



WOODNEWTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 12th April 2021 REMOTELY at 8PM

(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

2. Apologies for absence

None

3. Public Time

None

4. Minutes of Meeting Held on 1st March 2021.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st March 2021, 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. Steve Barber from ENC Highways is chasing our revised Section 50 Licence requirements for two potential camera positions to be added to Main Street and a raised mounting post. Meanwhile, one while battery has died, and we are hoping Steve Barber may replace for us.

7. Playing Fields/Playground

(a) The monthly playground report had been carried out by Cllr Flack, two post require replacement soon, on entry into the kiddies play area. He also noted the badgers were active on the playing fields.

(b) Cllr Blackmore updated on the adult exercise equipment. After adding two more pieces to the package, quotes increased to £14,423 + VAT from Broxap and Fresh Air Fitness to £13,640 + VAT. A final quote has been requested for the table tennis table after a site visit can be arranged.

Cllr Blackmore would begin the grant funding applications, but these could not be completed until information had been collated from the Parish Plan questionnaire due to go out in April\May to residents.

8. Planning

- (a) NE/21/00397/TCA/– Tree works 27 Main Street – no objection.
- (b) 20/01717/FUL – Permission granted – Oak Barn, Woodnewton Road
- (c) NE/21/00244/FUL – works to 31 Main Street, roof/rear extension – no objection.
- (d) NE/21/00245/LBC – works to 31 Main Street, roof/rear extension – no objection.

9. Accounts

As at 31/03/2021 the bank balance stood at £21,102.91

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

Clerk Salary (March) (BACS)	£286.87
Extra 5 hours as per minute 10b 7/12/20	£66.20
Eon Street Lights (Jan - Mar)	£114.32
RJC Countryside (grass cutting Church Yard)	£612.00
NCALC membership	£516.47
Microsoft Subscription	£59.99
Stationery (paper & ink)	£30.99

10. Year End Accounts

Council **RECEIVED and AGREED** the year end income and expenditure as being a fit and proper record and **AGREED** the income and expenditure actual versus budget for 2020/2021. The Bank Account Reconciliation for the year was also **AGREED**. All have been fully checked by Cllr Guttridge who oversees the financials, and all were signed by the Chairman.

11. Asset Register

With no capital expenditure throughout the year the Asset Register mirrored the previous year and was **AGREED** by the Council, signed off by the Chairman.

12. 2020/2021 Year End Internal and External Audit

Council **NOTED** that due to the Covid grant received of £10,000, income for the year breached the £25,000 limit, this triggered an external audit requirement.

- (a) Council **AGREED** the Annual Governance Statement 2020/2021 presented by the Clerk/RFO. The Statement was signed by the Chairman with the RFO to sign.
- (b) Council **AGREED** the Annual Accounting Statement 2020/2021 presented by the Clerk/RFO. The Statement was signed by the Chairman with the RFO to sign.
- (c) Council **AGREED** the Period for the Exercise of Public Rights to inspect the Council's Accounts, as recommended by the auditor, Monday 14th June 2021 to Friday 23rd July.
- (d) Council **AGREED** the the Analysis of Variances using the proforma supplied by the auditors and the Bank Reconciliation prepared and presented by the Clerk/RFO which would be submitted to the External Auditor. These were signed off by the Chairman

13. Annual Parish Meeting

The Agenda was reconfirmed for the meeting due to be held remotely 7.30pm, 19th April 2021.

14. Allotments

Cllr Flack re-iterated allotment holders were keen to reinstate the plans for the extra allotment tap that were put on hold due to Covid. This was discussed and it was agreed when the trenching was done in the next few weeks the pipe would need to be laid and the trench filled the same day.

15. Coronavirus Act 2020

From May 7th the Act expires and meetings should no longer take place remotely. This contravenes government guidelines, however, Hertfordshire Council are taking legal action which is expected to set a precedence for remote meetings to continue longer, until, lockdown further eases. We hope to hear more by the end of April.

16. Definitive Map

Due to time constraints investigation has been slow and this has been rolled to the May agenda.

17. Village Clean Up Day

This was well attended by nearly thirty volunteers and many new faces. The weather cleared for us and we got clearing. Thank you to everyone who came and helped. Many busied themselves tidying the village hall car park and surrounding areas whilst another team concentrated on ivy removal and the cutting back of the church yard. Others helped with litter picking and smaller tasks.

The Council also extended their thanks to Mr Darnell for the new barrier he erected between Main Street and the jitty leading to The Paddocks

18. Parish Plan

The Chairman has been collating questions to be circulated and discussed at the APM with a view to our D of E volunteers helping distribute and collate the information.

19. Correspondence:

- (a) The Internal Audit date has been booked for May 7th
- (b) Insurance renewal is due - Council agreed no amendments to cover required
- (c) There has been a request for dog waste bins (4) around the village to compliment the three black bins we have at the village hall, on main street and at the cemetery. This was considered and the costs of circa £250 a year plus purchase price. In the past this has faced a mixed response so it was **AGREED** it would feature in the Parish Plan questions so we can get a general consensus of village feeling.

It should be noted that the Council has no power of enforcement and can only try to influence behaviour through the monthly newsletter and its minutes. In the case of issues with dog fouling residents can find further guidance on the steps for enforcement in this link:

https://www.eastnorthamptonshire.gov.uk/info/432/dog_warden_service/257/dog_fouling

- (d) A family has requested permission to scatter ashes over a certain allotment that has been managed by the family for many years, permission was granted.

20. Councillors' Opportunity to Update Colleagues:

Cllr Neville thanked all who helped repair the bridge behind the horse paddock off Nassington Road.

Cllr Jenner noted that the wild end of the church yard required cutting. Clerk to pass this on to the contractors. He also said there had been further complaints made of vans and cars parking on; and obstructing pathways. Residents are again respected to be mindful.

Cllr Blackmore updated on the JAG meeting which brought to the attention of its members grant funding availability for VAS signs, possibly of interest to us. The next meeting to be held 7th July. Then next police liaison representative meeting is due to be held 22nd April with Danny Moody hosting.

Cllr Hansford thanked Cllr Blackmore and Cllr Flack for their help fixing the footpath. He also thanked Grant Neville for his logo design which will be unveiled on the new Woodnewton Playground Sign.

Cllr Hansford also took this opportunity to thank Cllr Jenner and Cllr Flack on behalf of the Council and the village for all they have done and their efforts over the years as serving councillors and was sad they would be stepping down in May. This was echoed by all.

21. Woodnewton Newsletter

It was **AGREED** the next monthly newsletter would encourage residents to have their say by please responding to the Parish Plan questionnaire and a thank you to those who helped and attended the village clean up day.

23. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 10th May 2021 at 8.00pm remotely. The Annual Council Meeting followed by the regular monthly Parish Meeting.

24. Close of Meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.35

Chairman's Signature.....

Date 10th May 2021

Prepared by Amy Miller Clerk and RFO

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17th April 2021

