

GREAT ADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 20 January 2016

Present at the meeting.

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

In attendance: Mrs H Hoier (Clerk).

16/388 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 H Mayes declared an interest in 15/00031/ENF appeal due to the proximity of the site to a close family member. Cllr M Scott declared an interest in external and internal audit procurement because of his appointment as a director of Northants CALC and in the interests of transparency, the Clerk also disclosed a professional association (agenda items 16/391 a) and 16/397 c) refer).

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.

16/389 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16 December 2015.

RESOLVED that these minutes be **CONFIRMED** by this Council as being a correct record of the meeting held on Wednesday 16 December 2015 and signed by the Chairman.

16/390 Minor items.

a) To receive and note the Chairman's announcements (for information only).

The Chairman welcomed Cllr E Palmer to her first meeting as a member of the Council and congratulated Cllr H Rainbow on the birth of her baby.

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 effective processing of reported crime figures along with the postponement of the meeting with a representative of ENC Planning Services) and Councillors and the Clerk summarised any information received/action taken since 16 December 2015.

16/391 East Northamptonshire Council (ENC).

a) To consider this Council's response to 15/00031/ENF appeal to the Planning Inspectorate in respect of 13/00154/PPC enforcement notice for an alleged breach of planning control at Carters Travel, Rectory Farm, Cranford Road, Great Addington.

The Council considered its response to this appeal regarding alleged breaches of 06/00705/FUL permission conditions (with particular reference to the development control of this site along with the Council's previous comments/correspondence).

RESOLVED that this Council will take no action regarding 15/00031/ENF appeal and 13/00154/PPC enforcement notice.

b) 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.

c) 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's estimated tax base for 2016/17 along with advice when switching energy suppliers).

16/392 Northamptonshire County Council (NCC).

- a) **To consider this Council's response to the NCC Draft Northamptonshire Parking Standards Document for Consultation.**

The Council considered its response to this consultation regarding parking standards to be used when accessing developments. It was acknowledged that Great Addington residents are better placed to put forward their own views on the issues which affect them personally.

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

- b) **To consider this Council's response to the NCC Minerals and Waste Local Plan Update - Draft Plan for Consultation.**

The Council considered its response to this consultation regarding NCC's minerals and waste allocations and designations. It was acknowledged that Great Addington residents are better placed to put forward their own views on the issues which affect them personally.

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

- c) **To consider this Council's response to the NCC Northamptonshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy 2016-2020 (Draft) - Supporting Northamptonshire to Flourish Consultation.**

The Council considered its response to this consultation regarding prioritising services within NCC's strategy of partnership working to improve the health and wellbeing of Northamptonshire residents. 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.

- d) **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 seasonal health information).

16/393 Constituency for Corby and East Northamptonshire.

- a) **To consider this Council's response to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) Consultation on Proposed Changes to National Planning Policy.**

The Council considered its response to this consultation regarding proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework to support the delivery of new housing, including low cost homes for first time buyers. It was acknowledged that Great Addington residents are better placed to put forward their own views on the issues which affect them personally.

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

- b) **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 Mr Pursglove MP's activities in Westminster and his constituency including weekly surgeries).

16/394 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.**

Cllr N Palmer reported that there has been no response from E.ON regarding quoting for street lighting replacement and that Salix Finance Ltd provides a whole package to the public sector to improve their street lighting energy efficiency and reduce their carbon emissions, including 100% interest-free capital.

- b) **Traffic calming schemes.**

Cllr A Fischelis reported that there has been no response from Ms S Barnwell (NCC Community Liaison Officer) regarding extending the 30 mph limit on Ringstead Road and that Mrs S Davies (ENC External Funding Manager) is assisting with sourcing funding.

- c) **Communication and engagement.**
There were no additional reported details to those noted and updated at previous meetings.
- d) **Village commemorative sign.**
Cllr A Fischelis reported that he has investigated the various signs which could be purchased with the funds raised to date.
- e) **Clerk's appraisal and pension entitlement.**
The Clerk reported that Cllr C May has prepared documents and made recommendations regarding the Clerk's appraisal and it was acknowledged that these should be considered at the March meeting.

16/395 Community.

- a) **To approve this Council's copy for the February 2016 issue of Saints Alive!**
Copy to be included in the February 2016 issue of Saints Alive! was considered (with particular reference to business transacted at the January meeting).
RESOLVED that confirmation of the precept for 2016/17, a further reminder to residents to be considerate to neighbours when using bonfires for garden/household waste disposal, appeals for volunteers to assist with Community Speed Watch 2016 along with information for residents wishing to comment on NCC consultations be included with the regular items in the February 2016 issue of Saints Alive!
- b) **To note issues of concern/interest raised by residents since 16 December 2015 and to consider the options and resources available to this Council.**
A suggestion that the bridleway leading to the Stanwick Lakes cycle path should have a hard surface to improve cyclists' access was noted by the Council but it was acknowledged that this is the responsibility of NCC.
- c) **To receive and note reports of Addingtons organisations. Great Addington Memorial Hall Committee (GAMHC).**
On behalf of GAMHC, the Clerk reported to the Council on the latest details of GAMHC's bookings, fundraising events and enhancements (with particular reference to a Beetle Drive held on Saturday 16 January 2016).

16/396 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 the Local Government Finance Settlement and confirmation that referendum principles will not apply to local precepting authorities in 2016/17).

16/397 Finance.

- a) **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 triple authority for online banking arrangements which enables the Council's procedures to be in accordance with proper accounting practices. It was acknowledged that while monthly bank charges were not anticipated originally, Unity Trust Bank compares favourably with other banks regarding triple authority transactions.
RESOLVED that the transfer of this Council's current account to Unity Trust Bank be proposed, seconded and with all members present in favour; **CONFIRMED** and that cheque 100263 for a £500.00 deposit be **APPROVED** (Local Government Act 1972, s111).
- b) **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 £13,392.01 on 20 January 2016 reconciles to its receipts and payments.

- c) **To consider the options and resources available to this Council regarding external audit procurement including opting-in to the Sector Led Body arrangements.**
The Council considered the available options and resources regarding its legal obligation to appoint its own external auditor from the financial year ended 31 March 2018 or be opted-in to the Sector Led Body arrangements. It was acknowledged that while the Council does not currently use NCALC's Internal Audit Service, that this should be considered in the future.
RESOLVED that from the year ended 31 March 2018 this Council will remain opted-in to the Sector Led Body arrangements for the procurement of external audit.
- d) **To approve payments in accordance with relevant legislation.**
RESOLVED that cheques 100260-100263 at the total expenditure of £479.23 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 to E.ON for street lighting energy (October-December 2015).**
100260 - £340.23 (Parish Councils Act 1957, s 3).
 - (ii) **Payment to the Information Commissioner for the data controller notification fee (2015/16).**
100261 - £35.00 (Data Protection Act 1998, s 18).
 - (iii) **Payment to JME Garden Services Ltd for All Saints Church mowing (December 2015).**
100262 - £54.00 (Local Government Act 1972, s 215).
 - (iv) **Donation to Raunds Community Responders (Woodford Group) towards the purchase of an oximeter.**
100263 - £50.00 (Local Government Act 1972, s 137).

16/398 To confirm any additional business to be included on the agenda of the next meeting.

RESOLVED that 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.

16/399 To confirm the date of the next meeting (scheduled to be held in the Memorial Hall, Woodford Road, Great Addington on Wednesday 17 February 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 17 February 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 17 February 2016.