

WARMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Warmington Parish Council meeting
10th December 2020 by electronic communication in a virtual setting at 7.11pm

In accordance with provision laid down by The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, as amended, during a period of encouraged 'social distancing', this meeting was held by means of internet video and telephone communication in a virtual setting, using Zoom software. All members were always able to hear proceedings and members of the public had been given opportunity to attend.

These minutes detail matters as they were dealt with, rather than as per the agenda:

1629. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT: From item 1628, Cllr Karen Denny, Cllr Philip Douglas, Cllr Jean Fisher, Cllr Nigel Rudd (chairman), Cllr Debbi Scotting, Cllr David Short and Cllr David Strafford. Officer present: The clerk and Steve Cheeseman as Warmington 2031 neighbourhood plan co-ordinator and Greenway project manager. 3 members of the public, NCCⁱ ward councillor Wendy Brackenbury. ENCⁱⁱ Ward cllr David Brackenbury sent apologies.

1630. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:

- *Cllr Nigel Rudd reaffirmed his standing personal interest, for which he has a dispensation to the end of the current parish council term of office, as he is related to someone who works for the planning inspectorate.*
- *Cllr David Short declared an interest in matters pertaining to the quarry and reservoir applications due to business relationships with the landowner.*
- *Cllr Debbi Scotting declared an interest as a close neighbour to any matters pertaining to the quarry and reservoir applications. She also declared a pecuniary declaration relating to family business matters over applications relating to Spinney Close.*

1631. CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL:

It was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Karen Denny as a member of the parish council. She was welcomed by the council and joined the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the necessary signing of declaration of interest can be carried out at a suitable juncture, due to the coronavirus pandemic situation.

1632. MINUTES:

It was **RESOLVED** to approve minutes of the council meetings held on 8th October 2020 as a true record of that meeting, noting a that an erroneous sentence had been copied from the agenda referring to something non-existent. The chairman will hand signed minutes to the clerk at a future stage once restrictions on social distancing are eased and it is safe for them both. The November Governance Committee meetings had not yet been published.

1633. RECEIVE QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

There were none

1634. DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING MATTERS:

a) 20/01485/FUL | Single storey flat roof extension to the rear of a dwelling | 34 Stamford Lane Warmington. It was **RESOLVED** that the council has no objections or further comment to make.

b) 20/01471/FUL | Single storey rear extension | 9 Short Close Warmington. It was **RESOLVED** that the council has no objections or further comment to make.

c) There was a summary of Northamptonshire County Council planning committee meeting outcome regarding 3 applications at Elton Quarry. The county council development control committee had been attended by many parish councillors and officers along with parish residents. Approximately a dozen robust objections to the proposals were submitted to the committee. However, the committee ruled to grant permission to the development, subject to the NCC planning officers and committee chairman and vice chairman preparing updated planning conditions plus a S106 agreementⁱⁱⁱ. In the interim the Parish Council has made representation to ensure that it is as involved as possible in the next steps of drawing up the planning conditions and S106 agreement, but contributing local input, working alongside the planning officers and applicant representatives. The intention of this action is to facilitate monitoring the progress of the works and calling to account should any contraventions occur as well as inputting local community knowledge.

The matter of officer delegated spending authority by clerk in consultation with the chairman to cover legal fees should formal advice be required pertaining to a S106 agreement or a position statement at a relevant time was discussed, but no resolution reached.

The current situation regarding applications relating to Elton Agricultural reservoir was discussed – these are the signing off of discharge of conditions for the bird hide and LLG^{iv} meeting.

d) 20/01474/FUL | Demolition of existing redundant restaurant; Construction of new single storey coffee shop and drive thru lane with 34 car parking spaces; New entrance crossover to be installed to site | Restaurant Oundle Road

Warmington plus 20/01473/FUL | Demolition of the existing workshop, forecourt sales building, canopy, and car wash; Construction of new single storey sales building with bin store and jet wash to rear; Installation of new forecourt canopy, HGV Canopy, associated pump islands, and tank farm. 4no. Electric vehicle charging bays and associated infrastructure and 6 customer parking bays | Country Garage Oundle Road Warmington.

The planning consultant, architect and applicant for these two applications were invited to address the meeting at this point to expand on some of the matters that would become apparent as aspects of this not-insignificant pair of applications emerge. A brief power-point overview was presented. The council broadly welcomed the proposals as an improvement on the current facilities and as a positive change for the better. Some initial concerns raised were related to local experiences of traffic and lorries, with particular reference to the use of the area by HGVs. Other concerns include litter, electric charging points and impact on existing village businesses.

The point was made that this is the type of application that would greatly benefit from the opportunity of pre-application engagement as per the Warmington Neighbourhood Plan and a stand alone meeting would be a valid way to take the project discussions forward, possibly with East Northamptonshire Council and Northamptonshire County Council highways representation. The promoters will supply some examples of similar retrofit project at other sites. There was discussion regarding pedestrian access matters, landscaping improvements and potential highways S106 cross benefits with the Elton Quarry application.

It was agreed that the parish council would put a holding submission to East Northamptonshire Council to enable carry forward of discussions with the applicant with a formal submission to follow.

e) The current situation regarding Spinney Close applications appears to be that the 2 applications that have been refused have been appealed against and duplicate applications submitted. When the documentation appears on the planning portal, the parish council will make the necessary arrangements in order that a submission to the inspectorate can be prepared.

f) The application for a certificate of lawful development at Taylors Green was refused by East Northamptonshire Council and taken to appeal where the application was upheld by the inspector and the refusal of planning permission overturned.

At this stage, the council having been in session for 2 hours, there was a 5 minute comfort adjournment

1635. PROJECT MANAGEMENT UPDATE:

Street lighting update: A briefing paper had been circulated in advance of the meeting and taken as read. It was **RESOLVED** that all non-LED light fittings in the parish, which are the responsibility of the parish council, will be replaced with the same type of new fitting – Smartscape Aspire mini from Zeta. The poles on the Nene Pastures estate will be painted as part of the project as will 2 poles identified in the village, along with any additional ones identified as in need prior to the start date. The project cost is £26,461, with £9,075 coming from parish council capital expenditure and £17,386 being sought from government interest free loan funding, repayable over 5 years. The loan repayments will be paid from the savings made from the reduction in street lighting maintenance and electricity consumption. There will be no necessity to increase precept to pay for this project.

It was further **RESOLVED** to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government to apply for a Salix (0% interest) loan of £17,386 over the borrowing term of 5 years towards the purchase of new LED streetlighting. The annual loan repayments will be £3,477.

1636. GOVERNANCE MATTERS:

a) North Northamptonshire Council update: Ward Cllr Wendy Brackenbury updated the meeting on the latest situation with the new unitary authority, particularly the new appointees and the budget situation. council information regarding rural affairs forum plus the Oundle TC led pressure group and consider resolution no to become a formal member.

There was a discussion regarding the new Rural Affairs Forum in operation with the shadow NNC, which is generally received as a positive step. The discussions around devolved services was clarified insofar as Northamptonshire CALC is encouraging local councils to ensure they have the wherewithal to become ensure they are able to partake in familiarisation and training as the new large town councils in the unitary area emerge (Wellingborough, Kettering and Corby in particular) and what the changes will bring to the town and parish sector as a whole. NNC will from the outset engage positively with the sector and encourage open and direct dialogue.

It was agreed that the council will not support an Oundle area rural forum as it would replicate a properly constituted wider forum and would have no value.

At this stage, Cllr Wendy Brackenbury left the meeting, having thanked the chairman for his support over his time in office and wished him well

b) Reports containing various budget scenarios, ranging from 10% to 50% increases in precept had been with members for consideration for some weeks and many clarification questions had been answered in the interim. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the following budget as a realistic expectation of anticipated expenditure for the forthcoming financial year. It was further **RESOLVED** to present a precept demand of £80,247, which represents approximately 47p per band D property per week.

Income	
Precept	80,247
Interest Received	50
Donations Received	
Recreation Ground Income	1,350
Allotments Rent	345
Memorial Fees	765
Fireworks/Bonfire party	2,550
S136 Urban verges income	-
Other Income	510
General grants received	2,550
ENC CFF Greenway grant	-
ENC CFF Other grants	-
AWA Grants	10,000
Grantscape grant	-
S106 (CIL) income	-
Lighting replacement loan	-
Total Income	98,367

Expenditure	
Salaries	23,000
Pension	1,300
Staff Mileage & Benefits	300
Staff other Expenses	100
Training	1,000
Chairman's Allowance	100
Members Expenses	-
Bank Charges	108
Audit Fees	1,000
Professional Fees	7,500
Subscriptions & Memberships	750
Insurance	1,420
Stationery	204
Postage	25
Office cost	203
Telephone & Broadband	314
Website	200
IT	2,000
Elections	3,500
Meeting Room Hire/facilitation	500
Section 137 Expenditure	-
Neighbourhood Plan	60
NP commitments	2,500
Flood project	100
Street Lighting consumption	650
Street lighting maintenance	500
Refuse Arrangements	450
Grants & Donations Paid	510
Maintenance - Greenway	3,000
Destination Warmington	1,000
Future Revenue/Capital/Conting	2,907
Ex NCC Discretionary Services	3,500
Landscaping/Environment/Civic	2,500
War memorial	102
Maintenance - Urban Highway	1,600
Tree Works	1,500
Greenway CFF expenditure	-
Heritage Trail	-
Hedge works/grounds control	3,998
Grass Cutting	3,373
Litter Picking	50
Pocket Park	200
Bonfire Night	1,530
Bonfire night donations	1,020
Asset Management	
Cohesion Event	3,060
RoSPA Inspections	250

Maintenance/amenity: Play Area	1,000
Play Equipment	-
Maintenance/amenity: RecreationG	1,750
Cabin-maintenance & cleaning	510
Maintenance/amenity: Football	650
Allotments Expenditure	200
Churchyard	1,000
Cemetery	153
Rates	230
Heritage trail	10,000
Capital Projects	
Cemetery procurement	15,000
Amenity projects	2,500
Awards for all funded projects	10,000
Safety projects	2,550
Lighting loan repayment	3,640
Overhead Expenditure	127,067
Total Budget Income	98,367
Expenditure	127,067
Net Income over Expenditure	-28,700
Ex earmarked res to capital projects	28,700
Anticipated cash reserve	100,552
Less Earmarked reserves	36,905
General reserve	63,647

1637. COMMUNITY / AMENITY MATTERS:

- a) It was **RESOLVED** to procure a new all-purpose bin on the recreation ground at the Buntings Lane entrance.
- b) Information concerning new benches had been distributed in advance of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to procure the following assets for projects to be implemented in current financial year in accordance with the paper circulated.

- Bench sites:
 - Top of hill between Daveys Lodge and Big Green (all black)
 - Spinney Close triangle at Church St junction
 - Church Lane – replacement of existing memorial bench (with a Surrey style bench)

The proposal for a bench at the corner of Peterborough Road and Buntings Lane would not proceed at the current time and will be taken forward.

1638. LAND MANAGEMENT MATTERS:

- a) It was **RESOLVED** to procure the following assets for projects to be implemented in current financial year:
- Play park fencing (virement of fireworks budget and cohesion event.)
 - Cone climber at play park (S106 contribution)
- b) It was **RESOLVED** to procure the following assets for projects to be implemented in current financial year:
- Benches:
 - 1no Park between housing estates
 - 2no Picnic benches in park between housing estates
- c) Cemetery matters:
- Identification of ownership of unsafe headstones is an ongoing project.
 - The cemetery inspection has not identified any issues.
 - The possibility of a trust to look after a gravestone, for future consideration, was raised.
 - Elton Estates has requested that the parish council considers a triangular extension.

1639. GOVERNANCE MATTERS (II)

- a) It was **RESOLVED** to note audit approval and publication of public notice which had been circulated to members for information in advance of the meeting.
- b) The discussion regarding the clerk's CiLCA qualification was deferred to a future meeting.

c) It was not necessary to consider virement of budgets at this meeting.

1640. COMMUNITY MATTERS

a) 2021 Census –information of role of local councils in encouraging community engagement was noted and It was **RESOLVED** to support the initiative in order that the resulting data reflects the true depiction of the parish in order the sufficient health care, policing, highways and other funding is appropriate.

b) The surgery had been carried out in 2019 and early 2020 by the chairman and various members. Since the initial lockdown in April, the clerk has been carrying out the two-hour Saturday morning surgeries. It was **RESOLVED** to cease this initiative until at least after the elections in 2021.

c) Items to include in Five-All magazine to include planning and personnel changes.

The chairman declared the meeting closed at 22.06

COUNCIL MEMBER PERSONAL MATTERS

The chairman tendered his resignation as chairman of the council, although he would be remaining on the council as long as possible, ideally until the May elections. He thanked all members and the clerk for their support over the years of his tenure as chairman. The council thank Nigel Rudd for his leadership, support and guidance during his years as chairman.

Date of next meeting 11th February 2021

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:		
Approved: Signature of chairman		Date

ⁱ NCC = Northamptonshire County Council

ⁱⁱ ENC = East Northamptonshire Council

ⁱⁱⁱ S106 = [Section 106 of the The 1990 Town & Country Planning Act](#)

^{iv} LLG = local liaison group