

# NONINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 19:30

**Present:** Cllr Louisa Jarred (Chair); Cllr Julia Plumptre (Vice-Chair); Cllr Clare Delf; Cllr Jane Vurley; Cllr Daryl Woods; 14 Members of the Public; Mrs Steph Woods (Clerk)

## 1. Apologies and approval of absences:

Cllr Jarred welcomed everyone present and thanked them for attending the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Perrin, Cllr Manion (County) and Cllr Pout (District).

## 2. Declarations of interest:

None were received.

## 3. Minutes of previous meetings:

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023 was approved as true a record, proposed by Cllr Vurley, and seconded by Cllr Woods.

## 4. Public Forum:

Members of the Public in attendance were afforded the opportunity to ask a question or make a statement.

No questions or statements were made.

## 5. Matters arising (if not already on the agenda):

- a) Cllr Woods quotes for ladders 3 quotes cheapest and most suitable was £71.99 from Screwfix. It was proposed to buy these steps by Cllr Vurley and seconded by Cllr Delf and all agreed. The steps will be added to the asset register and held at the Clerks house should they be needed.
- b) Application 21/01615: The Old Malt House, Easole Street, Nonington, CT15 4HF - Erection of 27 dwellings with associated access, parking and landscaping (existing industrial buildings demolished) - The Planning Committee meeting on 13th July 2023 will be held in the Council Chamber and will start at 6pm (item 13 on the agenda) and DDC are asking for people to speak. This current application was deferred from February planning committee meeting and the applicant has resubmitted a few small changes. The Case Officer at DDC Planning is recommending approval to the Planning committee. It was agreed that the Parish Council will apply to speak as well at the forthcoming planning committee meeting. Cllr Manjam has visited site and seen all supporting documents that the Council and local residents have.

## 6. Finance:

- a) Bank Balance as of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023: £500.00 (Unity Trust Account) and £15,815.26 (Cooperative Account)  
= Total **£16,315.26**

The expenditure below was authorised (proposed by Cllr Delf, seconded by Cllr Plumptre and agreed by all Councillors present):

Clerk Salary – June 2023

R Edwards – Strimming June 2023 - £135.00

R Edwards – Hedge Cutting June 2023 - £76.50

Nonington Village Hall – Hire (Apr-Jun 2023) - £57.50

b) New bank account

The BACS/BACSTEL-IP Service Application form for account closure of the Councils Cooperative Bank account and transfer of all funds into the Councils new Unity Trust current account, was signed by Cllr Vurley (pages 6 and 9) and previously signed by Cllr Perrin (due to her not being able to attend meeting). The Chairman signed page 12 to confirm that this was discussed and recorded on the minutes of this meeting. The Clerk will send this off to Unity Trust Bank.

c) Savings Account:

Unity Trust offer a linked instant access savings account where interest is paid on any credit balance which could equate to around £300 of interest annual. It was proposed that the account be opened by Cllr Plumtre, seconded by Cllr Woods and agreed by all Councillors present. The application form was signed at the meeting by three signatories. It was also agreed that, as the savings account was linked to the current account and was instant access, the Council will to keep six months of funds for expenditure in the current account and this will be reviewed every six months. The remaining balance will be transferred into the savings account once opened.

**7. Planning:**

- a) Application 23/00803: Gooseberry Hall Cottage, Sandwich Road, Nonington, CT15 4HJ – Change of use of outbuilding and garage to holiday let – no objections and all agreed to give a neutral response to DDC.

**8. Highways and Footpaths:**

a) Radar Data

Data was presented from 8<sup>th</sup> June – 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 where a total vehicle 34,186 vehicles were recorded by the Radar with the average speed being over 35 mph and 50% of vehicles being over the speed limit.

b) HIP

Originally submitted in 2021 and nothing was agreed by KCC. Chairman, Vurley and Perrin met with Speedwatch and there needs to be more joined up working between the Council and Speedwatch. The Council is now looking to update the HIP and work with KCC and other Parish Councils to try and resolve the Highways issues in the Village. The Council needs all residents to input their ideas and thoughts and would welcome all to attend future meeting or discuss personally with one of the Parish Councillors or Clerk. Meetings with Cllr Manion and Cllr Pout are to be arranged and it is hoped they will also attend when the Council meets with KCC to move the HIP forward. It was raised that some of the white double lines have disappeared or there are places where they should be installed. This chairman confirmed that this issue will be included in the updated HIP.

Hedging overhanging the highway or blocking visibility by village hall was raised. A resident who owns one of the hedges confirmed that this will be done in September by a local farmer due to nesting birds it is not able to do this sooner.

The hedge by the current Radar location was raised by Cllr Woods as it is blocking the Radar. Clerk will speak to landowner and ask if it can be cut back around the Radar.

The road signs at the bottom pinner's hill, which have been knocked down by a large vehicle, have been reported to KCC by the Parish Council.

c) Ash Footpath

Number of complaints on footpaths particularly Ash Footpath. Cllr Perrin prepared a statement which was read at the meeting. To summarise these will be cut this month – two months late but won't cut the hedges that are private along the path as this is the landowners responsibility. The PC has contacted landowners in past to keep clear so the Clerk will arrange this again. KCC cut 8 footpaths, out of the 50 we have, in Nonington and Frogham and do two cuts a year - May and August. Map of the footpaths that KCC

cut was given to Chairman. Everyone was reminded to report issues with footpaths online to KCC or to Cllr Perrin. It was raised that Leafy Lane footpath was really overgrown and the Chairman agreed to discuss this with Cllr Perrin to check they are on KCC's list and if so, that they are cut it this month.

**9. Playground, Playing Field and Pond Inspections:**

Weekly inspections are now taking place. One of the picnic benches has been knocked by a vehicle and was broken. This has been removed by Beechgrove and they have offered to repair it with a cost of £50 towards materials. This was proposed by Cllr Vurley, seconded by Cllr Woods and everyone present agreed. The Chairman will organise the repair with Beechgrove. The latch to the pond area was broken and this has been repaired to ensure the gate remains closed. A few minor issues have been identified as low risk and these will be discussed further once the annual ROSPA inspection has taken place in July/August. The goal posts are also broken and the Clerk will put together a number of quotes and options for replacement/removal which will be discussed at the next meeting.

**10. Matters for future discussion:**

The current mowing contractor doesn't seem to be cutting all the areas previously agreed and it was raised that some areas are only being strimmed with is making the ground unlevel and difficult to walk on. The Clerk will raise this with the mowing contracts and report back to the next meeting.

The Nonington Tuesday group have Clive Webb coming to talk about Nonington on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and everyone is welcome to attend what is hoped to be a very informative evening.

**11. Date of next meeting:** 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.30pm in Village Hall, Nonington

There being no further business, the meeting was closed to the public at 20:22.

Signed ..... (Chairman)

Date .....

**Please note these Minutes remain as draft Minutes until they are approved by the Parish Council at their next Parish Council meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023.**

Future meeting dates: 04/10/23, 01/11/23 and 06/12/23