



Illustration by Rosemary Ingham

Ecton Parish Council

Minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting of Ecton Parish Council** held in the Village Hall, High Street, Ecton on **Tuesday 25th July 2023** at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr I Whittaker (Chair), Mr D Dicks (Vice Chair), Mr N Bond, Mr A McCarter and Mrs S Bell

Also Present: Mrs S Wong (Clerk), North Northants Cllr Scott Brown and Mrs Stella Bell

Item No	
958/2023	<p>To Receive Apologies Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr J Fernley and Cllr S Grisewood both are away on holiday and Unitary Cllrs L Lawman and C Hallam.</p>
959/2023	<p>To invite declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda No Declaration of Interest was received.</p>
960/2023	<p>To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 23rd May 2023 It was RESOLVED the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parish Council held on the 23rd May 2023, having been previously circulated, were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair Mr I Whittaker.</p>
961/2023	<p>Parish Council Vacancies - Co-option on to the Parish Council Following the resignation of Cllr G Littlewood in May 2023 the parish Council currently has 2 vacancies for parish councillors. No applications of interest have been received. The Clerk will continue to advertise vacancies on the notice boards, social media and parish website.</p>
962/2023	<p>To receive a report from North Northants Councillors Cllr S Brown gave an update on current matters within NNC. Kettering Leisure Village has been saved by Phoenix Leisure Management. Lots of events will take place over the summer including free swimming. All will be announced shortly. Cllr Graham Lawman has stood down as Executive Member for Highways and will be replaced by Cllr Matt Binley and Cllr Mark Rowley will take on the portfolio for Housing, Communities and levelling up.</p>
963/2023	<p>Progress any matters arising from the previous minutes not covered by agenda items There are no matters arising.</p>
964/2023	<p>Financial Matters a Review of financial statement as at 25/07/23 and propose payments for bank transfer and sign cheques It was RESOLVED to approve payments to be made in July 23 (Appendix A) via bank transfer. These payments were authorised online during the meeting via NatWest Bankline by Cllr N Bond. The Clerk reported the Bank Balances to date as reconciled to the bank statement were as follows:</p>

	<p>Current Account £50.00 Reserves Account £31,878.78 Cleared funds of £29,955.16 are broken down into David Cross Funds £3,906.90, Playing Field Funds £0.00 and Parish Council Funds £26048.26 Income received since 23rd May – Bank Interest £68.81</p> <p>b Receive any update report reference David Cross Bequest Nothing new to report – Action: The Clerk will contact Sally Jones for an update. c Delegate power to the Clerk to make payments in August due to there being no PC meeting in August. It was Resolved to delegate power to the Clerk to make payments in August.</p> <p>It was also noted that the first internal audit inspection for the current financial year was carried out by Cllr A McCarter on the 6th June 2023. All record keeping was in order, all receipts and payments have been recorded accurately and supported with relevant documentation and invoices.</p>
965/2023	<p>To discuss any correspondence received Invite to the Annual NCALC Annual Conference. No Councillors are available to attend.</p>
966/2023	<p>Village Services a Receive any update reports on the Playing Field Nothing new to report. b Receive updates and discuss any village maintenance matters inc the Lower Ecton Lane hedges The Chairman Cllr I Whittaker continues to chase WNC to arrange a litter pick of Lower Ecton Lane. Lots of garden waste is constantly being dumped along the lane. c Receive update on new LED Lights on order with Zeta Lighting The Clerk has been informed the first batch of LED lights will be installed by the end of August. There has been some delays with the suppliers in China. d Discuss parking issues at the junction of the shrine, should we apply for yellow lines It was agreed to monitor the situation for the time being as there is not enough evidence of recorded accidents to suggest yellow lines are needed or to support a Highways application at this time. e Discuss locations of any pot holes that need reporting Unitary Cllr Brown will chase up the repairs to the Wellingborough Road pot holes, work orders have been raised for these. Cllr S Brown will also report a new pot hole outside number 47 West Street at the same time. f Discuss what the procedure is if the refuse bins in the village are not collected It was noted that there is a dedicated page on the North Northants Council website to report missed bin collections. The web page address is: https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/bin-collections/missed-bin-collections</p>
967/2023	<p>Councillors Reports and discuss any items to be considered for the next agenda The Chairman Cllr I Whittaker reported that he will be away for the September PC meeting and will ask Cllr J Fernley to chair the meeting in his absence as the Vice Chairman Cllr D Dicks is also away.</p>
968/2023	<p>Discuss any planning related matters including those not yet determined No new applications to report.</p>
969/2023	<p>Date of next meeting – Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council - Tuesday 26th September 2023</p>

	It was RESOLVED to hold the next meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 26 th September 2023 in Ecton Village Hall at 7.30pm. Close: The meeting ended at 8.50pm.
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Signed byDate

Appendix A

964/2023 Financial Matters

Review Financial Statement as at 25/07/2023 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.

Payment Method	Amount	Inc VAT of	Payee	Details	Power
BT	159.78	7.59	Southern Electric	Electricity & Standing Charges from 3.5.23 to 3.7.23	Highways Act
BT	28.16	4.69	EON	Light repair – West Street. Replace Photocell	Highways Act
BT	580.34	43.40	Northants Calc	Membership 2024 £330.14 Int Audit Fees 2024 £207	Highways Act
BT	312.00	52.00	Hayeswood Landscapes	Grass Cutting June	Open Spaces Act
BT	576.34	0.00	Shirley Wong	Clerks Salary to 25.7.23 38 hours back pay at 0.48pph @ LCP 25 £18.24 37 hours @ LCP 25 £615.68 Office & Broadband £70.84 Mileage 13.4miles @ .64ppm £8.58 Tax deductions £137	LGA 1972 s 112
BT	137.00	0.00	HMRC	Tax S Wong £137	LGA 1972 s 112

Total of payments £1,793.62

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