



Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 10th January 2022 at Earls Barton Primary School

Present: Cllrs P Morrall (Chair), J Bond, G Broadhead, N Chapman, S Dodds, S Glover, V Gould, P Hadman, S Hiscock.

001/22 Public Speaking Time

No members of the public addressed the Parish Council.

002/22 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs W Mills, M Walters and C Wells.

003/22 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

No declarations of interested were received.

004/22 Resignation of Cllr Ben Chapman

The resignation of Cllr B Chapman was received and accepted. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Chapman for his long service on the Parish Council, and his offer to remain part of the fireworks team was accepted. The Clerk will begin the process to advertise the vacancy.

005/22 Minutes of the Meeting of 13th December 2021

It was resolved to adopt the minutes as a correct record.

006/22 Accounts

It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

| | Chq no | Payee | Details | £ |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 237 | B/Transfer | Ofcom | Events – radio licence | 75.00 |
| 238 | B/Transfer | Anglian Water | Allotment | 11.91 |
| 239 | B/Transfer | Anglian Water | Cemetery | 16.40 |
| 240 | B/Transfer | Anglian Water | Pioneer Sports Field | 74.74 |
| 241 | B/Transfer | Mrs R Smart | Reimbursement – road closure equip. | 150.27 |
| 242 | B/Transfer | SLCC | Training – Practitioners Conference | 90.00 |
| 243 | B/Transfer | North Northants Council | Recharge of Election Costs | 234.60 |
| 244 | B/Transfer | Npower | EB Library – utilities | 166.11 |
| 245 | 300025 | Mr D Gildon | Allotment – notice board | 298.94 |
| 246 | Sports Fund | CS2 Ltd | Sports Dev – Project Manager Fees | 1536.00 |
| 247 | B/Transfer | J R Garden Solutions | Pest Control | 325.00 |
| 248 | B/Transfer | Wellingborough Norse | Grounds Maintenance – Dec 21 | 3254.63 |
| 249 | B/Transfer | E-on | Street Lighting | 18.82 |
| 250 | B/Transfer | Total Gas and Power | EB Library – utilities | 308.67 |
| 251-255 | B/Transfer/ 300026 | Salary Costs | Clerk/Reg/Tax/NI/Pension | 3202.77 |
| 256 | 300027 | EBPC | Transfer to Sports Fund | 20000.00 |
| 257 | Sports Fund | CS2 Ltd | Sports Dev – Consultancy Fees | 600.00 |

007/22 Police/Community Safety

- (a) Crime Figures and Report – The Clerk advised that 14 crimes were reported in December 2021, the lowest over the last 12 months.

- (b) Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Virtual Councillor Meeting – The Clerk will attend the meeting on Tuesday 18th January. Cllr Wells also to be invited to attend.
- (c) Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Budget Consultation – it was resolved to respond to the consultation expressing the view that measures should be taken to ensure the funding is being used correctly and within the remit of the PFCC to ensure best value.

008/22 Finance

- (a) ¾ Bank Reconciliation – it was resolved to approve the ¾ Bank Reconciliation as presented by the Clerk.
- (b) Grounds Maintenance Committee – it was resolved to approve the minutes of the Grounds Maintenance Committee meeting held on 6th January 2022.
- (c) Grounds Maintenance and Treeworks Contract 2022/23 – following a discussion it was resolved to approve the recommendations of the Grounds Maintenance Committee and award the treeworks contract to Thompson Trees. A further quote will be sought for additional treeworks outside the scope of the contract. It was noted that the current grounds maintenance contract is with Wellingborough Norse, who will cease carrying out groundworks at the end of March. The Clerk is currently looking into what action can be taken with regards the existing contract and will report back.
- (d) Finance Committee – it was resolved to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 6th January 2022.
- (e) Grants 2022/23 – following discussion, it was resolved to approve the Finance Committee’s recommendations for grants for 2022/23.
- (f) Risk Assessment/Asset Register/Audit Controls 2022/23 – following discussion, it was resolved to approve the Asset Register, Audit Controls and Risk Assessment 2022/23, as recommended by the Finance Committee. As requested, the Clerk will produce a Reserves Policy for approval at the next meeting.
- (g) Budget and PRECEPT 2022/23 – following discussion, it was resolved to approve the Finance Committee’s recommendation for the budget and PRECEPT 2022/23 (total figure £164736, Band D equivalent £72.54 – an increase of £12.54. It was noted that, whilst savings had been identified in expenditure, reserves were used last year to ensure there was no increase in the PRECEPT, which is not possible this year, resulting in an overall increase.
- (h) Public Works Loan Board – It was resolved to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to apply for a PWLB loan of £200,000.00 over the borrowing term of 20 years for The Grange Sports Field development and possible acquisition of land to form a car park. The annual loan repayment will come to around £12000.00. It is not intended to increase the council tax precept for the purposes of the loan repayments.

009/22 Sports and Leisure Development

- (a) The Grange Sports Development – update – planning matters are ongoing. A new application for revisions to the pavilion and landscaping will be submitted as soon as the Football Foundation are satisfied with the proposals, in line with the conditions for the application for funding. A new and more detailed business plan for the facility will also need to be drawn up for the facility. It was agreed that a meeting of the Trustees of Earls Barton Sport and Community Trust be held as soon as possible to discuss this work. An updated project plan and timeline should be available in mid-January. A request from EBCC for further funding towards training nets was received. Whilst some funding has been earmarked, this is not sufficient to cover the full cost of the nets. It was resolved that, as further funding from EBPC is not available at present, that an offer to refurbish the existing movable nets to use for the 2022 season whilst additional funding is sought. It was noted that the marquee has been removed from the grounds to assess any repairs that are needed.

010/22 Scheme of Delegation

It was resolved to adopt a Temporary Scheme of Delegation. This will be reviewed at every physical meeting so that it is in place should further lockdowns be announced by the government preventing face-to-face meetings.

011/22 – Northants CALC/SLCC/ACRE Correspondence

- (a) NCALC Asset Mapping Project – it was resolved to put Cllrs Chapman, Hiscock and Wells forward for the project.

012/22 North Northants Council

- (a) Councillors Report – apologies were received from Cllrs Lawman and Hallam – Cllr Brown provided an update from NNC. This included the resignation of the Director of Public Health, help available for retailers, the deadline for primary school applications and the draft budget consultation. It was noted that the bin collection contract with Wellingborough Norse is to be extended throughout 2022/23, and will include weekly food collection from 2023/24.
- (b) Bus Shelter Doddington Road – Cllr Brown confirmed that he is currently seeking funding through a government initiative and will report back.
- (c) Additional sites for on-street electric vehicle charging points – it was resolved to nominate sites on The Square car park, Park Street Car Park, the Co-op and Earls Barton Library.
- (d) NNC Draft Statement of Community Involvement – it was resolved not to comment.
- (e) Draft Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits Special Protection Area: Mitigation Strategy – it was resolved not to comment.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 14th February 2022 – 7.15pm

It should be noted that these minutes are subject to the approval of Earls Barton Parish Council

Rosemary Smart – Clerk to the Council

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