

## **Minutes of the Harringworth Parish Council Meeting held at 7-30pm on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021.**

Held via zoom conference

Present:

Cllr A White (Chairman); Cllr S McLean (Deputy Chairman); Cllr L Boon; Cllr K. Dove (Finance); Cllr F Walsh; Cllr S. Milton; H Maxfield (Clerk)

### **1238 Open session for Parishioners.**

No parishioner had asked for the zoom meeting information.

### **1239 Apologies for absence.**

Cllr Dolman offered his apologies.

### **1240 To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Cllrs on matters to be considered at the meeting.**

None were declared.

### **1241 To consider any dispensation requests and to grant such dispensations as the Chairman may consider necessary.**

None were necessary.

### **1242 Liaison meeting with PCSO (Artur Pereira).**

The PCSO raised the following points:

- a. There is a current plague of scam telephone calls purporting to be from large organisations such as BT, Microsoft, HMRC, Banks, Insurance companies etc. These can be quite convincing but should be totally ignored.
- b. Councillors raised concerns about dog thefts in the area, the PCSO reported that there had been no dog thefts reported in our area; he promised to seek further information from Leicestershire and Rutland regards dog thefts in their area as Rutland Water had been cited as an area of concern.
- c. The PCSO brought to the notice of the meeting that hare coursing and dumping of cannabis waste was a local area problem.
- d. He was concerned about traffic infringements in particular speeding and pavement parking. He pointed out that if insufficient room was left so that a double buggy or wheelchair could not pass easily he would take action.

### **1243 Proposed Village Climate action plan.**

Hope Carpenter gave a presentation on "Local solutions to the climate and nature emergency". The presentation was well received by Cllrs who discussed what local initiatives might look like. It was agreed that Cllrs would consider the matter in more detail and discuss possible actions at the next Council meeting.

### **1244 To resolve that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th January 2021 be signed as a correct record.**

The minutes were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

Approved 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

A D White  
Chairman



#### **1245 Matters arising.**

- a. Churchyard trees progress – The clerk reported that the appropriate paperwork had been submitted to the District Council for their approval. A further quote of £475 has been received for completion of the second phase of work and this coupled with the original £485 for the first phase was accepted by the councillors. Work will commence as soon as approval has been received and conditions permit.
- b. Burial Ground improvements. It was decided that a site visit would be undertaken to further investigate the works needed.
- c. Monthly checks of the defibrillator. This is now being undertaken on a monthly basis by North Northants First Responders and they will inform us of any problems with the equipment.
- d. Wakerley Quarry. Councillor Milton reported that Laxton village had carried out their own independent noise survey which showed that noise levels were in fact higher than claimed by Mick George Ltd. It was decided that the Chairman would become our representative on the Liaison committee as Cllr Milton wished to stand down after many years of service in this role. Her efforts were thanked by all present.

#### **1246 Routine financial matters.**

- a) Review of Payments received
  - i. Interest on Account £0.40
- b) Pre-approved contracts for noting
  - i. Haven Power (December Electricity) £20.34
  - ii. Haven Power (January Electricity) £20.34
- c) Payments for Approval
  - i. Re-imbursement to Chairman for Zoom £14.39

All payments were approved, Cllr Dove then summarised the reconciliation sheet and our budgetary position which showed that spending was in line with what was expected. The reconciliation sheet was approved by members.

#### **1247 Consideration of change in Bank account mechanism.**

A brief outline of 3 possible mechanisms were discussed and it was decided that due to the poor performance and inflexibility of the current provider, HSBC, the accounts would be moved to Unity bank over the course of next financial year. Unity would allow electronic banking with a high level of security which satisfied the councils wish to retain 2 person control of outgoing payments. The annual cost for this banking option of £72 pa was approved.

#### **1248 Re-joining NALC.**

It was decided to re-join NALC at a cost of £208 per annum. The benefits of membership will be reviewed after one year.

#### **1249 Request for an extra streetlight.**

A parishioner had requested that we consider the installation of a new streetlight on Wakerley road beside Manor Farm field as it was particularly dark along there. The clerk had investigated options and explained that to light the area satisfactorily a new lamp post would have to be erected on the footpath side of the road which would entail the installation of an electricity supply cable under the road. It was decided that the cost of such installation could not be justified for a relatively small improvement of lighting.

Approved 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

A D White  
Chairman





### **1250 Litter picking.**

After many years' service Terry Riley has decided to step down as the Village litter pick organiser. Cllr Walsh agreed to take on the role.

### **1251 Village Playground.**

The Chairman reported that he had been approached by a parishioner who pointed out that the one thing that our village lacks compared to other local villages is a children's playground. It was suggested that a children's playground would be a major asset for the village. There was widespread agreement on this and the Chairman proposed to investigate the idea further, reporting his findings back at the next meeting.

### **1252 Highway matters.**

- a. Highway Drainage. The Clerk reported that the roadway drains would be cleaned in May of this year as part of the highways rolling programme. He has emphasised to the Highways Department the need for clearing the drains on the entry roads into the village (many of which are blocked). The difficulties with the ditch drainage adjacent to the Shotley footpath has been passed on to the appropriate department for further action.
- b. Verge parking. The Clerk reported that his consultation with Highways confirmed that there is very little that can be done about this. The Chairman reminded the meeting that if there was a footpath obstruction the PCSO has promised to act.
- c. Village Footpath condition. The Clerk reported that Highways will reinstate major holes defined as (20mm tripping edge over a 300mm length/width), but there are no funds available for wholesale re-surfacing. An inspection was due in January.
- d. Laxton Road verge and hedge. The Chairman reported that the Highways enforcement officer has stated that action will be taken once again to remove the crop on the encroached area. Highways will also liaise with the planning department about the re-instatement of the hedge.

### **1253 Planning.**

- a. Consideration of method of dealing with planning applications. A discussion was held about the impact of planning applications and the effect of the works on the rest of the Village. It was decided that the Council would propose that conditions be added to planning approval notices to minimize the disruption impact on the local area.
- b. Install a mini satellite dish at Tallat Barn (NE/21/00179/LBC). This was approved.
- c. Planning application at 35 Gretton Road (NE/21/00239/FUL). Concerns were expressed about the lack of detail and clarity of the plans. The Clerk was instructed to write to the planning inspector asking for further details before any decision could be made. It was also decided that councillors would visit the location to consider the potential impact on the street view.

### **1254 Forthcoming council elections.**

The chairman reported that information about procedures were only just being issued and the Clerk would forward any relevant documentation. The Clerk was instructed to obtain the nomination papers for distribution to candidates. It was agreed that the Clerk would collect all nomination forms and make an appointment to hand them in. The deadline is April 8.

Approved 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

A D White  
Chairman



More details will follow as they become clearer. The Chairman then announced that Cllr Dolman had decided to step down. He thanked him in his absence for his service.

**1255 Date of next meeting – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021 (annual meeting).**

The meeting closed at 10-20pm

Approved 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

A D White  
Chairman



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Approved 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

A D White  
Chairman

