orders.
- (b) The Clerk notified Councillors of the recently announced NALC pay scales resulting in a 2.75% increase.
- (c) The Councillors discussed the Clerk's contractual salary and unanimously **AGREED** a two increment increase, resulting in a £221 annual increase for 2020/2021 year.

## 12. Allotments

- (a) Cllr Flack had received a request to remove an ornamental cherry tree that had grown considerably and now rendered most of the plot unusable. The plot holder was happy to replace with something more suitable. After discussion its removal was **AGREED** by all.
- (b) Allotment rents due by the 1<sup>st</sup> October were discussed. It was **AGREED** plot holders would be invoiced by Cllr Flack with the request for them to be paid via bank transfer direct to the WPC bank account. Clerk to reconcile the payments.

## 13. Church Yard

Three quotes were considered for the shaping of the Horse Chestnut tree on St Mary's Hill. The work was awarded to Aspire Trees who would sort out the necessary planning then action the work.

## 14. Bonfire

The fate of the annual bonfire was discussed at length. Council **AGREED** the bonfire was a useful facility serving many of the villagers, plot holders and the Village Clean Up Day needing to get rid of garden waste. Skips were deemed cost prohibitive. With constantly changing Covid guidelines on social gatherings an "event" was unlikely and responsibility for lighting, clearing etc would fall to the Parish Council. This provided some flexibility and control over when to light and what time to light. It could be done during the day, in suitable wind conditions or have smaller intermittent fires.

It was **AGREED** the bonfire site would be open Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

## 15. Village Clean Up Day

The Village Clean Up Day has been moved to 17<sup>th</sup> October 10am – 1pm. Unfortunately the Village Hall remains closed and with limited social gatherings allowable please bring your own refreshments. It was suggested volunteers could work in families where possible, but everyone involved is asked to respect the social distancing guidelines. Cllr. Hansford will collate a list of jobs for the day, or over the bonfire period if people feel happier working at different times/dates.

## 16. Correspondence

- (a) Several notes had been received with regards to parking on Main Street. It was **AGREED** this would be monitored but felt August had been a busy month with the Eat Out to Help Out Scheme and various large building projects along Main Street leading to people parking on the road. It was also noted that the planned works to the pub car park would also encourage people to park off the road utilising the car park.
- (b) Cllr Blackmore updated on the JAG meeting he attended via zoom. It focussed on speeding, badly parked cars (repeat offenders can be reported in street doctor) and how to report dog fouling and fly tipping (to the waste management team at ENC [WasteTeam@east-thnorthamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:WasteTeam@east-thnorthamptonshire.gov.uk)) Next meeting October 7<sup>th</sup>
- (c) A letter was received from Oundle Town Council regarding a rural action group, WPC have registered our support.
- (d) NCALC re-organisation meeting to be held September 9<sup>th</sup> the report to follow.

## 17. Opportunity to Update Colleagues

Cllr Jenner noted there had been no follow up or budget allowances made for the Church wall and it was suggested maybe some photos should be taken so any changes can be monitored however ivy would need to be removed first. There was also a small burrow in the wall which needed to be filled with cement, this was noted for village clean up day. Cllr. Hansford offered to tackle the ivy.

Cllr Blackmore commented on the hole in the tarmac near the turning to Conegar Farm. A temporary fix was in place, but he had logged the issue in street doctor for a more permanent fix.

Cllr Flack had cut and raked the wildflower meadow and thanked Cllr. Guttridge for the use of his scythe cutter.

It was also noted the boundary stone wall around Johnson's house had started to collapse in places which could be potentially dangerous if it fell on to the pavement. The situation would be monitored.

## 18. Woodnewton Newsletter

It was **AGREED** the next monthly newsletter would feature the bonfire and Village Clean Up Day and include a note about the rocker and roundabout closure for maintenance.

## 19. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 8.00pm remotely.

**20. Close of Meeting**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.55

Chairman's Signature.....

Date 5th October 2020

Prepared by Amy Miller Clerk and RFO

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16<sup>th</sup> September 2020