

PATTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday, 12th December 2024,
7.00 pm, in the Parish Hall

PRESENT: Cllr B. Evans, Chairman Cllr D. Hodges, Vice-Chairman
Cllr D. Keeble Cllr F. Mytton Cllr M. Mitton
Cllr J. Russell Cllr I. Illingworth Cllr S. Raper

In the Chair, Mr Barry Evans, Chairman, who welcomed everyone to the meeting, and reminded everyone that Parish Council meeting can now be recorded by the public as long as this did not disrupt the running of the meeting.

A 15 minute slot had been set aside at agenda item **Parishioners Points** for village residents to raise matters with the Council. The 'invitation' to attend the meeting can be found on the facebook page & PC website.

ATTENDING: Rev. Marion Reynolds & Mr Reynolds

APOLOGIES – Reasons for absence to be declared. Cllr N. Banister (personal)

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Interest & nature of interest to be declared. None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: These had been previously circulated & were duly proposed, seconded and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

MATTERS FOR REPORT – New & Arising from the Minutes:

Chairman's Announcement

- Change of portfolio.
- Cllr Mark Mitton has agreed to take on the PC report for Around Pattishall & the Parish litter pick.
- The Chairman will liaise with the VE 80 group.
- Resignation of the Clerk on health grounds,

Allotment Association – Liaison – B. Evans

- Plots looking in good order.
- Not a lot of activity at present due to the poor weather.
- An open fronted shed with a bench has erected for plot holders use.

Lighting – F. Mytton

- Npower credit refund,
- PL35 Leys Road & **PL53B Malus** Field lamps to be electrically tested @ £27.00 each. Funds are budgeted for & agreed.
- Work to be undertaken on 4 lights – cost has been budgeted for & agreed.
- PL91 in Greenway is obscured by tree branches. P. Wilks, landowner has agreed to cut back the foliage but to date, this has not been done. Clerk to write to Mr Wilks.
- Solar lights on the Church steps have been replaced by a parishioner. Now three lights. Clerk to write a letter of thanks.
- It was agreed to apply for the credit that has accrued on the Npower lighting account.

Highways safety, improvements & maintenance – N. Bannister

- Renewal of village signs.
 - a) WNC no longer fund.
 - b) Quote obtained from E.M. Pell @ £2,800.00 for 4 signs +VAT with costs for new posts.

- c) An order has been placed for the new SIDs
- d) The SID site licence application from WNC Highways is being dealt with by S. Barber. A query has been raised regarding a previous application. Roger Clarke to be contacted for information.
- e) WNC Highways have been asked to extend the 30 mph limit at Eastcote on Gayton Road.
- f) 40 mph roundels have been requested to be painted on Banbury Lane.
- g) Yellow lines – waiting for an update.

Grass Cutting, Churchyard, Hedges & Trees – D. Hodges

- Correspondence received ref. sycamore tree on Simons Walk public right of way. The tree is in a private garden & therefore not a PC matter.
- Some grass cutting not undertaken due to the very wet weather.
- Tree fell in Fosters Booth Road. BT disconnected wires. Tree & debris removed.
- Booth Close – WNC refuse lorry backed into tree & branches fell.
- Fosters Booth Road – wires through trees – Clerk to contact National Grid again.
- Clerk to contact Grand Union Housing requesting the garden hedges to 2 & 3 Leys Road to be cut back.
- The Church wall bordering the road is the responsibility of the PC as the Churchyard is a ‘closed Churchyard’ It was agreed the J. Russell will look for a contractor to assess the wall.
- It was agreed for small plastic plaques to be obtained to mark vacant & purchased grave spaces.

Village & Playing Fields Maintenance – J. Russell

- Flooding & drainage issues
 - a) J.R. attended a meeting with WN flooding team.
 - b) Anglian Water have cleared the blocked sewer drain. Tree roots are one of the causes
 - c) Resident at Vale Cottage has had many flood damage problems with wet walls & floors. Concern that the flooding looks to be a long term problem. Good service from WNC noted.
 - d) Mew Court flooding – WNC planning enforcement will take up matters with the developers.
- Eastcote litter bin installed. Clerk to ask WNC to add it to its emptying cycle.
- Clerk to ask WNC when the new replacement litter bin for Church Street will be installed.
- Playground Maintenance report received
- Curley Climber is reported safe to use.
- Both Close play area graffiti – action to remove it has been taken.
- New bench for the Butchers Lane play area:
 - a) Cost obtained @ £700.00
 - b) Residents to be asked if anyone would like to donate a bench ‘in memory of someone’
 - c) Grass matting needed under the zip wire & small slide. JR to obtain cost.

School Liaison – I. Illingworth

- Fundraising – school is looking to raise £26,000.00 for playground equipment.

Playground New Equipment – I. Illingworth Nothing to report this month

Defibrillator – I. Illingworth

- Adult pads to be reordered in April 2025.

Parish Council Face Book – N. Banister, S. Raper

- 268 followers & 1202 engagements with November posts

Grants & Notice Boards – I. Illingworth

- Will be looking into grant aid for the village school.

Community & Engagement - S. Raper & I. Illingworth

- Over 60s lunch was well attended with good food & excellent entertainment
- Hall storm damage with flooding in the kitchen & hall.

Public Footpaths – J. Russell, & working Group

- New swing gate installed in Suttons Walk.
- RF10 footpath now cleared.
- Collapsed bridge not repaired at present.

Tiffield, Gayton, & Pattishall Minibus – N. Banister

- PC has donated £500.00 towards the upkeep of the bus.

Around Pattishall – M. Mitton – nothing to report at present.

FIVE YEAR PLAN

- .gov.uk working group has met for the first time.
- Cost of new website @ £500.00.
- Projects the group are working on include a mapping application, a written 5 year plan document & responsibilities.

VE 80

- Silhouette soldiers. Clerk to order 2 x male & 1 x female figures.
- Deputy Lord Lieutenant to open the weekend festivities.
- The weekend festivities are a joint programme with Cold Higham PC.
 - a) Friday: Cheese & wine event with exhibition of what life was like during the 1939/45 war. To be opened by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant & held in Cold Higham village hall.
 - b) Request for all P. Cllrs. To help with the festivities
 - c) Saturday: A 40's evening in Pattishall Parish Hall with entertainment from the Song Birds.
 - d) Sunday: (1) Church Service in Pattishall at 10.00 am
(2) Fete in Pattishall.

PARISHIONERS POINTS

- Report from the Rev. Marion Reynolds regarding the Churchyard
 - a) Had a meeting with the Diocese Registrar who stated that due to the register of land as the Churchyard is a 'closed Churchyard, the Diocese cannot give the PC anymore land for burials.
 - b) The Church is considering a change in the burial laws to enable the reuse of burial plots to be reused after 75 years.
 - c) Burials, reuse & new space should be added onto the 5 year plan.
 - d) I. Illingworth to look into the Old Burial Ground. Query regarding any old records.

PARISH HALL / PLAYING FIELDS – S. Raper

- The hall fire alarm system has to be replaced. A request is made for a donation of £1,000.00 towards the new installation. This was agreed.
- The annual donation towards the over 60s Christmas lunch as agreed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Received from:

1. Clear Councils Insurance – Now in partnership with Ecclesiastical part of the Benefact Group

Sent to:

1. M. Mitton – update on queries.
2. Co-op funeral directors – concerns regarding funeral arrangements & condition of grave space.

PLANNING: D. Keeble

| Application | Location | Proposal | Comments |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| | Brook Farm, Cornhill | | PC support |
| | Birds Hill | Driveway concerns | Further information sought |
| | Bell Plantation | | WNC refusal |

• **DHL**

The public enquiry will take place in the Council Chamber at The Forum, Towcester, 10.00 am, 18th February 2025.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| FINANCE: Bank Balances: | a) Current a/c (30/11/24) | £6214.78 |
| | b) Savings Account a/c (22/11/24) | £115412.58 |
| Monies Received: | 22/11/24 – funeral exp. | £230.00 |
| | 10/10/24 – AP adverts | £151.00 |

It was **RESOLVED** that the following accounts were to be paid online & authorised by:

| Online Ref | Payee | Details | Amount | VAT | Total |
|------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|
| OL12/1 | HMRC | Clerk's PAYE | 96.67 | | 96.67 |
| OL12/2 | Pattishall & District Produce show | Annual donation | 150.00 | | 150.00 |
| OL 12/3 | G. Mooney | G of R work x3 | 150.00 | | 150.00 |
| OL 12/4 | Complete Ground Man. | Mowing x 2 invoices | 1707.50 | 341.50 | 2049.00 |
| OL 12/5 | E. ON | Lighting Maintenance | 254.50 | 50.90 | 305.40 |
| OL 12/6 | E. ON | PL107 PL61 replace lantern | 963.00 | 192.60 | 1155.60 |
| OL 12/7 | Npower | Lighting supply | 38.90 | 1.94 | 40.84 |
| OL 12/8 | SGL Inv.5894 | Around Patt. Xmas edition | 479.00 | | 479.00 |
| OL 12/9 | Barbara Osborne | Payroll Services x 3 moths | 70.50 | | 70.50 |
| OL12/10 | A. Addison (Clerk) | Salary & Expenses | 386.66 | 50.00 | 436.66 |
| OL 12/11 | Cornhill Squash Club | Donation for defibrillator | 200.00 | | 200.00 |
| OL 12/12 | Pattishall Parish Hall | OAP lunch, Fire Alarm donat. | 1150.00 | | 1150.00 |
| OL 12/13 | N. J. Blackwell | Eastcote Litter Bin work | 75.00 | 15.00 | 90.00 |
| | | | | | |

- To further approve the following additional payments made on 26/11/24 under Financial Regulations 6.5:
Authorised by: A. Addison & D. Hodges.

| Online Ref | Payee | Details | Amount | VAT | Total |
|------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------|-------|--------|
| OL 11/8 | W&W Engineers Ltd | Steps for small slide | 96.00 | 20.00 | 116.00 |
| OL 11/9 | Towcester RBL | 7 x large poppies | 49.00 | | 49.00 |
| OL11/10 | SGL 6993 | AP printing – Autumn | 479.00 | | 479.00 |
| OL11/11 | PKF Littlejohn LLP | External audit fees | 378.00 | | 378.00 |
| OL11/12 | IONOS Bob Illingworth | Website fees | 45.00 | 9.00 | 54.00 |
| OL11/13 | South Northants Responder | Children's defib pads | 120.00 | | 120.00 |
| | | | | | |

Finance Issues

- Please note that individual members cannot order works to be undertaken without the consent of the Council. Members cannot authorise payments without the consent of Council.
- Save Towcester Now request funding support for its fight against the DHL application. PC agrees to help in principle. Clerk to make enquiries from other PCs regarding amounts.
- Clerk to contact NCALC.
- Projected 2025 election costs received from DK.

BUDGET & PRECEPT 2025/2026 – D. Keeble to report

- Draft budget figures sent to all PC members.
- Each category discussed and agreed.

- It was proposed by D. Keeble, seconded by D. Hodges that to accommodate all departments for the 2025/26 financial year, a precept of £65,500.00 should be applied for from WNC. All agreed.

REPORTS from COUNCILLORS & THE CLERK:

- Car parked for a long time in Butchers Lane needs removing, Clerk to contact WNC 'Elvis'
- Remembrance poppies to be taken down.
- Emergency Plan to be updated.
 - a) Lead contact Barry Evans
 - b) Deputy – Suzanne Raper
 - c) Farmer will supply heavy vehicles if needed.
- Grit bins to be checked. Bin list to be sent to the Clerk.
- Annual litter pick:
 - a) Clerk to order equipment from WNC depot in Towcester, M. Mitton to collect.
 - b) Need a list of volunteers.
 - c) Volunteers to be given list of where to litter pick

REPORT FROM WEST NORTHANTS COUNCIL

Cllr A. Addison, Lead Member for Pattishall, Cllr K. Cooper, Cllr A. Brown

- WNC is working on its budget for 2025/2026.
- PCs are requested to send their precept requests in by the 15th January at the latest.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.00 pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, 9th JANUARY 2025, 7.00 pm

Signed:

Date: