

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 21st May 2019 at 7.45 pm in the Village Hall Annexe, Cottingham.

Present: Cllrs Brant (Chair), Bradshaw, Freeman, Freestone, Hicks and Thomas and Mrs Medwell (Parish Clerk).

1. Election of Officers:

(i) The position of Chair was open to all Councillors. Cllr Freeman nominated Cllr Brant and was seconded by Cllr Hicks. Cllr Brant **agreed** to become Chair.

Cllr Brant signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office witnessed by the Clerk.

(ii) The election for the position of Vice-Chair was deferred to the next meeting due to the absence of Cllr Cole.

2. To Approve Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Cole – Holiday Commitments
County Cllr Naden-Horley

3. Declaration of Interests on Items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of interests.

There were no changes to the members Registers of Interests.

4. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting on 16th April 2019 were duly approved and signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr Freestone

Seconded Cllr Hicks

5. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising not covered on the agenda.

6. Meeting Open for Public Participation:

There were no members of the public present.

(Meeting closed to the public.)

7. New Village Hall and Recreational Ground:

The Chair reported on a productive second workshop on fund raising. Cllr Freeman and others are in the process of researching larger fund donating bodies including the Big Lottery Fund. The Chair re-iterated that any ideas for fund raising are welcome.

8. Orchard and Open Space:

With regards to the overgrown trees along the road into Glover Court, the Clerk informed the Council that the contractor responsible for the grounds maintenance had been contacted and would provide a quote to cut off the lower branches.

9. Highways, Lighting and Rights of Way:

Damaged Signage – The Council noted that one of the damaged signs, notifying drivers of a sharp bend on The Hill, had been repaired.

Lighting – There was no further update on lighting at present. Cllr Freeman will follow up on previous reported faults (*action TF*). The Clerk will send details of the faulty light outside the Manor House to Cottingham Parish Council (*action JM*).

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

School Hill Traffic Management Signage – The Council noted that the signage notifying ‘Unsuitable for Long Vehicles’ had been erected on each approach to the junction of School Hill. The Clerk will follow up its request to NCC for a second hand grit bin to replace the damaged one on the bend on School Hill (*action JM*).

TVAS Sign, Ashley Road – It had been brought to the Council’s attention that this was not consistent in its speed readings. The Chair and Clerk will arrange to meet the supplier on-site to rectify this (*action SB and JM*).

10. Village Fete:

The Council was reminded of the Village Fete on Saturday 6th July and that it is the first fund-raising event for The Mill Community Hub Project. Volunteers were needed both on the day and to set up on the Friday evening. Councillors were asked to put the date in their diaries. Raffle tickets would be sold in advance and assistance with this by councillors would be appreciated.

11. Safety Review of Parish Assets:

In the absence of Cllr Cole there was nothing to report. The Clerk informed the Council that repair to the flaking varnish on the bench on Main Street was in hand.

12. Local Government Reform:

The following report was provided by Corby Borough Council.

The Secretary of State James Brokenshire has reviewed all the evidence and representations received, and has now decided that replacing the eight councils with two unitary authorities is in the best interests of the residents of Northamptonshire. The North Northamptonshire unitary will cover Corby, East Northants, Kettering and Wellingborough and the West Northamptonshire unitary will cover Daventry, Northampton and South Northamptonshire. The existing district and borough councils and Northamptonshire County Council will all be abolished

Parliamentary Orders will follow later this year and there will be elections to the Shadow Authorities in May 2020. Shadow Executives for the two unitaries will be selected from those elected and will determine the structure, budget and service delivery models for the new councils.

Services which complement one another but are currently divided between the district, borough and county councils, such as bin collections, waste disposal, planning and roads, will be brought together under each of the two unitary councils. As Vesting Day has now been confirmed as 1 April 2021, town and parish council elections will go ahead in May 2020.

13. Monthly Crime Report:

The Council referred to the monthly crime statistics as detailed online via Police UK website. There were no crimes reported for April.

All information pertaining to local crime can be found by entering the relevant postcode on www.police.uk

14. Planning:

Oakley Park Travellers Site, Ashley Road – The commencement of construction of a new entrance wall to the site had been brought to the Council’s attention. This had been referred on to Corby Borough Council to ascertain whether this conforms with the site’s planning conditions (*action SB*)

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

17/00180/OUT Outline application for a sustainable urban extension comprising 4,500 dwellings and associated infrastructure works.

The Chair referred to an email from Corby Borough Council's Planning Consultant Alex Jelley highlighting the outstanding need to report back to the Parishes alongside NCC once the Highways issues are wholly resolved and which looked likely to be in the next month. The Chair will liaise with the other parishes involved and propose some dates in early July (*action SB*).

15. Finance:

a) The following cheques were presented for signature and unanimously **agreed**:

101526	Zurich – Insurance	167.46
101527	NCALC – Subscription	272.93
101528	Besthost – Domain Renewal	75.00
101529	Clerk – May Salary and Expenses	325.00
101530	Ian Arnott – Internal Audit	150.00
101531	VHMC – Hall Hire	12.00
101532	Steve Morphy – Grass Cutting	210.00
101533	Jamie Bradshaw – Culvert Maintenance	60.00

Receipts	
VAT	1,480.33

SUMMARY OF BALANCES

National Savings	40,840.72
Business Reserve	166.86
Community Account	5,126.82

Less Allocation for Village Hall	35,990.50
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Total:	£10,143.90
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b) The Council unanimously **approved** the bank reconciliation which was then duly signed by the Chair.

16. Correspondence:

Amongst other correspondence were the following items, all e-mailed:

NCALC – Director Vacancy
 NCALC – North Northamptonshire Local Council Forum
 NCALC – eUpdates
 Local resident re Rubbish left by river Welland.

17. Business for next meeting:

Election of Vice Chair

Cllrs Bradshaw and Freestone gave their apologies for the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Minutes to be ratified at the next Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 18th June 2019

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

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