



**Minutes of the Meeting held at Earls Barton Library and Community Centre
on Monday 9th January 2023**

Present: Cllrs P Morrall (Chair), J Bond, N Chapman, S Dodds, V Gould, S Hiscock, C Lloyd-Staples, S. Weller.

001/23 Public Speaking Time

No members of the public were in attendance.

002/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs G Broadhead, P Hadman, L Morrison and C Wells.

003/23 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

No declarations of interested were received.

004/23 Co-option of New Member to fill one vacancy following the resignation of Cllr Steve Glover

No applications had been received by the closing date. The Clerk will readvertise the vacancy for consideration at February's meeting.

005/23 Minutes of the Meeting of 12th December 2022

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

006/23 Accounts

It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

	Chq no	Payee	Details	£
207	B/Transfer	SLCC	Training – Practitioners Conference	375.00
208	B/Transfer	Northants CALC	Training – Climate Conference	66.00
209	B/Transfer	Npower	EB Library – utilities	385.92
210	B/Transfer	Mowerman	Grounds Maintenance (Dec)	1233.00
211	B/Transfer	Anglian Water	Water – Cemetery	12.03
212	B/Transfer	Anglian Water	Water – Pioneer Sports Field	21.81
213	Sports Fund	CS2 Ltd	Sports Dev – Project Manager Fees	1200.00
214	Sports Fund	Central Bedfordshire Council	Sports Dev – Archaeology Trenching	11142.00
215	Sports Fund	CS2 Ltd	Sports Dev – Consultancy Fee	1200.00
216	Sports Fund	Pickerings Hire	Sports Dev – Container Hire	95.04
217	B/Transfer	Weedwise Ltd	Grounds Maintenance (Dec)	3056.00
218	B/Transfer	J Brady	VAS Maintenance	195.00
219	B/Transfer	Total Energies	EB Library – utilities	348.97
220	B/Transfer	Npower	Street Lighting	406.02
221	B/Transfer	North Northants Council	Grounds Maintenance (bins)	1887.59
222- 226	B/Transfer/ 300056	Salary Costs	Clerk/Reg/EBYC Leader/EBYC Assist Leader/Tax&NI/Pension	3552.24

007/23 Planning

(a) Planning Applications Received:

NW/22/00893/REM – reserved matters application in relation to appearance, landscaping and scale to redevelop the site for six Class E(g)/B8 industrial units – Anitox House, 17-26 White House Industrial Estate, 80 Main Road.

No comments were required on the applications received.

008/23 Police/Community Safety

- (a) Crime Figures and Report – no figures received.
- (b) OPFCC Virtual Meeting - The Clerk will attend the meeting to be held on Wednesday 11th January.
- (c) Northamptonshire Police and Fire Precept 2023-24 – it was noted that the proposal is to increase the Police Precept by £1.50 per month and to increase the Fire and Rescue Precept by £0.50 per month for the average Band D Household.

009/23 Sports and Leisure Development

Planning permission is still outstanding and a meeting is being held with the planners on 11th January to discuss progress. The report on the tender responses will be received before the next parish council meeting. It was noted that, based on the initial figures received, there will be a shortfall in funding. A value engineering exercise will be carried out to identify savings, but EBPC will need to give consideration to addressing the shortfall once the figures have been finalised. A request for community engagement was received, and it was noted that engagement events are in the process of being planned.

010/23 Finance

- (a) ¾ Bank Reconciliation – it was resolved to approve the ¾ Bank Reconciliation as presented by the Clerk.
- (b) Grounds Maintenance Treeworks Contract 2023/24 – following discussion, it was resolved to award the treework contract for 2023/24 to Midland Tree Specialists.
- (c) Finance Committee – it was resolved to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 5th January 2023.
- (d) Grants 2023/24 – following discussion, it was resolved to approve the Finance Committee’s recommendations for grants for 2023/24.
- (e) Risk Assessment/Asset Register/Audit Controls 2023/24 – following discussion, it was resolved to approve the Asset Register, Audit Controls and Risk Assessment 2023/24, as recommended by the Finance Committee.
- (f) Budget and PRECEPT 2023/24 – following discussion, it was resolved to approve the Finance Committee’s recommendation for the budget and PRECEPT 2023/24 (total figure £192996, Band D equivalent £86.08 – an increase of £13.54 for the year or 18.7%). It was noted that, whilst savings had been identified in expenditure, the increase is primarily due to increase in grounds maintenance costs following the termination of the contract with Wellingborough Norse/North Northants Council. In addition, the council has increased the grants budget in order to help village organisations which are feeling the effect of the cost-of-living crisis. It was resolved that a second scenario to consider increasing the amount of the Public Works Loan Board loan be revisited in six-month’s time once the final calculations for the sports and community development project at The Grange have been received.
- (g) Public Works Loan Board – in light of the resolution made about (agenda item 010/23(f)) it was resolved not to increase the loan application at this time. This will be revisiting in six-month’s time.

011/23 Welcome Event for Ukrainian Families - update

It was resolved that Cllr Lloyd-Staples assist the Clerk in the organisation of the event.

012/23 North Northants Council

- (a) Councillors Report – apologies were received from Cllrs Brown, Lawman and Hallam – Cllr Lawman provided a written report. She gave an update on the NNC consultation on Local Boundary Changes and offered to hold an online meeting with parish councillors to discuss the work being carried out.
- (b) Local Area Partnership – Cllrs Chapman and Morrison to be asked to attend the next meeting on 1st February, if they are able to.
- (c) Consultation of NNC Draft Revenue Budget – it was resolved not to comment.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 13th February 2023 – 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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