

ARTHINGWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd November 2021

Present:- Councillors Sue Handy, Lesley Sanderson, John Harris, Bernadette Kennedy, Kate Morse, Keith Ross

Apologies:- Cllr. Michael Kennedy

Attendees:- Ward Member Cllr. Jonathan Harris

Ward Member Update:- Cllr. Harris updated the council on WNC matters regarding consultations and a bus improvement plan.

Previous Minutes:- It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7th September 2021 and the extra. meeting held on 7th October be approved and signed.

Regulations regarding

Planning Class Q:- Information was received from Cllr. Irving-Swift including a letter from Keith Thursfield and documents from Cllr. Harris. All information was noted and will be kept on file.

Matters Arising:- 1) Registration of Church Footpath – Invoice and Registration documents received. The work is now complete.

2) Community Assets Request – The owners have been advised by WNC
Land Opposite Hall Close
Village Hall
Bulls Head

3) Light by Village Hall – shade fitted - work complete

Declarations of

Interest:- Cllr. Ross declared an interest in the Banking Review and took no part in any decision regarding the change of bank.

Finance:- a) The meeting proposed and seconded that the following invoices for be approved for payment:-

LEICS GARDENS (J/A/S)	350	720
EON (REPAIR LIGHT 13)	351	28.16
EON (POWER J/A/S)	352	220.32
WARTNABY HEFFORD	353	745
EON (MAINT J/A/S)	354	37.64

b) Receipts:- Precept £2250

Proposed Budget:- The budget for 2022/23 was discussed and it was agreed that, due to increasing costs, the precept be increased to £5000. To be finalised at the January meeting.

Proposal to transfer to

Internet Banking:- It has become necessary to move to internet banking as local authorities and many businesses no longer support cheque transactions. The matter was discussed and it was proposed (Cllr. Morse) and seconded (Cllr. Handy) that following the banking review the move should be made to a suitable online banking account.

Banking Review:- The current banking situation was discussed with the notes provided by the clerk. At present Parish Council funds are held at Barclays in a community account (the current account), with a small amount held in a premium account. Nationwide BS holds the Street Light Fund.

Parish Council funds have to be held in a Community Account which appear to be being phased out by High Street banks. A possible alternative is Unity Trust, which is very well regarded by Parish Councils but it does cost £6 per month.

- 1) It was proposed (Cllr. Sanderson) and seconded (Cllr. B. Kennedy) that the Nationwide account be closed and the money transferred to a Barclays account (or other if the council move from Barclays) as the account is now obsolete, the interest received is negligible and the signatories are out of date.
- 2) It was acknowledged that Barclays are very difficult to work with and have very little knowledge of Community Accounts but Cllrs. were reluctant to pay for a Unity account unless really necessary.
It was proposed (Cllr. Sanderson) and seconded (Cllr. B. Kennedy) that the clerk contact Barclays to ascertain whether a move to internet banking was possible.

Planning Applications:-

New Applications:- None

Decisions from West Northants Council:-

WND/2021/0144

Kelmarsh Hall, Main Road, Kelmarsh

Amendment to planning permission DA/2009/0116 (Change of use of land for holding leisure, tourism and charitable events) to enlarge site area to include land to northwest and eastern side and increase number of show days from 18 to 30 days and extend build and breakdown days from 70 to 90 days per calendar year.

Planning permission has been granted with the following conditions:-

- 1) Planning permission shall be deemed to take effect from 23 August 2018.
- 2) No development shall be carried out which falls within Class B of Part 4 of Schedule 2 without consent from the LPA.
- 3) The change of use permits no more than 30 show / event days and 90 build and breakdown days per calendar year. No events involving live or amplified music shall take place on any of the 12 additional event days approved by this planning permission and the Site Owner shall maintain an up to date register to record the type, date, of each event and details of the type of sound system(s) used for each event throughout each calendar year, and this register shall be made available for inspection upon request made by the Local Planning Authority.
- 4) The events and uses shall only take place in the locations as indicated on the 'Kelmarsh Reference Plan dated June 2021' and detailed within the 'Additional Report dated June 2021' received by the Local Planning Authority on 28 June 2021.

Other Planning Matters:-

None

Village Maintenance:-

- 1) Footpath Maintenance - Pathways need sweeping - Contact CLO
- 2) Drains & Gullies – Cllr. Harris to raise the matter at WNC.
- 3) Light 12 is on all the time – Reported
- 4) It was noted that grit needs to be purchased. Cllr. Morse to be advised.
- 5) The footpath by the village hall is badly eroded and hazardous. The clerk to report.
- 6) Parking – at the junction of Kelmarsh Road and Oxendon Road is still causing concern. A reply was received from the CLO at Highways:-
 - a) Highways do not have enforcement powers to take direct action against vehicles parking on the public highway.
 - b) Exercise caution if placing notices on vehicles.
 - c) Parking signs are no longer used as motorists ultimately ignore them.
 - d) There is an option of introducing yellow lines but the PC needs to consider where the displaced vehicles will move to.

Cllr. B.K. to put a note in the newsletter.

7) Church Farm Hedges are overgrown – SH to contact the owners

Note – It was noted that if resident's vehicles are damaged by the poor road condition they must report it to Highways.

Request for Car Charging

Point:-

A request was received from a resident regarding electric car charging points. Information was received from the Regulations Technician at WNC as follows:-

The increasing uptake of electric vehicles and the consequent need for charging points is something that we are having ongoing internal discussions about, as the existing legislative and policy environment is not especially favourable. At present, any charging point installed within the public highway has to be available for public access, something that a private resident would be understandably unwilling to countenance. Therefore we do not currently permit the installation of private charging points.

This leaves the use of a cable across the footway to charge a car, which brings its own issues. We have developed a temporary policy regarding these cables, as our long-standing refusal to allow them had become untenable in recent years, but this is largely a series of requirements that the resident has to meet with regards to the cable and its placement.

REQUIREMENTS:-

- 1) A 'cable-safe' system should be used which should be brightly coloured and must be used for as long as the cable remains in place.
- 2) The cable should not be fixed to the highway.
- 3) The cable should not be left out on the highway overnight and should be disconnected and removed no later than sunset.
- 4) Given the above a resident would remain liable for any incidents that may occur as a result of placing a cable across the public highway (footway or verge). WNC strongly recommend that any resident has a public liability insurance (a minimum of £5 million) to cover the cable. This is because there is still a great deal of uncertainty as to whether regular car insurance or a house insurance would provide any cover in the instance of a charging cable being deemed to be the cause of an accident.

At present a public point not something that we would allow. There are a number of unanswered questions relating to them, largely in the area of accident liability, that are of sufficient import that we do not currently feel able to licence any such installation. However, discussions relating to this kind of thing are ongoing, as we are fully cognisant of the fact that the number of electric cars on the road is only going to increase and some kind of solution will be necessary in the near future.

The council discussed the matter and concluded that, at this stage, little could be done.

Neighbourhood Plan Update:-

Funding:-

Brought Forward	£2500
Carry Forward	£ 2500

Cllr. Sanderson updated the meeting – The process is moving forward and should be completed within the time frame. The Sustainability group is complete and the Environment group and Planning group are almost finished.

Correspondence:- Circulated by email:-

- 1) NCALC mini updates
- 2) Highways weekly Works Schedule
- 3) WNC Strategic Plan Consultation – It was agreed comments should be made individually.

At Meeting:-

- 1) Information regarding a Community Funding Grant
- 2) Town & Parish Forum meeting on 17th November 6-7.30 MS Teams

**Any Other
Business:-**

- 1) The Parish Newsletter is re-starting
- 2) Complaints have been received regarding speeding vehicles visiting the Daffodils Nursery.

The clerk to contact the nursery and ask if drivers could be asked to drive slowly in the village and give consideration to dog walkers.

**Date of next
meeting:-**

Tuesday 4th January 2022 at 8pm in the village hall

Meeting closed at 9.45 pm