

MINUTES OF NORTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 6TH JUNE 2024 - held at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, North Wootton

Present: Cllrs Marshall-Grint (Chair), Border, Blood, Blackmoore, Edwards, Lemmon, Harper.

Also in attendance - Clerk Rachel Curtis, Borough Cllr Richard Coates, County Cllr John Crofts, Heidi Hemeter, 1 member of the public

1. To accept any apologies – Cllr Cox – ill health, Cllr Lamb – holiday, Cllr Nurse – work commitment

2. Declarations of Interest – None

3. To consider application for co-option of a Councillor

Heidi Hemeter introduced herself and explained why she would like to be a Parish Councillor. Her previous career was in the police force and now works in safeguarding at a local high school. She has lived in the village for over 30 years and would like to contribute to the Parish Council. Heidi stepped out of the meeting while Councillors considered her application and unanimously agreed to co-opt her onto the PC.

4. Minutes of last meeting - It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 9th May 2024 be accepted.

5. Matters Arising – There has been some press coverage regarding the traffic management issues in the Woottons. Councillors still have some reservations as to whether there is a speeding issue or not, as data from the SAM 2 signs appears not to show a large number of vehicles reaching excessive speeds. It was noted that upon the advice of Damien Jeffries, NCC Highways Officer the only reliable way of data collection is to instruct NCC to conduct a feasibility study which would cost in the region of £3,000. Cllr Crofts has indicated he would pay for this from his Councillors fund. This study would collect data and provide a more accurate picture of the situation. It was confirmed that the findings of a feasibility survey would have to be accepted as final. ACTION: Clerk to contact Damien to see if he would support a feasibility study and what information is needed to begin the process. Also, contact CRPC to see how they are progressing with their study plans and understand the scope of their study. Need confirmation if they have the costings of incorporating Ling Common Road and how much this part of their survey will cost. There has been no update on the resident groups setting up of the speedwatch group.

6. Law and Order

Cllr Blackmore reported he had seen some nitrous oxide canisters on Nursery Lane, he will report to the Borough Council fly tipping team.

7. Open Forum –

- Cllr Coates confirmed that his grant of £800 will be contributing towards picnic on the park.

8. Correspondence – none received

9. Finance – to agree the payments list presented at the meeting

Balance Brought Forward	62,845.63
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Less:	Payments
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Chg No:

Online	Veolia – May 24	147.19
Online	Newsletter Printing	116.03
Online	Total Energies – April 24	2,491.90
Online	Liz Manning – Internal Audit	150.00
Online	Nature Landscapes - March	270.42

Online	Nurture Landscapes – May	711.43	
Online	Nurture Landscapes – April	1,029.49	
Online	R Curtis – Salary - June	653.87	
Online	P Witt – Village Bins – May 24	76.99	
Online	Mens Shed	100.00	
			5,747.32
	Income		
Add:	VAT Return	10,014.84	
			67,113.15
	Made up as follows		
	Lloyds Gold Deposit A/C (Easy Saver)	231.92	
	Lloyds Current A/C	482.21	
	Lloyds Treasurers Account	66,399.02	
			67,113.15

The payments above were approved.

The responses to Section 1 of the annual external audit form were agreed. The closing balance on the accounts for the year ending 2024 is £9,281.

10. To complete the annual review of the PC's policies and procedures **The following policies were reviewed and accepted**

Standing Orders
Financial Regulations
The Effectiveness of Internal Control
The Effectiveness of Internal Audit
Financial Risk Assessment and Management Document
Information and Data Protection Policy
Co-Option of Councillors Procedure
Complaints Procedure
Equality and Diversity Policy
Freedom of Information Policy
Retention and Disposal Policy

11. Highways –

- Weeds are growing quite vigorously in places around the village, mainly in the kerbsides. ACTION: Clerk to report to Rangers.

- The Clerk has tried to contact the major utility companies to find a way of being notified when major works are planned in the village. This has proved difficult.

12. Wootton Park

Cllr Border noted the following;

Preparations for Picnic on the Park are complete and hoping for dry weather on 8th June.

The drainage works have been booked in to commence on 1st July.

No further updates on pavilion scheme from the Football Club.

13. Street Lighting – none

14. Planning

Applications to consider –

24/00849/F - Single Storey Rear extension to property at 35 Woodland Gardens North Wootton King's Lynn
Norfolk PE30 3PX - support

To hear any updates on previously considered applications
24/00792/AG - Prior Notification for a building for the purposes of storing farm related products such as crops, hay/straw and farm machinery. at Land At E 564666 N 325257 Off Ling Common Road North Wootton – APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

15. Neighbourhood Plan – to hear an update on work relating to this

Tim Jones has been appointed and is carrying out his work. He has asked some questions of the steering group which the Clerk will reply to.

16. Village Hall

The accounts are as follows - £8,113.48 in the community account. £46,020.56 in the deposit account. Cllr Blood suggested that there may be a higher interest rate to be obtained for the deposit account. Cllr Blackmoore said he would look into this. There are still a high number of bookings. The farmers market and bingo nights are still very well attended. Still awaiting good weather for the roofing contractor to look at the roof tiles.

17. The Village

SAM 2 Sign –Cllr Blood presented the following information for May 2024.

Location: Ling Common Road (facing NW)

Volume:

Daily 530

Peak 08:00-09:00 and 15:00-16:00

Speed:

85th percentile 33mph

Average 27.8mph

Fastest 60 mph (11:35 8 May)

- Cllr Marshall-Grint suggested that the PC purchases its own flag pole to put on the Green. Cllr Border will obtain quotes.
- Millennium pyramid – Cllr Border has got in touch with a brick restorer to look at the pyramid with a view to preserving the surface. It was agreed that jet washing would clean it up, but the brick surface is getting worn and less hard wearing and seems to hold the dirt much more.

18. To consider a proposal for a new Parish Council Website

Cllr Blackmoore present reasons for changing website provider, to create a new fresher looking site in order to try and help promote visibility of the PC and engage better with residents. It was noted that the PC delivers a newsletter to each house in the village to let people know what is happening. The PC currently pays £70 per year to NALC for hosting the website, so there is already a cost involved. The new site would cost around £190 per year plus a set up fee of around £300. Councillors discussed whether this is good value for money if the current website does all that we need it to do for the small number of people that view it. ACTION: Cllr Blackmoore to get in touch with the company he approached to try and get some sample pages of what they could create and also obtain 2 more quotes. To be discussed further.

19. Open Forum

The House on the Green development was discussed as the houses are now coming onto the market. The PC would be disappointed to see nothing happening in terms of refurbishing the pub.

Dates of Next Meetings – 11th July – a week later due to elections

The meeting finished at 8.28pm

..... Chairman Date 11th July 2024