

**Minutes of the Harringworth Parish Council Meeting held
At 7.30 pm on March 10th 2022 in the Village Hall.**

Present:

Cllr A White (Chairman); Cllr S McLean (Deputy Chairman); Cllr L Boon; Cllr F Walsh; Cllr S Milton; J Patterson-Gordon (Clerk)

1338. Open Session for Parishioners.

No parishioners attended and no questions were raised.

1339. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr K. Dove & Cllr. M. Wright

1340. To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting.

Cllr Boon declared an interest in the Quarry situation as its most immediate neighbour.

1341. To consider any dispensation requests and to grant such dispensations as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Chairman granted dispensation to the parties concerned.

1342. To resolve that the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on January 20th 2022 be signed as an accurate record.

The minutes were accepted as accurate and signed by the Chairman.

1343. To resolve that the Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on February 2nd 2022 be signed as an accurate record.

The minutes were accepted as accurate and signed by the Chairman.

1344. Matters arising.

a. Mulheron Hedge:

The hedge cutting on Seaton Road is now complete. There has been no charge for the work by the contractors Ed Bell & Alan from Bulwick Estate but it was noted that in future this work would be charged for. The owners of the field would be informed explaining that there would be no charge on this occasion. Thanks were recorded.

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b. Highways Issues:

Sarah Barnwell of NNC provided an update via email:

- She will ask the speed monitoring department to revisit the village to get traffic data on Wakerley Road and Laxton Hill. She has also agreed to request a Give Way sign for the bottom of Laxton Hill and to redo the road markings in the next Council financial year (hopefully Spring/Summer 2022).
- The vegetation overhanging the low bridge sign on Gretton Road has now been cut back.
- The Regulations Team will contact the landowners regarding the ditch at Shotley.
- The verge markers on Seaton Road have been replaced/repared and 6 areas of erosion at the edge of Seaton Road before the bridge have also been repaired.

Cllr McLean proposed that the Parish Council acquire some "20 is Plenty" signs to stick onto wheelie bins as a speed deterrent in the village when the bins are put out. This has proved to work well in other villages. It was agreed that Cllr Mclean would invite a Cllr from another council to the Annual Open Parish Meeting to promote the initiative.

c. Playground:

The Landowner has informed the Chair that he has no plans to develop the grain store area, opposite the White Swan. Therefore, to pursue the idea of locating the playground in an area of the field adjacent to the Village Hall, the Parish Council would have to fund an archaeological survey on their own. This work would also involve extra cost to take care of any disturbed remains and to provide suitable screening to protect the view from the Manor House. This would make it an expensive and complex project to take on. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed that plans for a playground in the village should be shelved for the foreseeable future.

d. Churchyard Path to Burial Ground:

Initial work was unsatisfactory and Larkfield Gardening agreed to come back and, with the help of Cllr Dove and the hire of a mini digger, the work is now complete to the satisfaction of the Parish Council. It was agreed to approve the payment of £60 for the hire the mini digger and £100 additional payment to Larkfield Gardening. Cllr Dove did not charge for his time and the other Councillors thanked him for his efforts.

- e. HM Queen Platinum Jubilee:** This is now being taken on by the Chair of the Village Hall Trustees with Cllr M Wright being the Parish Council representative on that committee.

1345. Policing Matters: There were no policing matters to report that were pertinent to the Village.

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1346. Routine Financial Matters:

- a. **Review of payments received:** No payments were received
- b. **To review pre-approved payments:**
- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| i. Drax Energy Solutions | £20.37/£20.37 |
| ii. Bank Charges | £11.00 |
- c. **The following payments were approved:**
- £60 Mini Digger Hire
 - £100 Additional payment to Larkfield Gardening
- d. **Approval of Reconciliation Sheet:** The reconciliation sheet was approved by the Councillors and will be signed off by Cllr Wright on his return.

The Clerk confirmed that a new bank account has now been set up for the Parish Council with Unity Trust Bank plc which will replace the current HSBC account. The cost of running this account will be £6 per month and internet banking with dual authorisation is available.

1347. Review of NCALC Membership

A review of the value of membership of Northants CALC was carried out. Whilst this was a useful resource during Covid, the cost of £223.43 per annum cannot be justified and it was agreed that membership would not be renewed.

1348. Asset Management Project

NNC have an Asset Mapping Project underway for local councils and there is a small grant available if councils take part in this project. It was agreed that an AMP Working Group consisting of the Clerk and Chair be formed who would submit our Asset Register and avail ourselves of the grant of £218.72. The deadline for submission is March 18th.

1349. Jubilee Green Update

Under Cllr Walsh's lead, work continues to improve the site with the next phase a clear out of brambles and trimming back the ivy later in the month. An initial outlay of £100 was approved for this task. The wooden bench has now been refurbished and the Cllrs were grateful for the work of Mr Gavin Gordon in completing this task.

Cllr Walsh, Cllr White and Cllr Dove had a meeting with the Landowner and listened to his views on what should be done in this area. He ruled out the positioning of a flagpole and requested that ideally the planter be a more rustic stone trough than the chosen design. As the contributors to the cost of the planter were unable to provide a written assurance that they would meet their share of the costs, the order for the planter has not yet been placed. Cllr Walsh will

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continue to try and source an old planter but if unsuccessful the previously agreed design will be used.

A tree surgeon has been consulted about the state of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Oak and has suggested that one large branch be trimmed back and the tree be topped off and ivy removed. The Beardsley Oak needs a little attention, and the nieces of Julie Beardsley, who recently passed away, have written to the Parish Council offering to pay for any work that was required. The Clerk will write to thank them for their kind gesture.

1350: Flagpole Update

The Landowner has ruled out the location of a flagpole on Jubilee Green thus in the Cllrs view there are 2 remaining options: the green triangle in front of the church gate or just inside the churchyard near the gate and up against the wall. Planning approval is required for the erection of a flagpole in either location and Church approval would be required for one to be located in Church grounds. A pre-planning enquiry was lodged with NNC in January but no response has so far been received. Some rough costs have been calculated and it is estimated that the total cost of the project would be more than £650. Before proceeding it was felt that the Village should be canvassed on their views, particularly the siting of the flagpole. The Chair agreed to instigate a village survey.

1351. Wakerley Quarry Liaison Group. Site Visit Update.

Cllr McLean recently attended a site meeting with this Group and brought some photographs from his visit. He noted that the site seemed to be very well run and that efforts were being made to keep machinery below the level of the bund and other measures were being put in place to reduce the sound coming from the crusher.

The Chair had attended a meeting of the Quarry Liaison Group on Wednesday March 9th. He said that the quarry would soon be moving to Phase B which would be further away from Harringworth. He said that blasting days may change but it would be a maximum of 2 per week, but more often 1 day per week. He reported that they were considering a central location for the crusher with its own bunding to try to further reduce the noise. He confirmed that the new complaints email address was now operational: wakerley.quarry@northants.gov.uk

Cllr Boon expressed ongoing concern about the noise levels at her home and about the effects of blasting. She would continue to pursue her complaints.

1352. Bulwick Estates Walk:

Councillors McLean, Milton & Boon attended the Bulwick Estates Walk conducted by Graham Garrett who is the forestry advisor to the Bulwick Estate. They found the walk very interesting and learnt a lot about the rewilding work that is being done in order to encourage wildlife and

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retain and create more habitats. A representative from Cambridge University also attended the meeting to talk about the flora and fauna in the area. The subject of increasing the number of permitted paths for walker to use on the Estate was raised and the Landowner expressed his willingness to do this.

1353. Planning

- NE/22/00084/REM Priors Hall Site: no comments
- NE/22/00160/FUL Weathertrees: Cllr McLean suggested that we request more clarity in the detail of the replacement fenestration and doors and whether there would a gate for pedestrian access to the front of the property.

1354. Levelling Up Fund Survey

No submissions were made.

1355. Footpaths

Cllr Walsh has walked most of the footpaths in recent weeks and has encountered few issues but will raise with the Footpaths department of NNC the need for some additional signposts.

1356. Correspondence

The Clerk reported that she had received correspondence from the nieces of Julie Beardsley regarding the upkeep of the Beardsley Oak which they very kindly agreed to contribute to. The Clerk received an email from Millie Boon at the Harringworth Stables regarding issues with walkers feeding the horses and dogs running amongst them. It was agreed that this was not a Parish Council matter but in response the Clerk should suggest to the Stables that they contact Philippa Gasson with a view to putting a message out on the village electronic newsletter.

1357. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday May 12th 2022 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. This will be the Annual Meeting of Harringworth Parish Council.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.



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