



**Minutes of the Meeting held at Earls Barton Library and Community Centre
on Monday 9th December 2024**

Present: Cllrs V Gould (Chair), J Bond, T Brennan, N Chapman, S Dodds, P Hadman, C Lloyd-Stapes, P Morrall, L Morrison, D Smith, C Wood.

154/24 Public Speaking Time

No member of the public were in attendance.

155/24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs G Broadhead and C Wells.

156/24 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

No declarations of pecuniary interest were received.

157/24 Minutes of the Meeting of 11th November 2024

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

158/24 Accounts

(a) Expenditure - it was resolved to pay the following accounts:

	Chq no	Payee	Details	£
163	B/Transfer	Pozitive Energy	Electricity – Cemetery Chapel	76.71
164	B/Transfer	Pozitive Energy	Electricity – Pioneer Sports Field	166.30
165	B/Transfer	Mineral Star Construction Ltd	Pioneer – repairs to driveway	1023.46
166	B/Transfer	James Brady	Installation of Listening Benches	800.00
167	B/Transfer	Portal Plan Quest	Planning Fee	215.00
168	B/Transfer	Portal Plan Quest	Planning Fee	216.50
169	B/Transfer	N Chapman	Reimburse cost of radios	198.00
170	B/Transfer	E-on	Repairs – street lighting	46.80
171	B/Transfer	Mowerman	Grounds Maintenance (Dec)	3381.65
172	B/Transfer	Midland Tree Specialists	Treework	780.00
173	B/Transfer	WeedWise	Grounds Maintenance (Nov)	3100.00
174	B/Transfer	St John Ambulance	Event – Fireworks	274.56
175	300087	Information Commissioner	Data Protection Fee	40.00
176	Sports Fund	Central Bedfordshire Council	Sports Dev – Archaeological Work	13291.20
177	Sports Fund	Central Bedfordshire Council	Sports Dev – Archaeological Work	3590.40
178	Sports Fund	Citius Engineering Ltd	Sports Dev – Structural Services	960.00
179	B/Transfer	Total Energies	EB Library – utilities	57.93
180	B/Transfer	Greener Grave Care	Grounds Maintenance	1050.00
181	B/Transfer	Greener Grave Care	Grounds Maintenance – War Mem.	420.00
182	B/Transfer	James Brady	Installation of Xmas Tree	50.00
183	B/Transfer	Npower	Street Lighting	710.93
184	B/Transfer	Midland Tree Specialists	Treework	420.00
185-188	B/Transfer	Salary Costs	Clerk/EBYC Leader/Tax&NI/Pension	3732.85

(b) Income – income received in November 2024 was noted and approved.

(c) Internal Financial Checks – The Chair of the Finance Committee, Cllr Bond, reported that all internal checks had been carried out and that there are no discrepancies or concerns to report.

159/24 Planning

- (a) Applications Received -
- NW/24/00314/FUL – removal of existing detached bungalow and replaced with new detached two storey self-build 5-bedroom dwelling, garage, hardstanding, vehicular access, gates, boundary treatment and landscaping (amended plans received 13.11.2024) – 57 Mears Ashby Road.
 - NW/24/00650/LBC – Listing Building Consent – Replacement of three existing windows to the rear of the property – 40A High Street.
 - NW/24/00651/FUL – two single storey extension – 1-5 Baron Avenue
- It was resolved to support applications NW/24/00314/FUL and NW/24/00651/FUL. No comment was required on the other application received.
- (b) Green Hill Solar Farm – the Clerk reported on the briefing held on 2nd December and provided details on the two further consultation events. It was resolved power be delegated to the Clerk, with input from the Green Hill Solar Working Party, to respond to the current consultation based on the responses to the parish council’s community engagement. In addition, it was resolve that, should the community be minded to ask the parish council to oppose the proposal, the Clerk will also liaise with neighbouring parish councils to send a joint response.

160/24 Police/Community Safety

- (a) Crime Figures and Report – figures provided by Northants Police confirmed that 5 crimes were reported in November. The Local Identified Priorities for the Wellingborough area are burglary, road safety and traffic offences, and drug dealing and misuse.
- (b) OPFCC Precept and Plan Consultation – following discussion, it was resolved that no response would be made.

161/24 Sports and Leisure Development

- (a) The Grange Sports Development Update – The Clerk advised that the letter of intent has been issued and signed by both parties. The build is due to start mid-January. In addition, it was noted that Freedom of Information request has been received in relation to the tendering of the contracts for the development. Thanks were expressed to Bob Entwistle who has stepped down after many years as a member of the Project Management Team. His guidance and advice has been invaluable.
- (b) Earls Barton Cricket Club – the Clerk will advise members when a meeting date has been finalised.

162/24 Committees

- (a) Grounds Maintenance Committee – it was resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2024 as a correct record.
- (b) Environmental Strategy Sub-Committee – it was resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2024 as a correct record.

163/24 Highways and Maintenance

- (a) Station Road (south of River Nene) – update – it was resolved to send a further joint letter to NNC Highways with Grendon Parish Council.
- (b) Pioneer Sports Field – update – The Clerk advised that the access road has been further damaged by the recent floods. Contact has been made with Hanson and we are currently awaiting a response. In addition, help has been sought from a aggregate company that may be able to assist with materials.
- (c) Right of Way TC13 – update – NNC Highways advise that, as TC13 is a bridleway, gates cannot be used to restrict access of motorcycles. They are unable to provide any alternative solutions, but will monitor the situation.

164/24 NCALC/SLCC/ACRE Correspondence

- (a) Consultation on Allowing Remote and Hybrid Attendance at Local Authority Meetings – following discussion, it was agreed that allowing remote and hybrid meetings would be supported but the proposal for proxy voting would be opposed.

165/24 North Northants Council

- (a) Councillors Report – Apologies were received from Cllrs Brown, Lawman and Hallam. Cllr Brown provided a report advising on plans for the Isham bypass, the proposed budget for NNC, the

installation of double yellow lines on the junction of Wellingborough Road and Titley Bawk Avenue and the Councillor Empowerment Fund, which is still available for community groups to access.

- (b) Local Nature Recovery Strategy – following discussion, it was resolved to respond to the consultation raising concerns over the SSSI and Ramsar site at the River Nene in Earls Barton and what implications there could be relating to the Green Hill Solar Farm proposal and additional battery storage at Grendon sub-station.
- (c) Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy Review – following discussion, it was resolved that no response was required.
- (d) School Transport – the members were made aware of concerns raised by Wrenn School relating to restrictions of free school transport for children living in Earls Barton.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 13th January 2025

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

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