



Ecton Parish Council

Minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting of Ecton Parish Council** held in the Village Hall, High Street, Ecton on **Tuesday 26th July 2022** at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr I Whittaker (Chair), Mr D Dicks (Vice Chair) Mr N Bond, Mr J Fernley, Mr A McCarter

Also Present: Mrs S Wong (Clerk) and North Northants Cllr Lora Lawman and 1 parishioner

Item No	
875/2022	<p>To Receive Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr S Grisewood (unwell) and NNC Cllr S Brown (other commitments) and Cllr C Hallam (unwell).</p>
876/2022	<p>To invite declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda</p> <p>No Declarations of Interest were received.</p>
877/2022	<p>To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 24th May 2022</p> <p>It was RESOLVED the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parish Council held on the 24th May 2022, having been previously circulated, were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair Mr I Whittaker.</p>
878/2022	<p>Parish Council Vacancies - Discuss any applications and co-option on to the Parish Council</p> <p>The Parish Council has two current vacancies for the position of Parish Councillor. No new applications have been received.</p>
879/2022	<p>To receive a report from North Northants Councillors</p> <p>Cllr L Lawman gave Councillors a brief update on matters relating to North Northants Council. The charging of garden waste has been deferred by NNC whilst further information is gathered. The new Highways contract has been given to Kier and not Kier WSP the previous contractor. The new contract will start on September 12th 2022. Princess Anne unveiled a plaque at Chester House last week. There have been 140,000 Visitors to Chester House since it opened last year.</p>
	<p>Progress any matters arising from the previous minutes not covered by agenda Items</p> <p>No matters arising.</p>
881/2022	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>a Review of financial statement as at 26/07/22 and propose payments and sign cheques</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to approve payments to be made in July 2022 (Appendix A). The Clerk reported the Bank Balances to date as reconciled to the bank statement were as follows:</p> <p>Current Account £50.00</p> <p>Reserves Account £32,806.49</p> <p>This is broken down into £3,883.16 David Cross funds, -£1,176.26 Playing Field Funds and £26,677.74 Parish Council Funds.</p>

	<p>Income received since 23rd May 2022 – Bank Interest £5.98 It was agreed to do an internal transfer in the accounts of £1176.26 to contra out the deficit in the playing field accounts balance. All were in agreement.</p> <p>b Review of external financial audit PKF Littlejohn our external auditors have confirmed receipt of our submitted notification of exempt status for the annual return year ending 31st March 2021</p> <p>c Receive update report reference David Cross Bequest Nothing new to report</p>
882/2022	<p>To discuss any correspondence received Notifications of two consultations have been received. Houses in Multiple (HMO) Occupation and Employment Allocations Supplementary Planning Document.</p>
883/2022	<p>Village Services</p> <p>a Receive any update reports on the Playing Field Nothing new to report.</p> <p>b Discuss any Highways matters including discuss and agree whether to contact Highways again reference a speed reduction along the A4500 to help the public cross the road A manhole outside 8 Wellingborough Road near the BT junction box still needs to be repaired. Action: Clerk to chase up BT. It was discussed that a number of elderly parishioners are struggling to safely cross the A4500 from the bus stop as they are not physically fast enough to cross the road. A new request to seek a speed reduction has been put to the PC again. Cllr L Lawman will assist and arrange a meeting with Highways to discuss what options are available. Action: The Clerk to put in writing to Cllr L Lawman that the PC seeks a speed reduction and a pedestrian crossing to get the process started.</p> <p>c Receive updates and discuss any village maintenance matters inc the Lower Ecton Lane hedges There is a broken water meter cover outside number 15 West Street – Action: The Clerk will report to Anglian Water for replacement. The no through road markings at the bottom of Church View / Wellingborough Road needs remarking. Action: Cllr A McCarter will take a photo and report on Fix My Street. One of the parish notice boards needs some attention, a new coat of Sadlin is required and a post and back board replacing. Action: Cllrs D Dicks and A McCarter will attend to the noticeboard. All were in agreement. It was also discussed the bus shelter is in need of a tidy up / clean. Action: It was agreed that Cllrs D Dicks, A McCarter and N Bond will give it a tidy, cut back the overgrown foliage and clean the Perspex. Cllr J Fernley reported the hedges, verges and footpath at bottom of Lower Ecton Lane still need attention. Highways are to contact the land owners reference the hedges. Action: The Clerk will continue to chase up Ben Wright for assistance. The Clerk will contact Ecton Estates and Fix My Street with regards to the verges and footpath works.</p> <p>d Receive updates and discuss any fly tipping issues A huge amount of fly tipping was reported by Cllr J Fernley this morning to Fix My Street. Cllr L Lawman will pick this up from Fix My Street report system.</p> <p>e Receive updates on any street lighting matters – Discuss and agree whether to accept quote for upgrading to new LED lighting and what financial avenues to explore to cover costs of the upgrade due to no current Salix Finance grants currently being available Upgrading the street lighting in the parish was discussed. Action: It was agreed</p>

	<p>Councillors would visit Sywell village to look at the Zeta lighting installed there before the next PC meeting. The Clerk will invite Simon Spurr from Zeta Lighting to attend the next meeting to answers questions on their lighting. The Clerk will contact the Clerk at Sywell PC to enquire about the level of savings they have made by upgrading to Zeta lighting. Cllr L Lawman will send the Clerk details of two possible grants the PC could look into for help with costs of the upgrade.</p> <p>It was reported the street light – Lamp number 1 by the steps outside number 5 Northampton Road is not currently working. Action: The light will be reported to EON for inspection.</p>
884/22	<p>Councillors Reports and discuss any items to be considered for the next agenda The Chair Cllr I Whittaker suggests items to go into the parish newsletter with regards to what the PC has been doing. It was also suggested to consider using online banking. Action: The Clerk will enquire with the pc’s bank if online banking is possible?</p>
885/2022	<p>Discuss any planning related matters including those not yet determined Nothing new to report.</p>
886/2022	<p>Date of next meetings –Tuesday 27th September 2022 It was RESOLVED to hold the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 27th September 2022 in Ecton Village Hall at 7.30pm.</p>
	<p>Close: The meeting ended at 9pm.</p>

Signed byDate

Appendix A

881/2022 Financial Matters

Review Financial Statement as at 26/07/2022 and propose payments and sign cheques

Monies must be paid out only in pursuance of statutory powers (SP) vested in the Parish Council.

RESOLVED balances as presented are accepted. **RESOLVED** the following accounts are paid.

Chq Number	Amount	Inc VAT of	Payee	Details	Power
740	6.60	1.10	Lappsett	Parts for play equipment (Paid out of meeting on 1 st June 2022)	Open Spaces Act
741	432.00	72.00	Reids Playgrounds	Repairs to Play Equipment (Paid out of meeting on 1 st June 2022)	Open Spaces Act
742	22.66	1.07	Southern Electric	Electricity Standing Charges to 01.07.2022	Highways Act
743	289.73	13.79	Southern Electric	Electricity Standing Charges to 01.07.2022	Highways Act
744	43.16	7.19	Thomas Coulter-Brophy	Domain renewal 3 years	LGA 1972 112
745	978.00	163.00	Hayeswood Landscapes	Grass Cutting May and June and apply weed killer	Open Spaces Act
746	599.63	0.00	Zurich Insurance	Insurance renewal	LGA 1972 112
747	592.52	48.80	Northants Calc	Chairman & Leadership training – I.W 14.6.22 £44 Subscription Renewal £309.72 Audit Fees 23 £190	LGA 1972 112
748	513.36	0.00	Shirley Wong	Clerks Salary 24.05.22 to 26.07.22 34hours @ LCP 24 £531.76 Office & Broadband £70.84 Mileage 26.8miles @ .64ppm £17.16 Tax deductions £106.40	LGA 1972 s 112
749	106.40	0.00	HMRC	Tax S Wong £106.40	LGA 1972 s 112
750	80.39	18.65	Shirley Wong	Expenses – Toner and Stationery and postage for 2021/2022	LGA 1972 s 112

Total of Cheques Raised 3,664.45