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Minutes of the ordinary Church with Chapel Brampton Parish Council meeting held on:
Thursday 16th November 2023 commencing at 7.30PM at the Brampton Primary School.

Minutes taken by the Clerk, Sarah Stock.

Attending: Cllrs Jill Slinn, Robin Green, Stephen Crane, William Shearer, Richard Gent, Margaret Green, Mick Macmain, Mark Vernon

2023/72 **Declarations of Interest.** No declarations of interest made on matters relating to the agenda.

2023/73 **Public Session.** No MOP attending.

Verbal Updates (no decisions will be made on items in this section of the agenda)

- Chapel Meeting Room power supply: E-on have confirmed they will install a meter before Christmas.
- Harlestone Road & Sandy Lane SID Pole. New location agreed with WNC Highways for Harlestone Road pole. Council resolved to leave the Sandy Lane pole in situ.
- Dog Waste Bin (Harlestone Rd). Bin has been replaced and clerk will invoice Mr Paybody.
- Cedar Hythe Trees. WNC has granted permission for works to go-ahead.
- Tree works: Maurice Fitch has program of works to be completed end November/beginning December including Spencer Close ornamental shrub, Cedar Hythe trees, Back Lane ivy removed from lamp post, Debris removed from Sandy Lane junction, remove tree near playing field gate.
- Lamp post relocation, Great Close. Residents at number 18 wish to proceed with the relocation. Clerk has requested detailed plan and will write to the next-door neighbour for their approval.

2023/74 **Minutes.** Council approved the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 19th October.

2023/75 **Bank reconciliation and YTD budget vs Expenditure review**

Council accepted the bank reconciliation and the budget analysis provided with the agenda.

2023/24 Opening balance:	£32,385	
YTD Income	£34,666	
YTD expenditure (Inc. VAT & Unauthorised payments)		£24,197
Online Balance		
Current Account (Unity 20415701)		£7,691
Reserve Account (Unity 20415714)		£36,513
Balance b/f		£44,204
YTD Closing balance (less pending expenditure)		£42,854
2023/24 Unclaimed VAT YTD	£2,439	

Council agreed to allocate £2000 from unspent PCSO budget to cover grass cutting - £500, and electricity £1,500.

2023/76 Accounts for Payment. Council approved the accounts for payment.

Payee	Invoice #	Invoice Date	Amount Due (Inc. VAT)	VAT
Yu Energy	1354509	3.11.23	£305.38	£14.54
Yu Energy	1354510	3.11.23	£37.29	£1.78
J Hawkins (SO)	November	28.10.23	£27.50	
Z A Finney (Noah & Grace) (SO)	November	28.10.23	£55.00	
Sarah Stock (SO)	November	28.10.23	£488.60	
PW Warden Environmental	7105	6.11.23	£408.00	£68.00
Sarah Stock	Toner & Tape	8.11.23	£28.04	

2023/77 Clerk's Salary – Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2023-24

Agreement with NJC has been reached on rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2023. Clerk's pay currently Spinal Column Point (SCP) 17 @ £13.95 per hour. Council resolved to increase at SCP 18 @ £15.21 per hour backdated to 1 April 2023. Back pay TBC by Barbara Osbourn.

2023/78 Remembrance Day Poppies

Council resolved to allocate £100 for the purchase of large lamp post poppies for display in November 2024.

2023/79 Playing Field & Pocket Park.

Playing Field: Council resolved to allocate max £250 for filling potholes in the carpark. Clerk to contact A&A Landscapes.

Pocket Park: Thanks to John Cutler & grandson for scything the wildflowers and clearing the area.

2023/80 Northwest Sandy Lane Relief Road

Council noted communication from Ian Jackson, Balfour Beatty.

There are no firm dates for the road closures and there are further delays due to the weather. It's likely the closures will be later than the previously published dates. Due to the level difference between the new and existing carriageway at Brampton Roundabout BB won't be able to remove the temporary traffic lights over Christmas. The site is closed between 22nd December and 3rd January and there will be additional traffic management maintenance visits over this period.

Council noted traffic works this side of town are contributing the chaos and congestion in the villages.

2023/81 Pitsford Road Junction

Council resolved to partner with Pitsford Parish Council to seek a review of the speed limit along the Pitsford Road from 50mph to 40mph. The intention is to improve pedestrian safety as requests to widen the footpath have been ignored. For Chapel Brampton, it is hoped that reducing the speed of vehicles approaching the Pitsford Road junction will reduce the number of accidents.

Council resolved to purchase a VAS for the Pitsford Road highlighting the junction, to say "Give Way ahead". Clerk to get quotes.

2023/82 Environment (verges, path, trees, and village maintenance)

Wildflowers: Council resolved to accept the quote from R&G Maintenance to establish wildflower areas on the verges on the A5199. Total cost £518 (exc. VAT). Seed mix will include annual and perennial flowers.

Council will create wildflower bed at the Church Brampton crossroads. Cllr MM, WS & SC will liaise with R&G. Expected to be similar costs.

Golf Lane green: Cllr RGn has planted additional crocuses. Works is due to begin at Eagles Nest, council expressed concern that contractors would park on the green. Clerk to contact planning case officer to request barriers be placed on the green to protect the tree and prevent the ground from being compacted.

Althorp Hedges etc: Althorp have confirmed works will be completed w/b 21st November.

Battery Strimmer: Council resolved to purchase a battery strimmer for use in the playing field to clear nettles etc. Approximate cost: £150.00. The Parish Council insurance does not extend to councillors or volunteers using machinery on behalf of the council.

Pavements: Council resolved to send request to Highways for pavement clearing throughout the village. Report already made for clearing the path a Golf Lane. Cllr RGn to forward report to Clerk.

2023/83 Planning matters

No applications received.

No response received from Stephanie Gilbrate or Shaun Robson, WNC Planning Directors. Church with Chapel Brampton Council consider that the neighbours' and council should have been consulted before the application was determined as the changes are materially significant. The date for applying for Judicial Review expires on 17th November.

Clerk directed to contact ward councillors notifying of intention to make a formal complaint and for Cllr WS and the Clerk will liaise to submit the formal complaint. Judicial review exposes Church with Chapel Brampton parish council to too much financial risk.

Meeting closed: 20:45

Date of next meetings: See you in 2024: January 18th (Clerk's birthday!). No February meeting. March 21st.