



Ecton Parish Council

Minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting of Ecton Parish Council** held in the Village Hall, High Street, Ecton on **Tuesday 23rd January 2024** at 7.30pm.

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

Also Present: Mrs S Wong (Clerk) Jon and Kim Hopkinson

Item No	
995/2024	<p>To Receive Apologies Apologies were received from Unitary Councillors.</p>
996/2024	<p>To invite declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda No Declaration of Interest was received.</p>
997/2024	<p>To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 28th November 2023 It was RESOLVED the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Parish Council held on the 28th November 2023, having been previously circulated, were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair Mr I Whittaker.</p>
998/2024	<p>Parish Council Vacancies - Co-option on to the Parish Council There has been no recent interest in either of the two Parish Council Vacancies. The Clerk will continue to advertise the post.</p>
999/2024	<p>To receive a report from North Northants Councillors No Unitary Councillors were in attendance. No reports were received.</p>
1000/2024	<p>Progress any matters arising from the previous minutes not covered by agenda items There were no matters arising.</p>
1001/2024	<p>Financial Matters a Review of financial statement as at 23/01/24 and propose payments for bank transfer and sign cheques – (To see full payments breakdown see Appendix A) It was RESOLVED to approve payments to be made in January 2024 (Appendix A) via bank transfer. These payments were authorised online during the meeting via NatWest Bankline by Cllr J Fernley. The Clerk reported the Bank Balances to date as reconciled to the bank statement were as follows: Current Account £50.00, Reserves Account £27,756.24 Cleared funds of £25,963.44 are broken down into David Cross Funds £3,516.18 Playing Field Funds £278.00 and Parish Council Funds £22,169 Income received since 28th November £1271.29 – Broken down into Bank Interest £63.19, Vat refund 22/23 £1055.13 and Grass Cutting Grant £152.97</p> <p>b Delegate power to the Clerk to make payments in February due to there being no PC meeting in February</p>

	<p>It was RESOLVED to delegate power to the Clerk to make payments in February.</p> <p>It was also noted that the third internal audit inspection for the current financial year will be carried out by Cllr A McCarter on the 30th January 2024.</p> <p>It was also noted the Playing Field Charity Annual Return submission of the Playing field Accounts to 31/03/2023 was submitted on the 6th December 2023.</p>
1002/2024	<p>To discuss any correspondence received There was no correspondence to discuss.</p>
1003/2024	<p>Village Services</p> <p>A Discuss the annual H&S inspection report on the play area and agree any repairs The annual H&S inspection report was carried out in December. Members discussed the report and it was Resolved Councillors A McCarter and D Dicks would carry out the remedial repairs. Action: The Clerk will order the parts required direct from Playdale at a cost of under £65. All were in agreement.</p> <p>b Receive updates and discuss any village maintenance matters inc the Lower including any fly tipping issues A large pile of tyres and a carpet have been dumped in Lower Ecton Lane. This has been reported to be cleared away. It was noted that the buddleia that was growing again from 1 Franklins Road running up to Northampton Road was cut back the week commencing 8th January 2024.</p> <p>c Receive any updates on the 2nd installation of LED Lights on order with Zeta Lighting Zeta Lighting have confirmed the second and final installation of the LED lights will be carried out in February 2024.</p> <p>d Receive any updates on the A4500 Ecton Traffic Calming proposals Unitary Cllr Lora Lawman has continued to chase for a start date for the installation of traffic calming measures. Lora has taken the matter to the Chief Executive and the incoming new Chief Executive at NNC to take action.</p> <p>e Agree locations for new traffic signs in the village Cllr A McCarter has received two new “Please Park safely and legally” signs for the village. It was Resolved to give them to the primary school and ask that they are put out outside the school by the road at the start of each school day.</p> <p>f Does the PC want to support a Community Speed Watch scheme? Members discussed the agenda item and agreed to support the scheme morally but as a PC they wouldn’t take part in the scheme. This is due to the previous scheme not catching any offenders, therefore not warranting a re-run of the scheme. All were in agreement.</p>
1004/2024	<p>Councillors Reports and discuss any items to be considered for the next agenda No new items to add to the March agenda at this time.</p>
1005/2024	<p>Discuss any planning related matters including those not yet determined a Agree any new responses to Planning Application NW/23/00699/FUL – 2 Parsons Close - Demolition of derelict bungalow and erection of 3 bedroom detached two storey dwelling – Mr and Mrs Hopkins the owners of the bungalow were in attendance and answered questions members had with regards to the planning application. The Parish Council want to support development at the site, but do not support the current plans. The proposed building needs to be built sympathetic to the village and in align with the Neighbourhood plan.</p> <p>b Agree response to planning application WNC/23/00042/WASFUL – Great Billing</p>

	<p>Water Recycling Centre – Installation of canopy and associated block work Comments made were that the canopy will be 7.85 metres in height will likely be visible to properties in Ecton and views from the paths and fields in the open space, would be preferable to install a green roof. We agree it is not beyond the boundary which is good and the principle of development is acceptable to us but we would look to it more favourably if the design was sympathetic to our neighbourhood plan. We will ask that West Northamptonshire follow their own policies relating to visual impact and landscape character.</p> <p>c Receive any updates on NW/23/00761/VAR – Sunnyside, West Street – Variation of Condition 2 (approved drawings) NW/23/00305/FUL Comments made were that the soffits, fascia and guttering materials should be listed within the planning application. Those used should be in keeping with surrounding properties.</p>
1006/2024	<p>Date of next meeting – Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council - Tuesday 26th March 2024 It was RESOLVED to hold the next meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 23rd January 2024 in Ecton Village Hall at 7.30pm. It was also discussed to hold the two Annual Parish meetings a week earlier than usual due to some Councillors being away on the 28th May. Subject to Village Hall availability the Annual meetings will now be held on Tuesday 21st May 2024. Action: The Clerk will check room hire availability for the 21st May. Close: The meeting ended at 8.40pm.</p>

Signed byDate

Appendix A

1001/2024 Financial Matters

Review Financial Statements for January 2024.

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.

Payments approved and made at the meeting of 23/01/2024

Payment Method	Amount	Inc VAT of	Payee	Details	Power
BT	86.35	11.31	Southern Electric	Electricity & Standing Charges from 3.11.23 to 30.11.23	Highways Act
BT	103.49	17.25	EON	LP5 Wellingborough Rd, Replace 19W LED Lamp	Highways Act
BT	536.56	0.00	Shirley Wong	Clerks Salary to 23.01.24 33 hours @ LCP 25 £17.64 Office & Broadband £70.84 Tax deductions £116.40	LGA 1972 s 112
BT	116.40	0.00	HMRC	Tax S Wong £116.40	LGA 1972 s 112

Total of payments £842.80

To note payments to be made in February 2024 outside of meeting by the Clerk using delegated powers

Payment Method	Amount	Inc VAT	Payee	Details	Power
BT	89.17	11.67	Southern Electric	Electricity & Standing Charges from 01.12.23 to 31.12.23	Highways Act
BT	93.73	12.43	Southern Electric	Electricity & Standing Charges from 1.01.24 to 31.01.24	Highways Act

Total of payments £182.90