

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
HARDINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON**

TUESDAY 6th February 2024 at 7.00pm

In attendance: Cllr P Thomas (Chair), Cllr J Bolton, Cllr S Clements, Cllr D Laughton, Cllr J Kerr, Cllr G Merritt and Cllr C Newman.

Public: 8

Clerk and RFO: Mrs E Gibson

WNC Cllr: Cllr E Bowen

1	APOLOGIES
1.1	To receive apologies for absence. Apologies received from Cllr M Haynes and Cllr G Duncan. Council RESOLVED to approve.
2	PUBLIC OPEN FORUM SESSION limited to 20 mins (Extended at the discretion of the Chairman).
2.1	Public Open Forum Session. Members of the public are invited to address the Council for a maximum of 20 minutes with any individual contribution lasting up to 3 mins. Representations shall not require a response at the meeting nor start a debate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up-date from Church: The damaged wall has been reported to and assessed by WNC. WNC will be repairing the damage as per their responsibility. • Residents in attendance to discuss future of the village hall. Suggestion to have an independent feasibility study completed. Such as study was previously completed in 2008. General discussion regarding how much the village hall was used by actual residents of the village.
2.2	To receive reports either written or verbal from West Northamptonshire Councillors. Cllr E Bowen delivered her report to the meeting. Advised WNC are in the process of setting their budget. Extra money has been secured for issues such as pothole repairs. There are consultations currently underway that residents should be aware of regarding the future of Greyfriars, and e-scooter use in Northampton amongst others. Reminder of the launch of Pharmacy First which now allows pharmacies to prescribe for certain illness and conditions.
3	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Councillors are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest which they may have in any item of business on the Agenda no later than when that item is reached. Unless dispensation has been granted, you may not participate in any discussion of, or vote on, or discharge any function related to any matter in which you have a pecuniary interest. You must withdraw from the room when the meeting discusses and votes on the matter.	
3.1	Declarations of any Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests. None.
3.2	Dispensations: To consider written requests for dispensation of DPI. None.
4	MINUTES
4.1	To approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tues 5 th December 2023. Council RESOLVED to approve.
5	MATTERS ARISING (For information only).
5.1	To note the Clerk's report. Noted.
5.2	Any other matters arising from the Minutes not otherwise on the Agenda. None.
6	REPORTS
6.1	To receive Chairman's report. Cllr Thomas extended the Council's thanks to the volunteers in the village who helped with the village Christmas tree. Thanks also given to all the contributors of the seniors Christmas tea party. Cllr Thomas also expressed thanks to the Cllrs that attended Hardingstone Scout Carol concert as representatives of the Parish Council
6.2	To receive a report from the Police and PLR. Report from PCSO Hurst received and crime figures noted. Cllr Kerr the Council's PLR had met with the Police to discuss the feasibility, pros and cons of CCTV being added to Hardingstone REC. PLR reported installing CCTV although initially a simple project brings many issues for a Council to consider. The maintenance of the unit, the monitoring of it and then the possibility of dealing with individual requests to view footage of themselves. Council agreed that the consideration of CCTV installation would be put in abeyance while the Council monitor levels of vandalism in the REC now police patrol in the area has increased and incidents decreased.
6.3	To receive a report from the Footpath Warden. Report received. The barrow stile is still blocked and overgrown but it is not used due to the footpaths. The fallen trees have been sawn and removed.
7	PLANNING (click on the hyperlinks to view the planning application documents).
7.1	To receive up-date from Planning Committee.

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7.2	<i>Applications for consideration:</i> Proposed Telecommunications Base Station Upgrade at Brackmills Industrial Estate, Salthouse Road, Junction at Pennard Close, Northampton, Northamptonshire, NN4 7BE (NGR: E 477555 N 258768): No comments or objections.					
7.3	<i>Applications approved or outstanding: West Northants Council:</i> WNN/2023/0330 Single and two storey rear extension - 25, The Warren. APPROVED 2023/5030/SCR EIA Screening option for up to 1000 NEW HOMES, Hardingstone rise. <i>Outstanding, Environmental Impact Statement required.</i> WNN/2023/0682 73 The Warren, Hardingstone. Ground Floor rear extension and part first floor rear extension. <i>Outstanding.</i> 2023/6786/SCOP : Land at the Green, Great Houghton. Request for scoping option in relation to a proposed residential-led development on land to the west and south-west of the village of Great Houghton. <i>EIA Scoping Opinion Given.</i> WNN/2023/0640 Retrospective planning application, decking area rear of property, Swiss Cottage 68 Back Lane, Hardingstone. APPROVED. 2023/7659/LBC : Hervey House, 71 High Street, Hardingstone. Removal of two lengths of rainwater guttering. 2023/7466/FULL : Grange Barn, 17 Heritage Farm Close. Replace 4 wood windows and frames with 4 UPVC windows and frames. 2024/0063/FULL : Units 4 And 5, 2 Pennard Close, Northampton, NN4 7BE Change of use from B1/B8 to B1/B8/ Sui Generis (for MOT Testing) for service & repair of vehicles - addition of portacabin on hardstanding.					
8	ACCOUNTS					
8.1	To note the Bank Reconciliation dated 30 th January 2024. Noted. £225,988.					
8.2	To approve payments as follows including any payments received between 30 th January 2024 and 6 th February 2024					
	To Whom Paid	Method	Details of Payment	£	VAT	Ex VAT
	British Gas	DD	Parish Room electricity	217.98	10.38	133.55
	HMRC	BT	PAYE Dec 23	-----		
	Clerk	BT	Dec 23 salary	-----		
	NEST	DD	Pension Dec 23	-----		
	JSB Brick & Stone	BT	Fence Scout Hut and path	1740.00	290.00	1450.00
	K & R Badges	BT	Clerk and Cllr badges	11.52	1.92	9.60
	R&G	BT	REC hedge cutting	355.20	59.20	296.00
	Wicksteed	BT	Repairs to play equipment	6384.30	1064.05	5320.25
	NCALC	BT	Training Cllr	50.40	8.40	42.00
	XLN	BT	Broadband Jan 23	42.91		
	Tesco Mobile	DD	Office phone	4.97		
	S Clements	DD	Catering xmas party	250.00		
	Wave	DD	Parish Room water Sep-Dec 23	83.06		
	K and A Rose	BT	Maintenance and cleaning	186.64		
	Clerk	BT	Office supplies reimbursement	11.58		
	Northants Fire	BT	Fire safety service	90.00	15.01	74.99
	Clerk	BT	Jan 24 salary	-----		
	HMRC	BT	PAYE Jan 24	-----		
	NEST	DD	Jan 24 Pension contributions	-----		
	NCALC	BT	Planning training Cllr	50.40	8.40	42.00
	John Jeffreys Electrical	BT	Outside light repair	20.00		
	British Gas	DD	Jan 24 Parish Room electricity	466.10	3.50	462.60
	JW Electrical	BT	Parish Room heating repairs	300.00	50.00	250.00
	K & A Rose	BT	Maintenance and cleaning	191.00		
	XLN	BT	Parish Office broadband	41.09	6.85	34.24
8.3	Income: To be reported. None to date.					
8.4	CIL money: Council to discuss any future projects for CIL money. Councillors to have an open space working party meeting and discuss options for spending CIL money. To be reported on at the next PC meeting.					
8.5	Council website: Council to discuss options for website provider due to current provider ceasing operations. Quotation for new provider to be considered. Council consider the options and RESOLVED to continue with current website with Cuttlefish.					

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8.6	Outside light Parish Room: Council considered quotation to improve building lighting and RESOLVED to get the work completed as per the quotation.
9	COMMUNITY
9.1	To receive up-date from working group. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Village Hall: Up-date regarding future of the village hall management. Planned meeting held on 30th January 2024. Council discussed and resolved to discuss the matter in confidential sessions going forward as it is not for them to make public the village halls finances and other matters. Councillors agreed they would like further information regarding accounts and to discuss further information they have.
10	OPEN SPACES
10.1	To receive up-date from working group. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider quotation received for planting at the REC and turfing near goal mouth. Council considered the quotations and RESOLVED to go ahead with the turfing of the goal mouth but to meet with R&G on site to requote for the beds as the quotation is quite high and not in line with the work the PC require. Council to consider installation of CCTV on the REC due to recent spate of vandalism. Council RESOLVED to put the matter in abeyance and monitor over the coming months. Council to consider quotation for installation of matting around table tennis table. Council RESOLVED to get the Sudbond installed directly to the grass as per the lower quotation. Cherry Orchard consultation up-date. Council advised eight responses were received from the village wide consultation. All responded to say the area should stay as a walking, wildlife area of differing degrees. Council agreed to invite a meeting with Hardingstone Cricket Club to discuss any plans they might have for the area. Council can then consider options available. Consider quotation for work to bus shelter. Council RESOLVED to get the work undertaken as per the quotation. Consider quotation for cleaning of war memorial and best time for work to be undertaken. Council RESOLVED to get the work undertaken in line with the quotation and book the work in for April 2024 when weather improves.
11	HIGHWAYS
11.1	To discuss any highways issue identified. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking on the Green, resident email regarding concerns of parked vehicles blocking road. Council discussed and RESOLVED to arrange a meeting with WNC highways to discuss any options that maybe available regarding this. Neighbour complaint regarding mess and a fence down. Council considered complaint and discussed that this had been discussed many times and referred to WNC Neighbourhood Wardens many times. Unfortunately, the Parish Council does not have any powers to compel the property owners to take any action and are unable to help with this matter.
12	CORRESPONDENCE
12.1	Council to consider any correspondence received. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email from resident regarding gravel on the lane from High Street leading to the REC. Council considered and RESOLVED to get a second opinion as they are of the view that the path is in good condition currently and there are no potholes. The Council will continue to monitor it subject to the second opinion. Email YMCA regarding any grants that may be available, for new premises in Derngate. Council discussed and RESOLVED that they would not be making a grant for this. Council to confirm date for April 2024 meeting. Council RESOLVED to move the April 2024 PC meeting to Tues 26th March 2024 due to Clerk's annual leave. WNC Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) stakeholder workshop being held on Tuesday 13th Feb 2024 11am-12.30pm. Cllr Thomas to attend on PC's behalf.

Next meeting of Hardingstone Parish Council will be held in the Parish Rooms, The High Street, Hardingstone, NN4 6DA on Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 7pm.

Meeting closed: 20.45

Signed:.....

Date: 5-3-2024,


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