

Fiskerton-cum-Morton Parish Council

Minutes of Full Council Meeting on 16th January 2023 held at the Arthur Radford Hall

Present: Cllrs A Price (In the Chair), H Gibbins, L Moakes, D Powell, J Larwood and C Pogson.

In Attendance: Brian Powell (Clerk), Cllr Roger Blaney NSDC (part), Cllr S Saddington NCC (part)

Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.00 pm.

1. Apologies – acceptance and approval

Cllr Holloway had submitted his apologies, which were accepted and approved.

2. Declarations of interest –

There were none recorded.

3. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 November 2022

There was one minor amendment made prior to the meeting, the minutes were approved.

4. Clerk's update

The clerk advised of his training programme and reported that the NCC website had out of date information, which he will be correcting. Those present confirmed that they were happy for the disclosed email addresses to be on the NCC site. A communication from N&SDC was relayed concerning potential support for a Coronation event. The transition of Clerk activities was nearing completion. The PC no longer appeared to possess a copy of Baker; storage was to be checked prior to the acquisition of one (Clerk to investigate options)

5. Reports from Parish, District and County Councillors

Cllr Blaney joined the meeting at 19.35. An update on a recent meeting with Network Rail was made, outlining the options available, which are limited. Emergency Service access was highlighted, for which a potential solution is being explored with Arena Racing Company (the owners of the racecourse). Several councillors voiced their concerns as to the potential danger of barrier failures and cited examples. Cllr Blaney left the meeting at 19.55.

Cllr Saddington joined the meeting at 19.45. The communication concerning the Coronation was reiterated. An amount concerning support for the Christmas event was raised and Cllr Saddington requested that the Clerk resubmit the funding request. Cllr. Saddington left the meeting at 19.55.

6. Questions from Members of the Public

No members of the public were present.

7. Planning applications:

- a) 22/02140/HOUSE The Old Maltings Main Street Fiskerton Nottinghamshire

Erection of detached garage with solar panels. Conversion of existing garage to games room.

Cllr Moakes described the application as a refresher for the council, with observations as to any potential impacts.

Cllr Moakes left the meeting prior to a vote, which was five for, none against.

Cllr. Moakes re-joined the meeting.

8. Training Update for Councillors (if any)

Cllr Price (Chair) reinforced the importance and her commitment to training for all councillors. The Clerk was instructed to contact NALC to obtain a programme of forthcoming training opportunities, and for any notes etc. from completed sessions. A specific enquiry concerning planning training was referred to.

9. Finance:

a) To approve payment list

A revised format to the list was explained, all payments were approved.

b) Finance monitoring/transfer of responsibilities

The Clerk advised that the transfer of the books and records to the Clerk was currently scheduled to be as at 31/3/23 (year-end). The overall situation is stable and was discussed as part of the Budget Process

c) Precept for financial year to be submitted – approval.

A lengthy debate took place. A decision was made and unanimously agreed that the Precept would be increased to £9,300.00 from £8,500.00 received in the current year, equating to 9.4%. The decision was based upon an expected budget deficit (before Precept) of in excess of £5,000, as well as it being in line with Price Index Inflation. The financial impact on households in the parish would be an increase of approximately £2.50 per household . The Clerk was instructed to submit the appropriate documentation to N&SDC forthwith.

d) Budget for the financial year April 23-March 24 – approval

Several minor amendments to the previous draft had been circulated and were discussed, notably an increase in parish maintenance costs. The Budget was reconsidered with reference to the Precept and was universally agreed.

e) Appointment of Auditor

The Clerk informed the Council that the External Auditor had been appointed, but not the Internal Auditor. The council instructed that recommended options be followed up and be informed prior to the next meeting.

10. Correspondence

An Email had been received from a member of the public concerning several chambers giving access to BT cabling remained exposed. Given the recent significant thefts and resultant disruption, the Clerk was instructed to communicate with BT accordingly.

11. Strategic Plan Update (Override for support Group)

a) Communications - including website and newsletter updates

CLLr Powell advised Website near to completion and requested CLLrs to update any outstanding information. CLLr Powell to liaise with Clerk to ensure that the Website mirrors the NCC/N&SDC contact details/email addresses. It was agreed that the Website would be the primary method of communication to parishioners going forward.

b) Village Speeding matters – 11/1/23, under chair of David Colbeck – update.

CLLr Price updated the meeting having attended. The common themes/concerns were.

1. Station Road – It was suggested that the speed limit zone could be extended
2. Sports ground – Firmer communications to visitors
3. Main Street entrance/exit to Bleasby - several possible options were discussed. Residents expressed anxiety as to the likelihood of a serious accident occurring.

It was agreed that PC would continue to engage with the group, share communications/actions resulting and consult with other PCs to possible initiatives.

c) Friends of Village Green (Residents Group)

Appreciation was recorded for the efforts of the group, in particular over the Christmas lights display. It was agreed that every effort should be made to remain fully engaged and to provide support as appropriate.

d) Sports and Gala

It was agreed that the use of room rates were to be reviewed. Also, that future events should be coordinated.

12. General maintenance of the Parish:

a) Footpath updates

The agreed letters to Trent Lane residents, and others had been distributed, with encouraging results.

CLLr Gibbins handed out a footpath map along with replacement mini directional signs. Councillors (and Clerk) agreed to review and replace signage along allocated paths.

The Gate support initiative remained unactioned – The Clerk was instructed to review/update and action, as necessary.

b) Hedges and trees.

A general concern was discussed concerning the ongoing maintenance of trees and hedges throughout the parish, but, in particular, in and on the periphery of The Green. Three specific items were highlighted.

1. The large, dead/dying tree near the corner of Station Road and Main Street – CLLr Price and the Clerk to meet with Tree Surgeons and residents as a matter of urgency to define the way forward.

2. The area of undergrowth in the same area, popular with children as a play area – to be covered in the same meeting

3. A length of hedging bordering a resident's garden that had apparently been omitted in previous maintenance, that the resident believed to be the responsibility of the PC. The resident was in particular concerned about the impending seasonal nesting embargo. – there is a distinct lack of clarity concerning PC responsibilities in this area. The Clerk was instructed to: -

Consult with a Gardening business to obtain quotes and appraise /advise / progress the specific hedging matter.

Obtain a Conservation Area Map

Obtain Land Registry documentation relating to The Green

c) Defibrillator – training and monitoring

Training is arranged for up to 50 (first come, first served) On 1/2/23, at the Arthur Radford Hall. A high turnout is expected.

Cllr Moakes advised that she would be relinquishing responsibility for the Defibrillators going forward.

d) Dog bins

The bins are now installed, Clerk to inform N&SDC to arrange emptying in line with the existing contract.

e) Network Rail Meeting - 12/1/23 – update

Cllrs Moakes and Larwood had attended, Cllr Blaney`s comments covered the feedback.

f) Playground and equipment

It was noted that N&SDC had charged for an annual inspection, but it was unclear if a report had been issued or not – Clerk to investigate and/or follow up and provide.

g) King`s Coronation – planning

Cllr Hallam will undertake initial planning and ensure that there is no clash with any Sports and Gala event. Clerk to submit funding request by 6/2/23 latest.

h) Christmas Mingle feedback.

The event was successful and enjoyed by all. However, attendance was disappointing for a number of reasons. It was agreed that next year`s event would be co ordinated with the Friends of the Green so that the Event would run to coincide with The Christmas tractor Run, and the switch on of the Christmas lights on The Green. Details would be advertised earlier.

13. Date of next meeting: Monday 20/2/23, Arthur Radford Hall, 7.00 p.m.

