



WOODNEWTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 5th October 2020 REMOTELY at 8.00PM

(DRAFT) MINUTES

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

1. Declarations of Interests from Councillors

The Vice Chairman declared an interest in item 14 for transparency.

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr Hansford (Chairman) and Cllr Jenner

3. Public Time

No members of the public requested to join.

4. Minutes of Meeting Held on 7th September 2020

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th September 2020, having been previously circulated, were **AGREED** and signed by the Vice 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. The Council are awaiting S50 licence amendments being applied for by Mr Barber of ENC Highways for more settings on Main Street.

7. Planning

- (a) 20/01021/TCA – Tree works 61 Main Street - Permitted
- (b) 20/01161/TCA - Tree works St Mary's Hill – No Objection

8. Playing Fields/Playground

- (a) Cllr. Flack after carrying out the playground monthly check reiterated the need for the cleaning of equipment and jet washing mossy/slippery areas and equipment matting. These tasks are to be included in the clean-up day. It was also suggested after the refurbishment of the roundabout and the rocker, the rocker could perhaps be repainted. Cllr Flack volunteered some specialist boat paint that he had spare and thought would protect well against the elements.
- (b) The wording of the playground Operator's sign was discussed, and Cllr Blackmore thought we could source a standardised sign, and offered to look for a quote from the sign people he had previously used. The Clerk to mockup a sign showing the must include elements.
- (c) Cllr Blackmore raised the issue of safety during the upcoming roundabout refurbishment. Having considered further he felt that hazard tape was not enough of a deterrent to keep people off the equipment and safety is paramount. After further discussion and the presentation of several costings to hire security fencing it was **AGREED** to proceed down this route. The costs would be circa £200.00 (VAT reclaimable) for an expected six-week period of hire.

9. Cemetery

An increase in Cemetery fees was discussed to bring Woodnewton fees (unchanged since 2012) inline with surrounding villages notably Nassington and Yarwell, similar sized villages and also Kings Cliffe. These villages all have similar prices. Many points were raised but thoughts were divided between keeping the status quo, increasing, or whether increases should be borne by requests from those outside the village. No real consensus was reached and it was **AGREED** although quorate, that it would be better discussed when all councillors were present.

10. Accounts

As at 30/09/2020 the bank balance stood at £26,923.24

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

Clerk Salary (September)	£378.95
HJ Horticulture	£2,048.49

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

ENC Precept	£7,622.50
Allotment rents	£288.00

11. Financials

The Clerk had prepared the quarterly financials and was awaiting the September month end bank statement to complete the presentation. The income and expenditure also requires oversight from Cllr Guttridge. This would be completed in October and presented at the November meeting to all Councillors for sign off.

12. Allotments

The Clerk updated all allotment rents had been received, with 75% successfully bank transferred. All plots were let and any further interest would need to be registered and noted until any plots became available.

13. Bonfire

The bonfire and how best to proceed was fully discussed. It is seen as a service to the village for the clean up day, those tidying up their allotments and those in the village that have garden waste to dispose of. However, there are concerns about the burning of the bonfire due to the torrential rains last year and the green nature of what is placed on the bonfire. The use of straw and diesel was considered, but, all were in agreement the actuality, was dependent upon the weather conditions which would determine whether the bonfire could be burnt in stages or in one go. To conclude the best way to deal with the bonfire was discussed but not confirmed, all agreed it would be dictated by the weather.

14. Village Hall Closure

Councillors expressed concerns over the continuing closure of the Village Hall when surrounding ones were open, or opening. Concerns included village hall users finding other venues and not returning, hence loss of future cash flow and the loss of a village facility for the villagers. It was appreciated that opening the facility required a large investment in terms of risk assessments, bureaucracy and issues of cleaning and sanitisation particularly on days when multiple users, use the venue. Who could supply this level of cleaning and at what cost? It was also mentioned that if the facility re-opened offering reduced access/limited numbers how this would work in practice?

It was **AGREED** that the Parish Council would write to the Village Hall Committee to see if there was anything they could do/offer to encourage it's reopening.

15. Correspondence

- (a) JAG meeting 07/10/20 – Cllr Blackmore to attend
- (b) Village Hall closure to be reviewed in November
- (c) Northampton Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan consultation 09/09/20
- (d) Electricity Buying Group for Parish & Town Councils 22/09/20 – clerk to see if there are any savings on street lights to be had.

16. Opportunity to Update Colleagues

Cllr Guttridge raised the issue of parking outside the pub in the village where the road narrows. This was causing access issues for the small road opposite that serves several houses and also for the pub itself when they had deliveries. The pub has significantly improved entry to and the car park itself, to encourage it's patrons to park at the rear leaving the front of the pub clear. It was agreed parking needed to be more considerate and would promote this in the village newsletter editorial.

17. Woodnewton Newsletter

It was **AGREED** the next monthly newsletter would be a feature encouraging people to park considerately and thoughtfully, not on pavements or where roads narrow

18. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 2nd November 2020 at 8.00pm remotely.

19. Close of Meeting

The Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 21.25

Vice Chairman's Signature.....

Prepared by Amy Miller Clerk and RFO

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16th October 2020

Date 2nd Nov f2020