

**SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION AT THE 19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022 MEETING**

**Minutes of the North Muskham Parish Council held on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at the MRCC commencing at 7pm.**

**Present:** Councillor S Dolby  
Councillor N Hutchings  
Councillor D Saxton  
Councillor M Talbot (in the Chair)

**Also in attendance:** County Councillor Laughton. District Councillor Mrs Saddington and two members of the Allotment Sub-Committee

Given apologies had been submitted by the Chair and Vice-Chair, the Clerk asked for proposals for a Member to Chair the meeting. Councillor Hutchings proposed Councillor Talbot, seconded by Councillor Saxton. This was AGREED.

**NM076-23 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Bearpark, Beddoe and Harrison.

**NM077-23 Declarations of Interest**

It was AGREED that any declarations of interest would be stated by Members as required during the meeting

**NM078-23 Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022 were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Councillor Hutchings asked the Clerk to pursue including Waltons Lane and Great North Road in Via's capital programme due to the degeneration of the surfaces.

**NM079-23 Public 10 Minute Session**

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.03pm to allow questions from members of the public.

A resident raised the issue of the length of time the level crossing barriers were down on Vicarage Lane, sometimes up to 15 minutes. This led to traffic problems with vehicles turning round and drivers becoming frustrated.

The Clerk was asked to raise the issue with the GNER regulators and ask for clarification on what the current procedures were.

The Chair thanked the resident for their input and reconvened the meeting at 7.06pm.

**NM080-23 District Councillor update – Cllr S Saddington**

- (a) The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.07pm to allow Cllr Mrs Saddington to present her report.

Cllr Mrs Saddington referred to the request recently circulated to residents for information on their experience of maternity services.

A request had been made to change the signage over the A1 highlighting how long it would take to get to Grantham, to advise that traffic was queuing in the left-hand lane.

Cllr Mrs Saddington was continuing to lobby for electronic signage at the Castle Station to keep people informed when there were problems with the barriers.

As Chairman of Newark & Sherwood District Council, a charity event would be held at the MRCC on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Information would be circulated to Members when received.

The Chair thanked Cllr Mrs Saddington for her report and reconvened the meeting at 7.12pm.

**NM081-23 County Councillor update – Cllr Laughton**

- (a) The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.13pm for Cllr Laughton's report.

Cllr Laughton confirmed that Via had been contacted regarding the A1 roundabout. The new Chief Executive of Via was beginning to make an impact, which will see improvements filtering through.

Budget setting at the County Council would be a challenge with the increase in wages. A response was awaited from Government on whether the County Council could go over the 2% cap increase.

The number of young people going into care was dropping, with a range of initiatives to keep them in a home environment and early intervention. However, there were still over 900 children in care at the moment.

The Chair thanked Cllr Laughton for his report and reconvened the meeting at 7.17pm.

**NM082-23 Planning**

- (a) 22/02005/HOUSE – 10 The Park, North Muskham - Two storey rear extension and garage conversion

After discussion, Councillor Hutchings proposed, seconded by Councillor Dolby, that the application be supported subject to highways not having any objection to the parking situation. This was unanimously AGREED.

- (b) For Noting - 22/01677/NMA – Overdene, Main Street, North Muskham - Application for a non-material amendment to planning permission 22/00811/FUL to amend the proposed projecting alternate course feature brickwork on to the ground floor frontage to flat faced brick  
Members noted the information as outlined.

**NM083-23 Parish Council Matters**

- (a) Allotments/Green Hub Sub-Committee Report

The Clerk confirmed that insurance was now in place, with a premium of £88.

The Chair confirmed that the water would be switched off at the mains from 1<sup>st</sup> December and would be switched back on in the Spring. A final reading would be taken.

The Allotment Sub-Committee members present raised the following:

- additional guttering to be put on the shed to harvest rainwater, and make use of the spare water butt.
- key safe for container
- painting of the container would take place in Spring
- number of spare plots
- contact details for social prescribers
- update on the budget remaining for the financial year

The Chair advised that the guttering would be undertaken. The Clerk would make a site visit and discuss the other issues then.

It was noted that the site had been tidied in advance of the winter months. The Chair thanked the Sub-Committee members for their work over the year.

- Cou Christmas Lights Switch-On Event – Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

Discussion took place on the arrangements for the Christmas Lights Switch-On event on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December. The trees would be put up on the 26<sup>th</sup> November.

The Salvation Army had been booked, as had Reverend Hadley.

- (c) To receive a report on the Safer Neighbourhood Group Meeting

Councillor Saxton updated Members on the meeting he had recently attended. The Clerk also advised of recent thefts from properties locally while residents had been at home.

**NM084-23 Environmental & Community Issues**

- (a) Skatepark and Play Area

Councillor Dolby commended Councillor Beddoe on securing the skatepark as a Community Champion with the Lincolnshire Co-Op, Lincoln Road. Funds would be raised between December and March.

- (b) Play Area Extension Update – Handover and Inspection  
The Clerk advised that the handover documentation had now been received. This would be signed and returned to the contractor to complete the extension.

**NM085-23 Highways**

- (a) Highways Log  
The Clerk was asked to log the overgrown foliage on Waltons Lane.  
  
A request to also be made to Via to clean the gullies on the highway.
- (b) Notification of Essential Maintenance Work – A1 between Stamford and Blyth  
Members noted the overnight closures to allow for essential maintenance work.
- (c) To consider the Council’s response to the A46 Bypass Proposals as a Statutory Consultee  
Members were supportive of the dualling of the A46 Bypass. However, with the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, the Clerk to liaise on a specific response to be ratified at the December meeting.

**NM086-23 Financial Matters**

- (a) The Chair referred to the accounts for payment. It was AGREED unanimously that the following accounts be agreed for payment
- WaterPlus – Allotment Water - £7.85 & £67.24
  - PKF Littlejohn – External Audit Fee - £240
  - Village Handyman – Sept 2022 - £227.08 (paid)
  - Phil Beddoe - £85.00 – Jubilee Food (correction)
- (b)
- MRCC – 50% contribution to Grass Cutting - £358.93
  - MRCC – 50% contribution to Electricity for External Light - £176.57
  - MRCC – Room Hire (May and June) - £24.30
  - MRCC – Room Hire (July) - £12.15
  - Village Handyman – £290.97
  - Clerk’s Wages – October - £260.20
  - PAYE – October - £65
  - Clerk’s Wages – Back Pay to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – £168
  - Farndon Parish Council – Items for HM The Queen’s Condolences - £34.60

To note any receipts:

- £1,500 – MRCC – Donation to PWLB Loan
  - £2,014 – NSDC – Grant Funding for CCTV
  - £134.50 – Newark & Sherwood Community Lottery
- (c) Financial Report as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022  
Members noted the financial report as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022. A copy of the cashbook, outlining spend against budget, had been circulated to Members for information.

- (d) To consider the Council's priorities for the financial year 2023-24  
Members were asked to consider what priorities they would have for the 2023-24 financial year for consideration at the December meeting.
- (e) To note the 2022-2023 National Pay Award backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022  
Members noted the agreement reached on the National Pay Award, backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.
- (f) To note the appointment of PKF Littlejohn as External Auditor to 2026/27  
Members noted the appointment of PKF Littlejohn as outlined.

**NM087-23 Correspondence**

There was none.

**NM088-23 Date of Next Meeting**

Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022

The meeting closed at 8pm