

WAPPENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
AT 7:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2021
IN WAPPENHAM VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Cllrs P Featherstone (Chairman), I Atkins, A Robbins, M Stewart, S Thompson, H Wickham, M Wilkinson

ABSENT: None

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs E Hart (Clerk)

93.21/22 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND APPROVE THE REASONS FOR ABSENCE:

All Parish Councillors were present.
Cllr D Bambridge had sent apologies.

Noted.

94.21/22 TO INVITE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

95.21/22 TO CONFIRM THE ACCURACY OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3RD NOVEMBER 2021

RESOLVED: To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd November 2021.

**96.21/22 TO RECIEVE REPORTS FROM:
A. The Clerk:**

MATTERS ARISING

Minute 86.21/22- information regarding the Healthy Communities: Community Funding Grants 2021/22 and 2022/23 was sent to the Village Hall Committee

Minute 90.21/22 – village hall booking and trip hazard
Bookings were confirmed and the trip hazard was noted.

Minute 91.21/22 – takings from the Fete
Takings confirmed as £2405.83 (The dog show made £256)

B. The Chairman:

You will all be aware that we have received Liz's notice to resign as our Parish Clerk. Her last day of work will be 31st December 2021. The process of finding a replacement must take a priority in our workload. The Chair and the ICC will need to work closely with Liz in her last few weeks so we are as up-to-date as possible in all areas.

Highways Budget – by the date of our meeting eight twelfths of the financial year will have been completed with still no accountability for highways.

Northants CALC and Clerks pay review - still no word; if we have no update by the time of our meeting and as Liz is resigning we may have to agree a rise, back date it back to April 2021 and calculate the Clerk's final salary value.

No work has yet done on the review of the Wappenham VDS

After discussions with some other local Parish Council Chairmen who were keen we responded to the WNC Consultation on the 2050 Spatial Options Plan I have read the consultation document. I understand now why they were keen for responses as their parishes/Wards fall in potential 'Options for Development' that have been outlined in the plan. There are no Options in our Parish or Ward but there is potentially a huge option to develop more land to the South and South West of Towcester.

C. Councillor Bambridge:

Regarding the Cabinet question; until now there has been a lot of work being done related to the highways programme and I am pleased to say that there will be a special Cabinet meeting on Tuesday the 21st December to discuss the highways budget. There have been a number of issues which have required special attention and Cllr Phil Larratt, who is the Cabinet member for Highways amongst other areas, is confident that the meeting will have a very positive outcome towards improving highways matters. It is also important to point out that a new highways contract is due to be implemented next year. This will see the change from a single programme and contract for the whole county to separate ones for West and North Northamptonshire. I am chairman of the West Northamptonshire Council Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and that contract is on our future work plan. I will let you know the outcome of the December Cabinet meeting.

Boundaries commission

The Boundaries Commission will soon be starting a ward boundaries review for West Northamptonshire. This is because we are a new authority and the goal is to implement the changes for the next election.

This will involve looking at the optimum number of councillors and to decide ward boundaries and their names. They will start with a blank canvas and in cooperation with parish councils will be seeking views by next July. Regarding boundaries for the wards and their names, the goal is to ensure the parishes in those wards and the names for those wards best represent the relationship of communities and their identities. Then in November, there will be a review which will lead into a second consultation between February and April 2023 with the final proposal being published in July 2023. In particular they are looking at the number of residents related to each councillor to get equality and also the community identity and interests are important to them.

Call in of decision to charge for green bin collections

Due to having to harmonise council tax and the fact that Daventry, Northampton and South Northants have different green bin arrangements, with two of the three paying for the service, WNC Cabinet made the decision that a single scheme had to be agreed. The decision was that all those

wishing to have green bins would pay £42 a year for a bin to be provided and emptied. Since then this decision has been called in. This means that the matter goes before the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee, of which I am Chairman for debate next Tuesday. The committee will decide if there are grounds or not to refer the decision back to Cabinet. This is a procedural matter to decide if the decision was correct with respect to the constitution and policies of the council. If the call in is upheld, the decision may be reconsidered.

Northampton bid for city status

A bid is being made for Northampton to be made a city as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Winning cities will be announced in June 2022.

97.21/22

FINANCE SCHEDULE:

A. To Approve the Statement

Cash and Investment Accounts	
Current Account – Santander (10 th October)	3288.95
Deposit Account (NS&I) (Jan 2021)	1626.85
Total	4915.80
Santander daybook balance @ 10th October 2021	3288.95

(no statement received as no transactions at the November meeting)

Noted.

Cllr Featherstone advised that NS&I were discontinuing their accounts.

RESOLVED: To close the account and transfer the funds to the Santander account.

Action: the Clerk

B. To consider the Clerk's pay rate in light of national pay rise negotiations

Noted that local authority pay scales for 2021/22 had not yet been finalised.

RESOLVED: To award the Clerk a back dated pay rise of 3% for April – December 2021 which equated to an additional £47.21.

B. To Ratify and Approve the Payments

Requests received	NET	VAT	TOTAL	Cheque number	Applicable Power	Resolved to approve? Y/N
E Hart* (wages)	571.82	0.00	571.82	22077	LGA 1972 s111	Y
E Hart	27.77	5.55	33.32	22078	LGA 1972 s111	Y

(Kaspersky anti virus) – expires 16 May 2022						
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*includes backdated pay award of £47.21: 3% from 1st April – 31st Dec 2021

RESOLVED: To approve the payments listed above.

C. To Note Receipts

None.

98.21/22 To receive the Clerk's resignation and consider next steps

The Clerk was thanked for her efforts, noting that her length of service for the Parish Council was almost 15 years and that the Parish Councillors had appreciated her guidance and support.

RESOLVED: To offer the position of Parish Clerk/RFO to Tina Emerton on the terms discussed.

99.21/22 PLANNING: A. Applications A.1 Application: WNS/2021/2017/FUL Location: Priesthay Wood Farm Wappenham Road, Syresham, Northamptonshire, NN13 5PU Proposal: Proposed oak framed garage with studio and leisure space at first floor level within the curtilage of the existing residential unit

RESOLVED: To support the application.
Action: the Clerk

A.2 To note comments received regarding WNS/2021/1819/EIA

RESOLVED: To submit an objection to the application with regard to traffic implications, the height of the proposed structure, environmental considerations and the fact that the employment generated would result in employees needing to commute into the area as Towcester has low unemployment rates.
Action: the Clerk

RESOLVED: To inform residents of the application via WIZ.
Action: the Clerk

B. Consideration of other planning issues/consultations

Noted that the deadline for submission of comments regarding the West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan – Spatial Options had been extended.

RESOLVED: To submit objections to the Spatial Option in Towcester in light of further reflections following comments received from neighbouring statutory authorities.
Action: Cllr Featherstone, the Clerk

RESOLVED: To ask Andrea Leadsom for her views on the consultation.

Action: the Clerk

100.21/22 BUDGET SETTING 2022/23
A. To set draft payments budget

RESOLVED: To set a draft payments budget of £2813.93

B. To set draft receipts budget

RESOLVED: To set a draft receipts budget (excluding precept) of £0

101.21/22 To consider submitting an entry to the 2022 Northamptonshire Village Awards

Noted that the Tove Valley fibre installation project had resulted in residents and landowners working together with a common aim and that it would be appropriate to seek recognition for the high level of community spirit generated from the project.

RESOLVED: To submit an entry to the 2022 Northamptonshire Village Awards, noting the closing date of 31st January 2022.

Action: Cllr Featherstone

RESOLVED: To approve a payment of £30 (cheque 22079) to ACRE.

102.21/22 POLICY REVIEWS
A. Annual review of Standing Orders

RESOLVED: To re-adopt Standing Orders as circulated (no amendments)

B. Annual review of Financial Regulations

RESOLVED: To re-adopt Financial Regulations as circulated (no amendments).

103.21/22 TO CONSIDER PARISHIONERS' CORRESPONDENCE

None.

104.21/22 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

Correspondence as per Appendix A was **noted**.

105.21/22 TO CONSIDER PARTICIPATING IN THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY INITIATIVE TO "PLANT A TREE FOR THE JUBILEE"

Deferred pending a response from the PCC.

106.20/22 TO CONSIDER ISSUES RELATED TO HIGHWAYS, FOOTPATHS AND STREET AREAS INCLUDING UPDATE ON SPEED REDUCTION MEASURES ON HIGHBRIDGE ROAD

Noted that the speed reduction measures on Highbridge Road had been implemented and included an advisory 20mph on the bend.

RESOLVED: To report to Fix My Street that the repair in School Lane is already cracking.

Action: the Clerk

RESOLVED: To report to Fix My Street that there is a sharp edge on the highway on the left hand side in the vicinity of the Fishing Car Park.

Action: the Clerk

Noted that a new gully had been installed in Highbridge Road.

107.21/22 TO RECEIVE ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Policies requiring review
Precept setting

108.21/22 TO SET FUTURE MEETING DATES

Wednesday 19th January - Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 2nd March - Ordinary Meeting

109.21/22 COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

It was suggested that it would be benefit to highlight to residents how to use the defibrillator (link to tutorial on WIZ).

The Meeting ended at 20.18 p.m.

Appendix A - Correspondence Received –3rd November – 8th December 2021

West Northamptonshire Council and Police

- Electoral Register Data
- Regarding funds available to help fly-tipping victims
- Rough Sleeping Estimate 2021 West Northamptonshire Council: NIGHT OF 10th November 2021 - completed
- Healthy Communities: Town & Parish Council WNC Forum: Agenda and Minutes
- Healthy Communities: November 2021 - Parish & Town Council Update
- West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan – Spatial Options Consultation – Response Deadline Extended: 24th December
- Democratic Services: reminder of the process of a Notice of Casual Vacancy
- November newsletter from Northamptonshire Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner

NCALC

- Friday mini eUpdates

Miscellaneous

- HMRC - Successful Receipt of Online Submission

- HS2 Liaison Group Information: slides, minutes, agenda, updates
- CPRE: West Northants Strategic Plan – CONSULTATION – urging parishes to respond
- Save Towcester Now: Objection to proposed DHL Hub on A5 near Towcester
- Tarmac: A43 NB Northampton Rd Roundabout to Silverstone Pavement Scheme Updates
- Tarmac: Bulletin Bulletin A43 NB Northampton Rd RND to Silverstone and additional SCRIM Works
- ACRE: Press release: Hunsbury Hill gets fruity this autumn with a new community orchard!
- Village Hall Committee: confirmation all meeting dates booked and trip hazard noted
- SNVB: Latest e-Bulletin from snvb - funding, news, training

DRAFT