

SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION AT THE 11th NOVEMBER 2024 MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council held on Monday, 14th October 2024 at the MRCC commencing at 7pm.

Present: **Councillor I Harrison (Chair)**
 Councillor N Hutchings
 Councillor S Dolby
 Councillor S Preston
 Councillor M Talbot

Also in attendance: **5 members of the public and County Councillor Laughton**

NM074-25 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Beddoe and District Councillor Mrs Saddington

NM075-25 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

NM076-25 Minutes

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 9th September 2024 were accepted as a true and correct record.

NM077-25 Public 10 Minute Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.02pm for the public session, no questions were raised so the meeting was immediately reconvened.

At this point, the Clerk referred to the acceptance of an award on behalf of Councillor Harrison, which was made at the Annual General Meeting of the Notts Association of Local Councils. This was to acknowledge Councillor Harrison's service as Chair to the Council since 2000.

NM078-25 To consider applications received for Co-Option on to the Parish Council

The Chair proposed that, in order to give the candidates for co-option the opportunity to observe how the Parish Council operated, this item be moved to the end of the agenda. This was AGREED.

NM079-25 To consider any matters that need to be raised with District Cllr Mrs Saddington

There were no matters that needed to be raised.

NM080-25 Newark & Sherwood District Council

(a) To consider the Flood Resilience Grant offer

Members discussed the offer made by Newark & Sherwood District Council to apply for a grant towards flood resilience.

It was AGREED that application be made for:

- A set of radios (6 or 8)
- A generator, which could be used to power the community centre in case of a power outage. Subject to discussions with the MRCC in terms of connectivity.
- Aqua sacs

Members noted the offer of discounted aqua sacs made by Newark & Sherwood District Council.

NM081-25 To consider any matters that need to be raised with County Councillor Laughton

This item would be taken if and when County Councillor Laughton arrived.

NM082-25 Nottinghamshire County Council

- (a) To feedback any issues on Rights of Way following the Footpath Inspection held on 13th October 2024 and the site meeting attended by Cllr Talbot on 24th September 2024
The Chair referred to the footpath inspection that had taken place on 13th October. There were no impediments noted along the footpaths, apart from a few overhanging brambles.

The Clerk referred to an email received from a resident regarding work cutting back plants alongside a footpath, which would be responded to.

Councillor Talbot reported on his meeting with a member of the Rights of Way team to discuss measures to deter Quad Bikes along the bridlepath. The Rights of Way team had advised they would view their archive regarding the posts on Mackleys Lane

The Chair expressed concern at the welfare of people using the footpath, especially outside the Ferry during the Summer months. There had been two serious incidents which could have ended in injury to the public.

It was AGREED that the Clerk write to the Rights of Way team and the Local Police Inspector outlining the Parish Council's concerns, copying in Cllr Laughton.

NM081-25 To consider any matters that need to be raised with County Councillor Laughton

- (cont)** With the arrival of County Councillor Laughton, the Chair suspended the meeting at 7.24pm for his report.

Councillor Laughton advised that Via had invested in additional gulley cleaners, which should enable a better service to be provided. Via were concentrating on flooded areas in the first instance. The extra budget had been allocated as Via recognised the damage to the highways.

The Chair updated Councillor Laughton on the issue of Quad Bikes on the bridlepath. The Clerk would copy Councillor Laughton on any email correspondence so it could be raised with the County Council and the Police & Crime Commissioner.

A resident asked whether funds were available from Councillor Laughton's Divisional Fund. The Clerk was asked to share contact details.

The Chair thanked Cllr Laughton for his report and reconvened the meeting at 7.32pm

- (b) Notice of Public Consultation on the Nottinghamshire County Council Draft Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document
Members noted the public consultation on the Draft Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document. This mostly related to the Minerals Local Plan and the Waste Local Plan. Members did not consider it necessary to make any comment on the document.

NM083-25 Planning

- (a) 24/01662/TWCA – 5 The Grange, North Muskham - T1 Mature Oak - Prune to give 2 metres clearance from clients property
Members noted the application for tree works as outlined.

- (b) Neighbourhood Plan
The Clerk updated Members with the Neighbourhood Plan. A Planning Officer had been allocated to the project. It was noted that plans were awaited and the Clerk was asked to establish a timeline for them in order that the project could move forward. The Chair expressed concern that the lack of progress could lead to volunteers losing interest in being involved with the plan.

The Clerk was asked to invite the Planning Officer to the next meeting of the Steering Group. Councillor Hutchings to be included on the Steering Group.

NM084-25 Parish Council Matters

- (a) Allotments/Green Hub Report
The Clerk advised that plot two had now been vacated. The Allotment Sub-Committee were happy that the deposit paid be returned.

It was noted that the tyres still needed to be removed. The Clerk would be advised when they were ready for collection.

- (b) To consider information received from the Royal British Legion on Remembrance Sunday Commemoration items
The Chair noted that the Parish Council had a 'Tommy' and a number of smaller figures. After discussion it was AGREED that Members preference would be for a collection tin for the Poppy Appeal to be available at Remembrance Sunday.

The Clerk noted that one of the memorials was in need to refurbishment. It was AGREED that this be removed after Remembrance Sunday and taken to E Gill & Sons (Memorials) Ltd for assessment.

Councillor Talbot invited residents to visit St Wilfrid's Church to see the knitted poppy display.

- (c) To receive an update on the JPAG and specialist planning support contribution
The Chair updated Members on the last meeting of JPAG. The parishes on JPAG had been asked to confirm whether or not they had a mandate to jointly contribute to a planning consultant for specialist planning support. Full clarity will not be known until the next meeting, but those parishes not contributing would not have access to the advice.
- The next meeting of JPAG would be held on Thursday, 31st October at South Muskham Village Hall.
- (d) To consider a move across to a .gov website with Hugo Fox and associated email addresses, together with an upgrade of the Hugo Fox package for better integration and submission of an application for funding
Members considered the Clerk's report outlining a proposal to move across to a .gov.uk website, with associated emails and an upgrade of the Hugo Fox package. After discussion, it was AGREED that the Parish Council move across to a 'Silver' Hugo Fox, and progress to a .gov.uk website and email address.
- The application for funding towards the move to a .gov.uk domain would also be submitted to Hugo Fox.
- (e) To confirm arrangements for Remembrance Sunday – 10th November 2024
Members noted that the service would be held at 10.45am on Sunday, 10th November 2024. The MRCC would be available for refreshments following the service. Councillor Talbot asked if the area could be taped off adjacent to the memorials to keep the area clear of cars.
- It was AGREED that two wreathes be arranged by the Clerk.
- (f) To confirm arrangements for Christmas celebrations and the Christmas Lights switch-on
After discussion, it was AGREED that the Christmas Lights switch-on be held on Friday, 6th December at 7pm at The Ferry. The Chair would liaise with the Landlady to confirm arrangements.
- A sum of £250 was mandated for the Clerk to spend on Christmas Trees, 1 x 12ft and 1 x 20ft, for delivery prior to Friday, 29th November. A Working Party would be arranged to put up the trees on Saturday, 30th November 2024.
- (g) To note arrangements for a Village Auction on Friday, 25th October 2024
Members noted arrangements for a Village Auction at The Ferry on Friday, 25th October. Fifteen items had been donated so far. 25% of the proceeds would go to Cancer Research, with the balance towards the play area resurfacing.
- (h) To consider Community Safety representation
Members noted that Councillor Preston had attend the latest meeting of the Safer Neighbourhood Group. Councillor Preston considered that the Forum was beneficial to attend and had taken the opportunity to raise the Quad Bikes along the bridleway. The meetings were held quarterly, with the next one on 16th January 2025. Councillor Preston

was happy to attend, but considered it would be beneficial for another Member to also attend.

NM085-25 Environmental & Community Issues

(a) Play Area – To note quotations for Resurfacing and to consider an application to the Local Communities Fund

Members noted receipt of a quotation in the sum of £7,125 plus VAT for the balance of the resurfacing at the Play Area. The previous quotation received was in the sum of £8,059 plus VAT. Members AGREED that the quotation in the sum of £7,125 be accepted, but ask that the contractor be asked to hold the price for 3 months for the balance of funds to be raised.

It was AGREED that an application for funding also be submitted to the County Council's Local Improvement Scheme.

(b) To receive an update on residents concerns relating to livestock on the highway

The Chair referred to the recent spate of incidents of livestock on the highway. Trading Standards had visited and had no concerns on welfare but had served a notice to the owner to secure the animals.

(c) To receive an update on the request for speedwatch volunteers

The Clerk advised that three new volunteers had come forward and it was hoped to arrange training shortly.

NM086-25 Highways Log

Councillor Hutchings referred to Street Light 2 being out adjacent to the roundabout and through to Waltons Lane. Councillor Dolby advised there were also a number of street lights out on Manor House Drive. The Clerk would report these on the portal.

NM087-25 Financial Matters

(a) Accounts for payment

The Chair referred to the accounts for payment. It was AGREED unanimously that the following accounts be agreed for payment:

- Clerk's Wages – September - £299.60
- PAYE – September – £74.80
- Village Handyman – September - £286
- PWLB Loan – Half Yearly Payment - £1,697.24
- Mayor of Newark's Earl Haig's Poppy Fund – Wreath - £20
- MRCC – Summer Fayre Donation - £500
- MRCC – July Electricity – £25.92
- MRCC – Room Hire Sept - £13.75

(b) To note any Receipts

The following receipts were noted:

- Newark & Sherwood Community Lottery - £125
- Newark & Sherwood District Council – Second Half Precept - £11,445

(c) Financial Report as at 30th September 2024 to include a half yearly budget review

Members noted the Clerk's report outlining the Council's finances as at 30th September 2024. In relation to the transfer of funds from the current account into reserves, it was proposed by Councillor Hutchings, seconded by Councillor Talbot, and unanimously AGREED that this transfer be made.

Members noted the work undertaken by the Village Handyman at the MRCC recently. Members considered that certain elements of support provided to the MRCC could be withdrawn. Any work the MRCC may require the Village Handyman to undertake could be booked direct and invoiced separately.

Members agreed that they would continue to support the MRCC when funds were available to do so. In terms of the grass cutting contract, Members were of the opinion that the cost of hiring the pitches should cover the cost of ground maintenance. The Clerk was asked to query with the MRCC how many cuts were made of the playing field during the year.

NM078-25 To consider applications received for Co-Option on to the Parish Council

(cont)

Members noted the five applications received for Co-Option on to the Parish Council. Copies of the applications had been circulated to Members in advance of the meeting.

The Chair observed that three of the applicants were presented and Members were asked if they had any questions for the candidates at this point . None were raised.

The Chair outlined the areas of work covered by the Parish Council and the number of projects that were currently in the pipeline that would impact on those that serve on the Council.

The Chair advised Members that a further resignation had been received, with Councillor Beddoe stepping away from the Parish Council due to pressure of work. While it would not be possible to co-opt two people at this meeting due to the process that had to be taken following any resignation, the Chair asked applicants if they would be content for their applications to be taken forward should they not be successful in co-option at this meeting. All applicants present agreed.

On behalf of the Parish Council, the Chair extended his thanks to Cllr Beddoe for the time he had served the community. His level head and common sense approach would be sorely missed.

The Chair asked Members to consider the applications for co-option before them and hand their ballot paper to the Clerk once complete. The Clerk declared Gary Hobbs to be the successful applicant with the majority vote.

The Chair thanked all applicants for their interest in joining the Parish Council and the time taken in submitting their applications.

NM088-25 Notts Association of Local Councils

(a) October Newsletter

A copy of the Newsletter had been circulated to Members for information.

NM089-25 Correspondence

(a) There was none to consider.

NM090-25 Items for Notification

(a) There were none.

NM091-25 Date of Next Meeting

Monday, 11th November 2024

NM092-25 To consider the exclusion of the press and public:

That pursuant to the provision of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

Planning Process

(NM093-25)

The meeting closed at 8.53 pm.