



WOODNEWTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 7th February 2022, Village Hall, 8pm

(DRAFT) MINUTES

Present: Cllr Hansford (Chairman) Cllr Neville (Vice Chairman), Cllr Blackmore, Cllr Guttridge, Cllr Phythian, Cllr Swallow, Cllr Goodall and Amy Miller (Clerk and RFO)

1. Declarations of Interests from Councillors

None

2. Apologies for absence

None

3. Public Time

One member of the public attended to discuss the planning in 9a

4. Minutes of Meeting Held - January 2022.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th January, 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. Church Yard. (Cllr Phythian)

Cllr Phythian to work with the clerk to ensure the grass cutting contracts are in sync with Management Plan agreed for the re-wilding project in the Church Yard and Cemetery. Essentially this would be less number of cuts and certain areas maintained at certain heights.

7. Speeding in and Through the Village (Cllr Blackmore\Swallow)

(a) The old VAS camera in the village that has been on loan from North Northants Highways is being retired – the new cameras have arrived.

(b) Cllr Swallow confirmed the three new cameras had arrived. We are awaiting the quote from NNC for the new pole and relevant licence so the cameras can be installed. All cameras have been programmed and linked to Cllr Blackmore's laptop so data can be gathered. An electrical installation quote of £210 for the two hard wired cameras was **APPROVED**.

Clerk to check new VAS cameras covered on the Parish insurance policy.

8. Playing Fields/Playground

(a) Cllr Blackmore noted on the playground report a post on the adventure trail was split and needed attention, he had requested a quote from Wicksteed to fix.

The buddy board continues to deteriorate and the cost to repair is too prohibitive - £1,500, It was discussed whether this piece was much used, should it be removed, removed and replaced with an alternative piece of equipment or repair. It was **RESOLVED** to remove the buddy board from the play area as the repair was so expensive.

(b) Adult Exercise Equipment – The grant has been conditionally approved, however, this is being held up until the PC can prove ownership of the playing fields which were gifted in 1919.

(c) Ongoing playground repairs have been minimal during the cold and wet weather but earlier silicon repairs had held well.

9. Planning

(a) NE/22/00028/FUL – 9a Main Street – Erection of a three-bay timber garage – PC had no objection.

(b) NE/22/00060/FUL – 17 Pridmore Close – Single storey rear orangery extension, and two storey rear extension – PC had no objection

10.Accounts

As at 31/10/2022 the bank balance stood at £26,559
Council **AGREED** the following payments:

Clerk Salary (January)	£286.87
Clerk sundry	£117.70
Elan City (cameras)	£3,628.57
Elan City (cameras)	£2,306.45
Npower (streetlights)	£70.98
Cllr Blackmore (land registry search)	£89.82

11. Financials

Following the clerks annual appraisal and a long wait for the updated government pay scales to be released which remain outstanding the following was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Hansford, **SECONDED** by Cllr Blackmore and agreed by all: Clerks hours to be increased to 32 hours a month to absorb increased workload from the unitary council requirements, increased requests for information/data/surveys and increased workload from active Councillor projects. A pay rise of one increment was awarded inline with the NCALC contract pay awards.

12. Allotments

Some work had been carried out to clear the unutilised space but more work and better suited equipment was needed to complete. It was agreed this would roll to the next agenda when

more accurate costings could be discussed before a final decision was made whether it is viable to complete the work.

13. Church Yard

The tree report had been received from James Rowlett on the horse chestnuts. Tree 1 was in good health but unbalanced following a loss of a bough in the October storms, a pruning reduction of 2.5m was suggested. The other mature horse chestnut was in poor shape and removal was suggested along with possible removal of the juvenile tree also infected with bacterial canker, to be replaced with more suitable species. Clerk to tender for quotes.

14. Annual Parish Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to hold the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm in the Village Hall on Monday April 11th with the monthly council meeting to follow after it's close.

15. Asset Mapping Project

Cllr Hansford agreed to lead the Asset Mapping Project (AMP) Working Group with the purpose of identifying and listing assets and services that are currently the responsibility of the unitary council, as well as identifying any Assets of Community Value (ACVs), whether registered or unregistered. This would be an ongoing project, and all were encouraged to help.

16. Jubilee Celebrations

The PC Jubilee plans to light the Jubilee beacon and hold a BYO picnic event on the village playing fields from 3pm June 3rd were further discussed. It was suggested the PC buy a flag and pole for this and future events, ideas had been submitted by Cllr Phythian. Plans to be fully finalised in conjunction with Village Hall Committee plans for Sunday June 5th.

17. Ongoing:

An agenda item to **CONSIDER** items to be included on the agenda going forward and discussed as appropriate – it will be entitled rolling agenda items so they are not forgotten but may not always be discussed.

(a)Village Information Boards

(b)Verges – flower/bulb planting ideas

(c)Verge maintenance – logged in Fix My Street

(d)Dog waste bins - clerk liaising with NNC black bins can be used for dog waste

(e)Large poppies for the village 2022 i.e., lamp posts.

(f)Tender for grass cutting and village maintenance in conjunction with the re-wilding management plan

(g)Tender for annual Insurance – March\April

18. Correspondence:

Council noted the correspondence below:

(a) Continuation of the Rural Coordination Group meetings or whether the NNC local parish forum is used to voice rural area concerns. There may be some advantages for us to continue to meet to discuss matters such as planning, STAUNCH, road safety, planning matters and the future of the JAG meetings.

(b) JAG Meeting 20/01/22 – concerns the rural voice is being lost – the viability of JAG

(c) request for marquee near Village Hall

(d) Possible sewage rising from the grass verge opposite the Church gates at the Junction of St Mary's Hill and Main Street. Anglian Water are aware.

19. Councillors' Opportunity to Update Colleagues:

Cllr Blackmore updated on the toilet and kitchen service area project in the church. The project team were actively discussing exactly what was involved and how to move the project forward

20. Woodnewton Newsletter

It was **AGREED** the next monthly newsletter would ask residents, where possible, to help with cutting and maintaining verges and banks round their property boundaries.

21. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 14th March at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

22. Close of Meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 22.00

Chairman's Signature.....

Date 14th March 2021

Prepared by Amy Miller Clerk and RFO

E-mail: woodnewtonpc@gmail.com

19th February 2022

