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Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on:

Thursday 17th March 2022 commencing at 7.30PM. Meeting took place at Brampton Primary School.

Minutes taken by Sarah Stock, Clerk to the Parish Council

Apologies received and accepted from: Cllrs Jill Slinn, William Shearer, Stephen Crane, Jason Stather-Lodge

Attendees: Cllr Robin Green Cllr Richard Gent

Cllr Mick Macmain Cllrs Margaret Green

Cllr Angharad Garner

## 2021/111 Declarations of Interest.

Cllr MM declared interest relating to item 2021/123, Planning application WND/2022/0028. Cllr MM will withdraw from any discussion regarding this application.

# 2021/112 Public Session

Meeting adjourned for members of the public to address the council.

MOP Derek Bland, Terry Sewell

TS reported footpath CE6 (Halfway Thorn to Jacks Lane) was blocked with sheep wire for about 150 yards, on the return trip the right of way was blocked with farm machinery. TS encountered the farmer (Mr Paybody) who was rather aggressive. Clerk will report incident to the estate director.

DB suggested consideration be given to painted rumble strips on the A5199 to encourage slower driving on the approach to the junction. He noted that the one-way signs on the Harlestone Road could be moved as they are visible to drivers on the approach from the Pitsford junction.

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

- Playing Field: Play ship wheel. Item ordered not yet installed. Needs chasing
- Harlestone Road, Black Pines. Request sent to Althorp regarding replanting trees lost to the storm. Matter has been referred to Althorp's conservation officer.
- Jubilee Tree: Cllr SC to arrange purchase of tree for planting on small green near Jacks Lane. Locations sent to Highways for approval.

# 2021/113 Minutes

Council approved the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January. Cllr RG signed the minutes.

# 2021/114 Bank reconciliation and YTD budget vs Expenditure review

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

 Current Account (Unity 20415701)
 £5,155

 Reserve Account (Unity 20415714)
 £22,612

 2021/22 Opening balance:
 £27,768

 YTD Income
 £32,229

YTD expenditure (Inc. VAT & Unauthorised payments) £33,602

Online Balance 10th March

 Current Account (Unity 20415701)
 £2,521

 Reserve Account (Unity 20415714)
 £25,164

 Balance b/f
 £27,685

Contact: The Clerk, 9 Lower Harlestone, Northamptonshire, NN7 4EW. Tel.: 01604 820635 email: <a href="mailto:theclerk@churchwithchapelbrampton-pc.gov.uk">theclerk@churchwithchapelbrampton-pc.gov.uk</a>

# YTD Closing balance (less pending expenditure)

£26,395

2021/22 Unclaimed VAT YTD

£2,686

### 2021/115 Financial Risk Assessment

Council resolved to adopt the financial management risk assessment for 2021/22 with no amendments. <a href="http://www.churchwithchapelbrampton-pc.gov.uk/web/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Brampton-Financial-Riask-Assessment.pdf">http://www.churchwithchapelbrampton-pc.gov.uk/web/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Brampton-Financial-Riask-Assessment.pdf</a>

### 2021/116 Clerk Salary

Council approved the annual pay award as per contract for Sarah Stock. This includes an uplift to pay point 15 as published by NCALC and a 3% inflationary increase. The hourly rate increases to £12.60 Clerk will receive home working allowance in April.

#### 2021/117 Accounts for Payment

Council approved the accounts for payment – all payments are inclusive of VAT

Sarah Stock	March	28.3.22	£441.00
Sarah Stock	Back payment	28.3.22	£231.00
J Hawkins	March	28.3.22	£27.50
Z A Finney (Noah & Grace)	March	28.3.22	£55.00
YU Energy	729127	1.3.22	£43.01
YU Energy	729128	1.3.22	£19.31
E-on Energy Solutions	109669	14.12.21	£155.81
MGT Design Ltd	123139	1.3.22	£300.00
Unity Trust Bank	Statement 20	30.3.22	£18.00

## 2021/118 Traffic Calming

Council reviewed the notes taken from the meeting with Helen Howard and Matthew Clerk from WNC Highways on 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb (meeting notes can be found at the bottom of this agenda). The following action points will be progressed:

- Errors on Google maps have been corrected to better show the Pitsford Road/A5199 junction
- Highways to re-access feasibility for pedestrian crossing on A5199
- Highways to access feasibility for rumble strips on the A5199 at village entry points

It is likely that Highways will not report back for a least three months.

- CCB-PC Council accept that installation of a traffic calming chicane on Sandy Lane is unlikely to get support from Highways.
- CCB-PC have submitted brief proposal to WNC for cycle route along Sandy Lane.

# From Helen Howard, (rec'd 17<sup>th</sup> March):

I can confirm that we will revisit the Parish Council's request for a crossing and rumble strips on the A5199. Given our current commitments I would hope to have further information for you within the next three months. At this stage I cannot give you any commitments in terms of funding or support as this will all depend on the outcome of the reviews.

Council noted that parishioners posting pictures of accidents with vehicle registration numbers are in breach of GDPR regulations. Cllr AG will issue notice to inform FB users and Cllr AG will try to remove pictures.

Council approved quotes for installation of two poles to hold VAS signage. Locations near village perimeter on Sandy Lane and one near War Memorial on Harlestone Road. Cost of £998.39 (exc. VAT)

Council noted that works on the NW Relief Road has begun with establishment of site office at the bottom of Sandy Lane. Clerk asked to establish contact with the contractors to ensure construction traffic is directed away from the village.

### 2021/119 Playing Field & Pocket Park

Council approved the appointment of ROSPA to undertake the annual playground inspection at a cost of £70 (exc. VAT).

Council will form small working party to tidy the field in readiness for the classic car rally. Cllr MM will provide schedule of works.

#### 2021/120 PCSO

Council reviewed the notes from the quarterly SPOC meeting (circulated by email). Two burglaries in Buckton Fields, culprits have been apprehended. PCSO has been undertaking speed enforcement sessions on the A5199. The PCSO scheme is seeking a sponsor for a new police car.

Cllr MM raised concern cost allocation compared to the proportion of time spent in CCB. Cllr MM requested that PCSO supply information about his whereabout in the villages to establish the amount of time spent in each parish. Other SPOCS have not supported this suggestion. Clerk asked to find out the formular for working out CTB and the number of houses per CT band.

Council agreed to Cllr MM's request that PCSO be asked to attend the A5199/Pitsford Rd crossroads between 8.40 and 8.55 am and 3.05 and 3.20pm when he is on duty.

#### 2021/121 Environment (verges, path, trees, and village maintenance)

Request sent to WNC to re-balance the tree on Golf Lane. Fix-my-street map indicates that this tree belongs to WNC. Council is concerned that WNC may deem it is not cost effective to prune and may wish to remove the tree. Council would prefer Althorp or PC to take responsible. Clerk to contact Mike Venton for advice regarding ownership and remedial works.

Brampton Hill Track. Members of the public have requested access to use this track.

From Edwin Christmas, Estate Director. "For now, our position remains the same in that we would choose to keep access as per the existing public rights of way only.

We will shortly be commencing the refurbishment and re-letting of the farmhouse, and I foresee an increased amount of construction traffic along the lane and with safety in mind it is sensible to maintain the position.

The Paybody's have explained that they have received threatening behaviour from some users who chose to connect public paths with "cut through's" to join these and have a circular walk. This is without our consent.

What it means in practice to our farmers is that dogs foul all over the fields causing an impact to them farming. I would agree that this type of issue is something we would seek to reduce not increase. Covid has impacted this issue across the whole country.

Quote received from Maurice Fitch to remove branches from the Cedar Tree at the entry way to Cedar Hythe. Advise from MF was that the tree doesn't pose an immediate threat. Cllr MM will meet two other tree surgeons for additional quotes.

# 2021/122 Annual Parish Meeting

Council the Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April at the school. Clerk to invite representatives from local community groups to present a report to the council.

### 2021/123 Planning matters

**Applications Received:** Council resolved responses to each planning application.

WND/2021/0428, Land at Brampton Lane, on Pitsford Parish/Chapel Brampton boundary

Siting of 24 solar panels each measuring 100cm wide, 167cm long and 2.3m high (retrospective).

(Case Officer Nisar Mogul, deadline for comments 17<sup>th</sup> March, extended) No observations relating to the installation to the solar panels. Council is very concerned about the state of the site. Of particular concern is the plant and aggregate which is being dumped near the watercourse.

WND/2022/0028 The Old Bakehouse 14, Welford Road, Chapel Brampton,

Demolition of existing rear extension. Construction of two storey rear extension. Replace windows throughout.

(Case Officer Tim Cantwell, deadline for comments extended as awaiting amended plans)

Council note that the existing property only has one small bedroom window in the first-floor rear elevation. The proposed plan has two large windows and one small one. A loss of neighbour's privacy is a concern. In addition, the council consider that enlargement should be discouraged where properties have no off-street parking.

Case officer has confirmed that new drawings will be submitted.

# Communication

For next meeting – commemorative jubilee items

Date of next meetings: April 21st, Annual Parish Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> April. 19<sup>th</sup> May, 16<sup>th</sup> June, 21<sup>st</sup> July (TBC)



# <u>Appendix – PC/WNC meeting notes</u>

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 (3pm)

In attendance: Representing WNC Highways, Helen Howard & Matthew Clarke

Representing Church with Chapel PC, Cllrs Jill Slinn, Stephen Crane, Mick Macmain, Robin Green, Sarah Stock

(Clerk)

#### Points to note:

Highways Community Liaison Team holds a budget of £12K for small scale works (such as new signs or dropped curbs) for the WNC district. Maintenance works comes from a separate budget. Funding for larger highways projects comes from the Network Improvement Budget. This is a countywide budget of around £450K. Highways Teams, including Safer Routes to School, Walking & Cycling, Bus and Rail and Community Liaison have to bid for funds on an annual basis. Scheme specific bids are submitted and ranked against and agreed criteria. (Parish Council's cannot make direct applications). The Road Safety Team also have a budget, but this is specifically directed at reducing injury collisions which are happening on the road network. Funding levels change each year.

The group noted that there are inconsistencies across the county, so that some villages have had pedestrian crossings installed, or junctions reengineered. However, these historic allocations have no bearing on the current criteria for allocating funds or making assessments. Also noted that some projects are third party funded.

• Accident reduction at the Pitsford Road/A5199 junction. The council would like the GIVE WAY changed to a STOP. Advice given that this junction would not meet the criteria for change because sight lines have been deemed sufficient to warrant GIVE WAY status. The use of 'STOP' signs is tightly regulated so that they are only used at locations which meet the criteria. There are already two advanced give way signs on the approach to the junction in addition to the actual give way signs at the junction. Any change would be unlikely to change driver behaviour.

Some Satellite Navigation systems fail to recognise the junction and drivers miss the signage. Highways have no mechanism for correcting the information displayed on SatNav systems.

85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed on A5199 nr Spencer Arms: 47.1mph

Nr Back Lane: 43mph Pitsford Road: 32.2mph

• Pedestrian crossing on the A5199 to allow school children to cross safely

During the meeting children emerged from school. About 15 children plus their parents/carers crossed. Advice given that if the site was suitable a bid would have to be submitted to the Network Improvement Budget and compete for funding with other schemes from around the county. A previous assessment has been carried and determined a crossing was not recommended due to the low numbers crossing and technical difficulties. Assessment of the volume of pedestrian traffic would be required. The location of the crossing would need careful consideration as residents from south side of the junction may prefer to cross opposite the pub and avoid crossing the Pitsford Road.

Concern expressed by Highways that a crossing could give a false sense of security to pedestrians – there is evidence of this happening at crossings in rural locations.

Highways agreed to re-examine the proposals for a crossing and provide advice to the council. Original scheme (for pedestrian island) presented to council in 2016 estimated cost £92K.

• Rumble Strips on A5199 at entry points to the village.

Advice given that rumble strips would not be installed within 200m of property. Highways agreed to make assessment and advise council.

• Installation of traffic calming chicane in Sandy Lane, Church Brampton.

Highways have surveyed and agreed CCB could have chicane and drawings supplied, project costs estimated at £45K. Cost of project would fall to the Network Improvement budget, no application for funds has been made. No formal consultation for this proposal has taken place.

85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed on Sandy Lane: 39.4mph

- Results of the West Haddon 20mph speed restriction consultation. Is CCB a good candidate for a similar scheme? The West Haddon 20mph trial is not run by highways. The signage used at this location does not meet regulation. Advice given that 20mph zones are non-enforceable and invalidate a 30mph enforceable limit. A scheme in Bugbrooke was deemed unsuccessful as average speeds fell by 1mph and no enforcement of the 30mph could be undertaken.
- Review sites for two commemorative jubilee trees (one at the entrance to Jacks Lane and one Tulip Tree in Cedar Hythe) Clerk to provide map to Matt Clarke.
- Proposal to bid for a pedestrian/cycle route between Church Brampton and the Wind Hover. Parish Council to submit a proposal to Neil Holland.