

MINUTES OF NORTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 3RD OCTOBER - held at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, North Wootton

Present: Cllrs Marshall-Grint, Nurse, Blood, Lemmon, Edwards, Border, Hemeter, Lamb

Also in attendance – Cllr S Ring, Cllr P Bland, Cllr R Coates, 2 members of the public.

1. **To accept any apologies** – Cllr Harper, (prior engagement), Cllr Blackmore, (illness). Apologies were accepted.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – None
3. **Minutes of last meeting** - It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th September 2024 be accepted.
4. **Matters Arising** –
 - There has been no further work done regarding the road traffic management issues, Clerk to speak with SWPC and CRPC to find out the position of this.
 - PCSO Sophie Messenger has been invited to attend a PC meeting, unfortunately these fall on her rest days for the next few months.
5. **Law and Order**

The next SNAP meeting will be held on 13th Nov at Dersingham. Cllr Hemeter is unable to attend that meeting, ACTION: Cllr Blood volunteered to attend in her place.
6. **Open Forum** –
 - A resident attended to say that the grass cutting on the Green at Gatehouse Lane has not been consistent over the summer and the condition of the cutting has not been great. The PC said they would monitor this. There is a holly tree on the Green which is growing over a small tree. ACTION: Cllr Lamb will take a look and prune as necessary.
 - A resident of Cranmer Ave reported that the football club forgot to lock the Wootton Park car park gate one evening recently. That night there was some youths in the area, who were knocking on doors and then running away.
 - The football club were complimented on putting out cones on match days, however, on one occasion they were not cleared up, so the resident put them near his driveway. The PC thanked him for this.
 - John Merrey thanked the PC for his retirement card upon leaving the Parish Council.
 - Cllr Coates said he has been allocated his Borough Councillor funding for the financial year and if the PC knows of any community groups that could benefit then let him know.
 - Cllr Ring was congratulated on his election to the position of County Councillor. He gave an update on the planned road closures for Knights hill during the works to complete the new roundabout. All closures will now be overnight. He also reported that Gayton Road cemetery is now closed leaving no new spaces for burials in Kings Lynn. Hunstanton is now the closest to offer plots. Cllr Bal Anota is the person to contact if anyone has any concerns over this.
7. **Correspondence** –
 - A resident of The Pingles has written in to raise concerns over parents inconsiderate parking at school times along the residential roads of The Pingles estate. They made the point that the Football Club make an effort to put out cones to control parking near driveways and suggested that the school could do the same. The PC discussed the measures which have been trialled during recent years re parking – ie Police presence, traffic campaigns by the school and the discussions had with NCC regarding the potential of a car park/drop off point in the school grounds. It was agreed to reply to the resident to state that the PC is aware and is trying to improve the situation and to contact the school directly in terms of cones being used.

Cllr Ring said he would follow up with NCC re the car park discussions which have taken place and see what the current situation is.

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

Balance Brought Forward 56,338.90

Less: Payments

Online	Total Energies – Sept 23	1,802.91
Online	Total Energies – Feb 24	2,7749.21
Online	Total Energies – March 24	2,598.79
Online	Total Energies – July 24	1,835.71
Online	Total Energies – July 24	112.38
Online	P Witt – Sept Bin Emptying	76.99
Online	P Witt- Aug Bins	76.99
Online	BCKLWN – Newsletter Printing	99.06
Online	North Wootton Village Hall	16.62
Online	Veolia – Sept 24	129.74
Online	R Curtis – Expenses	75.46
Online	R Curtis – Oct Salary	631.37
		10,128.24

Income

42,210.66

Made up as follows

Lloyds Gold Deposit A/C (Easy Saver)	231.92
Lloyds Current A/C	482.21
Lloyds Treasurers Account	45,496.53
	46,210.66

The payments above were approved.

9. Highways – Cllr Marshall-Grint reported that the pothole at the top of Station Road has been filled.

10. Wootton Park

Cllr Border reported on the following;

Drainage/Dyke – The new ditch along Nursery Lane has been dug and work completed. The water level has already dropped by over 2 feet!

Volunteer Work- A group called ‘Volunteer Yourself’ are currently on the Park completing the decking area project outside the pavilion.

Recent Wind Damage – A large branch fell from a tree near the infant play area. There is a branch remaining which looks unsafe, but Cllr Border assured everyone it was securely held in place by another branch.

Football Club Parking – this is an issue on some match days, although the club are working hard to control parking by staggering games and therefore the flow of cars on and off the car park.

Wildflower Area – A new area has been created with the help of the Rotary, and work to cultivate it is progressing well.

11. Street Lighting – The light out at Meadow Close is due to a fault in the base, this is now being looked at by UK Power Networks.

12. Planning

Applications to consider – none

The Heads of Terms for the Electronic Communications Code Agreement for the telemast on Wootton Park have been submitted to South Wootton PC and North Wootton PC for acceptance. NWPC commented that the PC would not pay anything towards the legal costs of this transaction if fees go over £2,000 which are being paid by the operator. The solicitor confirmed that ‘due to the late stages of this transaction I cannot envisage my costs exceeding this amount.’ Therefore the PC agreed acceptance of the documents and the Clerk will instruct the solicitor to proceed. It was noted that SWPC are happy with the wording of the agreement also.

Little Carr Road – This is currently at the appeal process. It was noted that there are still drainage issues on site. Officers from both Borough and County have been to visit the site to look at this and the treatment of the Public Right of Way.

House on the Green – still awaiting progress on the development and refurbishment of the public house building.

Cllr Coates reported the TROD style footpath along Knights Hill has been taken within the perimeter of the building compound, leaving nowhere for pedestrians to walk safely. Both Cllrs Ring and Cllr Bland are in discussions with the developers to try and find a solution to this.

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

A date of 14th November has been suggested for the referendum to take place, awaiting for confirmation from the Borough.

14. Village Hall

Cllr Lamb reported the accounts show a balance of £53,000 and that recent events at the hall have been well attended. More events to come include a Turkish Night and Festival Too fundraiser. The Xmas fair will be held on 30th November. Cllr Lamb asked on behalf of the committee for a donation from the PC to fill hampers to distribute to those in need in the village, Cllrs were supportive of this idea. An exact amount will be requested at the next meeting.

Cycle racks have been ordered and received and will be put up behind the notice board in the Hall car park. This project is solely grant funded and will need to be completed by 31st October 2024.

15. The Village

SAM 2 Report from Cllr Blood.

For September the SAM was on Ling Common Rd, capturing vehicles comes from Castle Rising toward North Wootton.

Volume

Daily 603 [17,492 for the month]

Peak 16:00-17:00hrs

Speed

85th percentile 33.5mph

Average 27.9mph

- Cllr Edwards said the pathway between Cuthbert Close and All Saints Drive is becoming overgrown
ACTION: Clerk to send letters to residents asking them to cut back their hedges.
- The tree near the entrance to the Gongs on Nursery #Lane is looking unsafe with a branch hanging over the road. This has been reported to Castle Rising Estate, but the trunk is growing just outside the boundary. ACTION: Clerk to report to Highways.
- Following discussions at last months meeting regarding trees on PC land, the Clerk has obtained a quote for a survey to be carried out. The cost is £906.64 plus VAT. Councillors unanimously agreed to accept

this quote and to remind the surveyor that there are some TPO trees which will be included in this and need to be identified.

16. To consider an example of a new website design and provider for the Parish Council

Cllr Blackmore obtained a quote from a website provider following on from discussions at last months meeting. The start up cost of the website is £349 plus VAT and then an ongoing monthly fee of £16.50 plus VAT. The Clerk noted that the quote only includes a 4-5 page website and thought that with the statutory items that need to be publicised this may not be enough. The website is used by Old Buckenham PC, so the Clerk will contact the Clerk there to see how the website fits in with their needs and report back at the next meeting. It was noted that by comparison the NALC charges £70 per annum for the website we currently have.

17. Open Forum

A resident asked if the PC still had its annual walk round the village in the summer. This has not happened for several years, but it used to be an opportunity to see any jobs that needed doing around the village. It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the residents meeting in May for discussion.

18. To confirm any items for future agenda

- Amount of donation to the village hall
- Website

Dates of Next Meetings – 7th November, 5th December 2024

The meeting finished at 8.20pm

..... Chairman

Date 7th November 2024