



WOODNEWTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 7th June 2021, Village Hall, 8pm

(DRAFT) MINUTES

Present: Cllr Hansford (Chairman) Cllr Neville (Vice Chairman), Cllr Guttridge, Cllr Swallow, three members of the public and Amy Miller (Clerk and RFO)

1. Co-option to fill two vacancies.

Two residents of the village had expressed interest in the vacancies on the Parish Council. Mr N Goodall and Mrs A Phythian were **PROPOSED** by Cllr Guttridge and **SECONDED** by Cllr Swallow. The Chairman **DECLARED** Mr Goodall and Mrs Phythian co-opted to the Council.

2. Declarations of Interests from Councillors

None

3. Apologies for absence

Received from Cllr Blackmore

4. Public Time

A member of the public attended to update on the proposal concerning the management of the Church Yard and the benefits of partial wilding following meetings with the Wildlife Trust Churchyard Conservation Scheme officers Lisa Rowley and Katharine Banham to advise how the Woodnewton churchyard and cemetery might be managed for wildlife and community enjoyment. The report of their visit on 30 April was circulated to members in advance of this meeting.

The findings of the report highlighted the following proposals:

- (a) Reduce the frequency of cuts of both churchyard and cemetery.
- (b) Create different lengths of grass within the churchyard.
- (c) Manage some kerbed graves for wildlife.
- (d) Produce regular news items and information sheets to keep residents informed and involved.

It was also suggested members visit Stoke Doyle or Easton-on the-Hill churchyards which are already being successfully managed for wildlife. Stoke Doyle has a Churchyard Open afternoon on 25 July.

The Chairman recommended that tendering for a new grass-cutting contract for 2022 onwards provided an excellent opportunity to implement these proposals. Some of the small changes listed above could be undertaken in the meantime.

Members were keen to pursue this initiative. The proposals will be formally put to the July PC meeting for adoption.

5. Minutes of Meeting Held on 10th May 2021.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th May 2021, having been previously circulated, were, **AGREED** and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

6. Matters arising from Previous Minutes (not covered elsewhere on Agenda)

None.

7. Speeding in and through the Village

Cllr. Blackmore via email had updated there was little to report. There were no changes from the previous month, the Council were continuing to chase Steve Barber from ENC Highways for the revised Section 50 Licence requirements.

8. Playing Fields/Playground

- (a) The monthly playground report had been carried out by Cllr Guttridge who noted the two posts required replacement on entry to the east side of the toddler play area; he was in discussions with Cllr Blackmore as to when this could be done.
- (b) Cllr Blackmore updated on the adult exercise equipment. The table tennis table people had confirmed their original quote for the supply and installation of the concrete table. The grant funding application is currently on hold pending the survey results from the Parish Plan questionnaire.
- (c) Cllr Blackmore had obtained a quote for the repair of the 'pick up sticks unit' in the toddler play area from Wicksteed to supply and repair the broken parts; £675.57. It was **AGREED** by all to proceed with the order as the ordering and fitting of the parts had a lead time of 12-14 weeks. It was noted further sticks may need replacing so this was likely to be a minimum cost.

9. Planning

- (a) NE/21/00614/TCA/- Tree works 40 Main Street – Planning returned No Objection.
- (b) NE/21/00737/FUL – garage extension and new boundary wall - Pridmore Close – no objection.

10. Accounts

As at 31/05/2021 the bank balance stood at £32,708

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

Clerk Salary (May) (BACS)	£286.87
RJC Countryside (grass cutting Church Yard)	£204.00

(b) Council **NOTED** the below receipts.

Credit to water bill for the allotments	£106.93
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11. Turn Up & Play Scheme

It was **AGREED** by the Council to register our interest with the Council run scheme for turn up and play sessions in the village for children 8-13. The scheme is due to be run between 26/07/21 and 06/08/21, two sessions daily, £2 per session. It was also suggested to the organisers to consider joining with a neighbouring village if this increased our chances of access to the facility.

12. Allotments

An allotment holder had approached the Council requesting to purchase the remains of the water pipe purchased for the allotment tap extension. The Council **AGREED** to sell this for £15.

13. Church Yard

A request had been put forward by a resident for the addition of 'Please Close the Gate Signs' on the gates, in an attempt, to keep the badgers out. It was **PROPOSED** to decline the request at this time as it was thought the badgers could still climb through the bars of the gate should they wish to.

14. Footpath Warden

A resident had expressed an interest in the role. The clerk to pass on the necessary details to the NNC co-ordinator.

15. Definitive Map

Following a letter from a St Mary's Hill resident the Council noted the footpath behind the gardens on St Mary's Hill was a private footpath granting only residents access and would not be designated as a footpath on the Definitive Map.

Council **AGREED** leaving out the St Mary's Hill path, the path between Main Street and The Paddocks and the path between Main Street and Lindsey Close to be redesignated to footpath status only. This was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Hansford and **SECONDED** by Cllr Neville.

16. Parish Plan

The Chairman has been collating and finalising the questions to be circulated to residents for a short questionnaire. It is expected details on accessing the survey will be delivered in note form with the July issue of the Woodnewton Newsletter.

17. Correspondence:

- (a) JAG meeting moved to July 13th
- (b) Rural Coordination Group Meeting – AH to attend

18. Councillors' Opportunity to Update Colleagues:

Cllr Swallow noted how blue the Willow Brook had become since Wednesday. Various reports point to the use of water dye to prevent weed growth being used in a body of water upstream near Kings Cliffe. The EA had been notified but stated there would be no harm to fish, plantlife or animals.

19. Woodnewton Newsletter

It was **AGREED** the next monthly newsletter would be a reminder to residents about the Parish Survey to ensure everyone has their say.

20. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 17th July at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

21. Close of Meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.15

Chairman's Signature.....

Date 12th July 2021

Prepared by Amy Miller Clerk and RFO

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12th July 2021

