

BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 14th NOV 2024 at 7.00pm.

Attendees: Cllr Graham Bett (Chair), Cllr Jackie Parker (Vice-Chair), Cllr Derick Parker, Cllr Ben Powell, Cllr Neil Gribby, Cllr Carina Jukes, Helen Cowlan (Clerk)

Public: 2 members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Lee, Oldham and Derby (District / County).

2. **Declarations of interest**

Although there would be no financial gain to him, Cllr Gribby advised he would not take part in approving the contractor for the electrical servicing (agenda item 7f) due to one of the quotes being from a contractor known to him.

3. **Contributions from the public, District and County Councillors**

Beckingham Camp – an enquiry was made about why residents had not been advised about a community meeting about the Camp being used for the Afghanistani community. It is believed to be linked to those who have served in the forces but the Clerk confirmed no information has been sent to the Parish Council, therefore, had no knowledge of this. **RESOLUTION – It was resolved that the Clerk would email the Beckingham Parish Clerk for further information.**

Healthcare meeting – concerns have been raised about mental health services, it is hoped that improvements with communication will help to minimise 'bed blocking, and residents of the district are encouraged to ask if appointments can be at Newark Hospital wherever possible.

Safer Neighbourhood Group (SNG) – no major issues other than a spate of hare-coursing which has resulted in damage and security concerns.

Chestnut Lodge – a possible observation of NSDCs Enforcement Team visiting the site was noted, and the Clerk will be trying to get an update on the matter (also agenda item 6).

4. **Parish Council Vacancy**

It was resolved (unanimously) to move this item to the end of the meeting so that candidates were free to leave while discussions took place.

5. **Approval of minutes**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th September 2024 be approved as being a true record - prop Cllr D Parker, sec Cllr B Powell (unanimously agreed).

6. **Matters arising from the minutes**

Village Hall windows – Clerk advised that NSDC are aware that we would need to find funding to support a project for more extensive repairs, and they have advised they would let us know if they see any opportunities to apply for, however, the fact that the Hall is owned by the Parish Council, rather than being a charity, does limit options. Cllr D Parker advised that his research suggests that there would need to be a contribution of at least 30% for applications. Wider research would need to be done to see where else funds may be available e.g. Lottery, Tesco etc, Secondary glazing would need to match the outer exactly in terms of panes and openings which is likely cost prohibitive.

NSDC can provide details of contractors who could help but they are often some distance away, and as the windows cannot be removed/taken away to be restored this may prevent them being able to help. A review of other local old buildings in the area may provide more ideas of options. Cllr Powell knows someone (heritage restoration) who may be able to offer advice so will enquire with them.

Repairs / painting would be the priority in the meantime.

Chestnut Lodge – no further updates have been received about whether or not site works are in line with planning permission guidelines. **RESOLUTION – it was resolved that the Clerk chase NSDC for an update.**

Gravel (back of Hall) – all actions to improve the area at the back of the Hall have been completed, with thanks given for the hard work.

Village Green Fencing – it was established that the cost of repairs would be approx. £100 with some wood for rails and posts being donated, for which the Parish Council is grateful. Replacing bottom rails on the middle fencing would be the cheapest options. Cllrs Bett, Gribby and D Parker will work

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together on repairs. **RESOLUTION – it was resolved that works would be carried out in the Spring within a budget of £100.00 for supplies.**

7. Finances

a) Current balances

An overview of balances and ringfenced funds was given with the deposit account at £7403.23 and the current account at £10768.97 (covering PC £5665.42 and VH£5103.55). The 2025-26 budget will need to be reviewed and approved at January's meeting along with the setting of the precept.

b) Payments made since last meeting (Sept)

Parish Council -

None made

Village Hall -

Anglian Water £64.72

Gravel (D.Parker) £88.80

Banana Print (D.Stanton) £8.86

Event expenses:

Y. Wellard £23.54 (Harvest)

D.Parker £38.46 + £277.53 (Harvest + Fireworks)

M. Burgess £12.09 (Harvest)

C.Powell £15.00 (Harvest)

G.Powell £65.90 (Fireworks)

WaterPlus £70.45

(Regular / pre-approved monthly costs for banking, website and Clerk).

c) Upcoming payments

Parish Council -

Printer ink and paper – approx £50

Village Hall -

Chubb approx. £70 (fire equipment servicing)

PAT/fire alarm testing - costs tbc

RESOLUTION – it was resolved that payments be approved (unanimously voted).

d) Income received (since Sept meeting)

Parish Council -

Precept £2382.63 (payment 2 of 2)

Village Hall -

Hire £185

Horticultural Show £255 (full)

Harvest Lunch £317 (gross)

Marquee Hire £50

Additionally, Table Top Sale £140.80 (full) and £755.50 (gross) being banked

e) Clerk annual pay award

An overview of the nationally approved pay increase was given, which will be backdated to April – in line with National Pay Scale reviews.

f) Electrical Servicing

An overview of quotes obtained was provided and it was **resolved to approve the contractor** (votes in favour 5, abstained 1). The Clerk will arrange for works to be carried out along with establishing which providers may also be able to provide quotes for PAT/fire alarm testing in the future.

g) Budget for 2025/26

An overview of the process was given to set expectations for the review at January's meeting, along with agreeing the precept to be requested. Year-to-date and forecasted figures will be circulated ahead of the meeting.

8. Planning Matters

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- a) 24/01447/T/WCA – Conifers, Back Lane two tree reductions for access (see application).

OUTCOME – NSDC approved / no objection (info only).

9. Village Committee report

The recent fireworks event was very successful with 105 tickets being sold / 127 being served (children free) and over £400 profit was made. Thanks were given to everyone involved. The Harvest event made £210, and the table top sale £140.80. Total profit for the year so far is £2413.30 with another £111.30 being held in stock (Cllr D Parker produces details breakdowns for each event). Upcoming / future events include wreathmaking (Dec), a party for village children (Dec), and Edwina Hayes (Feb). Recognition was given to Committee members for doing a brilliant job. **RESOLUTION – it was resolved that Cllr D Parker give details of how much was raised at each event to Cllr Gribby for inclusion in the newsletter.**

10. Village Newsletter

Cllr Gribby is taking responsibility for the village newsletter and discussion outlined suggestions for content, frequency and costs / funding. The Parish Council previously contributed £210 towards costs. Cllr Gribby proposed 6 issues a year to ensure information and updates are timely. Costings have been done to establish how advertising could support and will be reviewed regularly (initially set at £20 per page (contributions from pub £20 and Church £10) – it was estimated that an 8-page leaflet would be approx. £95 although the first issue may be larger. **RESOLUTION – it was resolved to allocate a budget of £210 for the Parish Council to contribute to newsletter costs (subject to appropriate invoices being submitted) – proposer Cllr Gribby, seconded Cllr Bett.**

11. Sexual and General Harassment Policy

An overview was given about the legal requirement to have a policy in place to protect employees (although principles can be observed by everyone). **RESOLVED - it was resolved to adopt the NALC model policy which the Clerk will adapt based upon points agreed (e.g. timeframes to submit complaints).**

12. NALC website

The national website has new log-in details and each Councillor / Clerk will be able to have their own log-on details (rather than there being one for all NottsALC members). Feedback about the new format and layout of the site has been mixed but support is available if needed to find information. Clerk to share further details in due course.

13. Correspondence

- i) NSDC Consultation – Statement of Gambling Principles – deadline 24/11 (info only)
- ii) NSSDC Civic Service – 23rd February 2026 (more details nearer time)
- iii) A17 Tritax Warehousing – overview of proposals given with deadline for comments for ‘pre-application’ being 18/11. Formal planning application expected to be submitted in due course.

14. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 9th January 2026 at 7pm.

Item 4 – Parish Council Vacancy

The candidates introduced themselves and gave an overview of why they wished to join the Parish Council. **RESOLUTION – it was resolved to exclude members of the public to move to a closed session to review the candidates’ applications.**

Each candidate had a proposer and seconder, meaning they could both be considered for co-option. After discussion, a confidential vote took place with the successful candidate receiving a majority vote. **RESOLUTION – it was resolved to co-opt Rachel Clipsham to the Parish Council – Cllr Bett to contact each candidate to update them.**

The relevant information and paperwork will be collated and issued at the next meeting, with the Acceptance of Office Declaration needing to be signed at the start of the meeting.

Meeting finished at 20:30

BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL

.....Chair

.....Date

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