

# GREAT ADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 16 December 2015

### Present at the meeting.

**Councillors:** Cllr N Palmer (in the Chair), Cllr A Fischelis, Cllr H Mayes and Cllr M Scott.

**In attendance:** Mrs H Hoier (Clerk).

### 15/375 Formalities.

- a) **To receive and approve apologies for absence.**  
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C May and Cllr H Rainbow (both due to family responsibilities).  
**RESOLVED** that the reasons for absence from the meeting provided by Cllr C May and Cllr H Rainbow be **APPROVED** by this Council.
- b) **To receive information requests/comments from members of the public.**  
There were no written information requests/comments from members of the public.
- c) **To receive declarations of discloseable pecuniary/other interests by Councillors and dispensation requests.**  
Cllr N Palmer declared an interest in co-opting to fill the casual vacancy because of a close personal association with the nominee (agenda item 15/377 refers).
- d) **To resolve to exclude members of the public/press from the meeting when agenda items containing confidential information are transacted.**  
This procedure was not required as there were no agenda items identified by this Council as containing confidential information.

### 15/376 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18 November 2015.

**RESOLVED** that these minutes be **CONFIRMED** by this Council as being a correct record of the meeting held on Wednesday 18 November 2015 and signed by the Chairman.

### 15/377 To co-opt to fill the casual vacancy.

The Council received a single nomination from Mrs E Palmer.

**RESOLVED** that it be proposed, seconded and with all members present; **CARRIED** that Mrs E Palmer be co-opted by this Council to fill the casual vacancy.

### 15/378 Minor items.

- a) **To receive and note the Chairman's announcements (for information only).**  
The Chairman took the opportunity to place on record this Council's deepest sadness at the sudden death of Mr C Fry who had been a valued member of both the Council and of the wider community for over sixteen years. Mr Fry had served as Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Internal Controller as well as being appointed as one of the Council's representatives on the Addingtons Playing Field Association.
- b) **To receive and note correspondence/reports/publications (for delegated action and/or information only).**  
Details of these items were noted (with particular reference to more efficient management of on-going/delegated actions which are not within the Four Year Plan) and Councillors and the Clerk summarised any information received/action taken since 18 November 2015. It was noted that a meeting with a representative of ENC Planning Services to discuss and better understand the reasons for decision inconsistencies has yet to be arranged.

### 15/379 East Northamptonshire Council (ENC).

- a) **To note details of the latest ENC Monitoring Officer Town and Parish Council Briefing documents.**  
The Council was unable to note the latest details of recent legislation and recommended good practice because no new ENC Monitoring Officer Town and Parish Council Briefing documents were received prior to the meeting.
- b) **To receive and note ENC correspondence/reports/publications (for information only).**  
These documents were received and the current issues of relevance to this Council and/or to Great Addington were summarised by the Clerk (with particular reference to ENC full meeting of the Council).

**15/380 Northamptonshire County Council (NCC).**

- a) **To consider this Council's response to the NCC Draft Budget and Council Plan 2016/17.**

The Council considered its response to this consultation regarding NCC's budget proposals in the short and medium term (including the challenges, priorities, goals and new strategies). It was acknowledged that Great Addington residents are better placed to put forward their own views on the services which affect them personally.

**RESOLVED** that this Council will not be submitting a representation in response to this consultation.

- b) **To receive and note NCC correspondence/reports/publications (for information only).**

These documents were received and the current issues of relevance to this Council and/or to Great Addington were summarised by the Clerk (with particular reference to the NCC 'Feed Your Caddy' food recycling monthly reward scheme).

**15/381 Constituency for Corby and East Northamptonshire.**

- To receive and note parliamentary correspondence/reports/publications sent on behalf of Mr T Pursglove MP (for information only).**

These documents were received and the current issues of relevance to this Council and/or to Great Addington were summarised by the Clerk (with particular reference to the Autumn Statement and the implications of this for Corby and East Northamptonshire).

**15/382 To note the latest details of this Council's Four Year Plan; confirm its priorities; and consider the options and resources available regarding achieving its short, medium and long term objectives (including any legal responsibilities).**

The Council noted the latest details of this action plan which has been introduced by the Chairman to assist in confirming the Council's priorities, achieving its objectives and monitoring its progress over the next four years.

**RESOLVED** that the latest details of items within the Four Year Plan reported at the meeting be **NOTED** updated as necessary and that options and resources available to this Council be utilised as effectively as possible.

- a) **E.ON's 50% price increase for street lighting energy from May 2015.**

There were no additional reported details to those noted and updated at previous meetings.

- b) **Traffic calming schemes.**

Cllr A Fischelis reported that a grant application via the NCC Empowering Councillors and Communities Fund for £1,000 had been successful. The Council took the opportunity to express its thanks to Cllr S Hughes (NCC Irthlingborough Division) for supporting this application and to Mrs R Barnes for providing detailed drawings of a gated entrance.

- c) **Communication and engagement.**

Cllr M Scott reported on the latest details of the Council's website and Facebook page. It was acknowledged that while communication and engagement has improved significantly, technical development is on-going and further training for the Clerk is required.

- d) **Village commemorative sign.**

There were no additional reported details to those noted and updated at previous meetings.

**15/383 Community.**

- a) **To note the latest details of the Parish Special Constable Scheme and consider the options and resources available to this Council.**

The Council noted the latest details of this initiative which aims to enable greater input in local policing and considered the options and resources available.

**RESOLVED** that details of the Parish Special Constable Scheme be **NOTED** and that participation be **APPROVED** in principle by this Council.

- b) **To approve this Council's copy for the January 2016 issue of Saints Alive!**

Copy to be included in the January 2016 issue of Saints Alive! was considered (with particular reference to business transacted at the December meeting).

**RESOLVED** that a New Year message, details of a Community Speed Watch (CSW) training session along with information for residents wishing to comment on the NCC Draft Budget and Council Plan 2016/17 be included with the regular items in the January 2016 issue of Saints Alive!

- c) **To note issues of concern/interest raised by residents since 18 November 2015 and to consider the options and resources available to this Council.**

The Council noted concerns expressed by residents received since 18 November 2015 along with the current status of on-going items and considered the available options and resources to address these issues.

- (i) **Street lighting on Cranford Road.**  
A concern expressed by a resident regarding the floodlight outside All Saints Church was noted but it was acknowledged that is not the Council's responsibility.
- (ii) **Condition of signage along footpaths.**  
It was acknowledged that maintenance of footpaths is required (with particular reference to way markers which have fallen over and need to be replaced).
- d) **To receive and note reports of Addingtons organisations.**  
There were no reports of Addingtons organisations.

**15/384 Northamptonshire Action with Communities in Rural England (NACRE)/Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils (NCALC)/Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC).**

- a) **To note the latest details of NACRE/NCALC/SLCC conference and training courses.**  
Details were noted of these forthcoming events (with particular reference to compliance with new legislation and awareness of recommended good practice).  
**RESOLVED** that there were no additional conferences or training courses which are currently of sufficient relevance to this Council and/or to Great Addington.
- b) **To receive and note NACRE/NCALC/SLCC correspondence/reports/publications (for information only).**  
These documents were received and the current issues of relevance to this Council and/or to Great Addington were summarised by the Clerk (with particular reference to staff pay increases, a petition to grant parish councils a 'third party right' to appeal planning decisions along with external audit service procurement).

**15/385 Finance.**

- a) **To confirm this Council's precept for the year ended 31 March 2017.**  
The Council finalised the details of anticipated income, proposed expenditure and level of reserves within the draft budget for the year ended 31 March 2017 (with particular reference to long term planning for capital projects along with meeting its obligations as an employer).  
**RESOLVED** that it be **CONFIRMED** that this Council shall precept upon ENC to the sum of £8,614. Precept payments will be received in two instalments on the last working day of April and September 2016 (minute 15/372 refers).
- b) **To consider transferring this Council's current account to Unity Trust Bank and to approve payment of a deposit to be included with the application forms.**  
The Council considered transferring its current account to Unity Trust Bank because it provides the facility of dual authority for online banking arrangements which enables the Council's procedures to be in accordance with proper accounting practices. It was noted that monthly bank charges would be incurred which were not anticipated originally and the Clerk was instructed to undertake a cost comparison.  
**RESOLVED** to defer the transaction of this business to the next scheduled meeting (at the Chairman's discretion and on the grounds of procedural efficiency).
- c) **To receive and approve the monthly financial statements and bank reconciliation.**  
The Council received and scrutinised the latest accounting documents.  
**RESOLVED** that the Council's net bank balance of £13,371.24 on 16 December 2015 reconciles to its receipts and payments.
- d) **To consider grant applications and annual donations for the benefit of community, voluntary and charitable organisations.**  
The Council considered a written grant application submitted on behalf of Raunds Community Responders (Woodford Group).  
**RESOLVED** that a donation of £50 to Raunds Community Responders (Woodford Group) towards the purchase of an oximeter be proposed, seconded and with all members present in favour; **APPROVED** by this Council.
- e) **To approve payments in accordance with relevant legislation.**  
**RESOLVED** that cheques 100253-100258 at the total expenditure of £2861.43 be proposed, seconded and with all members present in favour; **APPROVED** by this Council for payment following confirmation that the proposed transactions have been budgeted accurately.
  - (i) **Payment of the Clerk's salary (October-December 2015).**  
100253 - £375.45 (Local Government Act 1972, s 112).
  - (ii) **Payment to HM Revenue & Customs for PAYE (October-December 2015).**  
100254 - £93.80 (Local Government Act 1972, s 112).
  - (iii) **Payment to E.ON Energy Solutions Ltd (Highway Lighting) for street lighting maintenance (October-December 2015).**  
100255 - £92.18 (Parish Councils Act 1957, s 3).

- (iv) **Donation to the Addingtons Playing Field Association.**  
100256 - £1,500.00 (Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976, s 19).
- (v) **Donation to Great Addington Memorial Hall Committee.**  
100257 - £750.00 (Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976, s 19).
- (vi) **Donation to the Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance.**  
100258 - £50.00 (Local Government Act 1972, s 137).

**15/386 To confirm any additional business to be included on the agenda of the next meeting.**

**RESOLVED** that with the exception of considering this Council's response to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) consultation regarding proposed changes to National Planning Policy there was no further business to that already transacted which is of sufficient relevance to this Council and/or to Great Addington to be included on the agenda of the next or other subsequent meeting.

**15/387 To confirm the date of the next meeting (scheduled to be held in the Memorial Hall, Woodford Road, Great Addington on Wednesday 20 January 2016 at 7:45 pm).**

**RESOLVED** that the next of this Council will be held in the Memorial Hall, Woodford Road, Great Addington on Wednesday 20 January 2016 at 7:45 pm.

*The Chairman closed the meeting at 9:40 pm.*

**Signed by Cllr N Palmer (Chairman) at the meeting held on Wednesday 20 January 2016.**

APPROVED