

# LITTLE ADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held at Saint Mary the Virgin Church, High Street, Little Addington on Tuesday 16 April 2024 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Councillors: L Brown (Chair), S Beckett, T Brown, J Cocks, M Keech, J Powell, A Sheppard

**In attendance:** Claire Waring (clerk)

23/540	<b>To receive and approve apologies for absence (reasons to be advised).</b> None.						
23/541	<b>Public participation session.</b> None present.						
23/542	<b>To receive declarations of interest under the Council’s Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda.</b> None.						
23/543	<b>To receive and approve for signature minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19 March 2024.</b> Acceptance was proposed by Cllr T Brown and seconded by Cllr A Sheppard. Approved and signed by the Chairman.						
23/544	<b>To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda, for report only.</b> None.						
23/545	<b>To formally co-opt Sophie Beckett as councillor.</b> Cllr Beckett signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. This was countersigned by the Clerk. She was welcomed to the Council.						
23/546	<b>To report on the Internal Control Councillor Checklist.</b> Cllr L Brown confirmed that everything was in order.						
23/547	<b>To consider the updated complaints procedure from NCALC.</b> This was deferred to the next meeting. It was noted that if accepted, the Council would need to appoint an Internal Controls Councillor						
23/548	<b>To receive and approve the balance of account/bank reconciliation for current and MM accounts.</b> Proposed by Cllr Sheppard, seconded by Cllr T Brown. Approved and signed by the Chairman. It was noted that there was £4034.84 outstanding on the PWLB loan as at 31 March 2024.						
23/549	<b>To examine and approve the Bank Statements.</b> Proposed by Cllr Sheppard, seconded by Cllr Cocks. Approved and signed by the Chairman.						
23/550	<b>To undertake a check of expenditure against the budget.</b> The report was noted..						
23/551	<b>To approve changes to the asset register.</b> The King’s portrait had been received and added to the asset register. The church would be asked if they would like to display it. If not it would be kept at the Clerk’s house.						
23/552	<b>To note the following receipts.</b>						
	Date	Payer	Description	Amount (inc VAT)			
	94.23/24	IC Waring	Overpayment refund	£422.00			
23/553	<b>To approve and authorise payments of the following invoices.</b>						
	Invoice reference	Payment method.	Payee	Item	Total	Amount net of VAT	Power to Make Payment

	01.24/25	CHG	HSBC	Current account	£8.00	£8.00	LGA 1972 S111
	Acceptance was proposed by Cllr Beckett, seconded by Cllr Keech and approved.						
<b>23/554</b>	<b>To report on the Clerk's review.</b> This was arranged for 29 April. It will be conducted by Cllrs T Brown and Keech. Any comments to be sent to Cllr L Brown by 25 April.						
<b>23/555</b>	<b>To consider renewal of the Council insurance.</b> The Clerk reported that she had not yet received a quotation from Gallagher. Zurich would only give a quote a month in advance of the renewal date of 1 June. A quote would also be requested from Clear Councils Insurance. These will be considered at the next meeting.						
<b>23/556</b>	<b>To consider the purchase of a mobile phone for the Clerk.</b> It was agreed that this was required. Cllr Keech offered to donate one that she is replacing. It will only require basic services and would be set up as Pay-As-You-Go.						
<b>23/557</b>	<b>To review the lease of the substation on Church Lane.</b> Wilson Browne Ltd had advised that National Grid (NGED) were only prepared to pay part of the legal costs. The solicitor is ascertaining what this amounts to. The original correspondence from NGED stated that 'they would be able to cover your reasonable legal costs' which had been taken as all the costs. This will be relayed to the solicitor. NGED has advised that the property is unregistered and the solicitor has asked for the title deeds. With the additional work involved, his fees would increase.						
<b>23/558</b>	<b>To review the electricity supplier for the village lighting.</b> Clear Utility Systems has provided a quotation for transfer to Yu Energy. This would save around £555 per annum at current prices. It was proposed by Cllr Beckett and seconded by Cllr Powell that the quote be accepted. Agreed.						
<b>23/559</b>	<b>To consider and resolve the council's response to planning applications listed below plus any other planning applications advised by North. Northamptonshire Council and available on its website between the circulation of this agenda and the meeting to which it pertains.</b> <i>(a) Kettering Energy Park</i> A meeting agenda had been received from Connect PA which had stated that the papers were available on its website: <u><a href="#">Documents – Kettering Energy Park</a></u> . A public consultation is scheduled at Finedon Community Centre on Saturday 20 April, 10.30-1.30. Cllrs Cocks and T Brown will attend.						
<b>23/560</b>	<b>To note planning decisions made by NNC.</b> None. It was noted that construction work was being undertaken around the village. The Council was not aware of notification of the works and would check planning documents with NNC.						
<b>23/561</b>	<b>To report on the situation with the chicanes on Irthlingborough Road.</b> Graeme Kane had responded with the information that NNC is in touch with the developer and he believes they are getting closer to a resolution. Tom Pursglove would be informed of the lack of progress.						
<b>23/562</b>	<b>To report on the acquisition of VAR signs.</b> In hand.						
<b>23/563</b>	<b>To note any changes to the electoral roll.</b> 5 deletions, 1 creation. Total number of electors = 267.						
<b>23/564</b>	<b>To receive a report from LA Bloomers.</b> A planter on the Green had been planted with donations from Ken Evans. Arrangements for the fund-raising Spring Fair on Sunday 21 April were in hand. Cllrs Keech, Sheppard and T Brown would oversee the road closures on the Green.						
<b>23/565</b>	<b>To receive an update from Cllr Cocks on works to the war memorial.</b> Cllr Cocks reported that the World War II memorial was in poor shape. It had been set in concrete, making its repositioning difficult. Midland Conservation had removed it to their						

	premises for restoration. They had also taken sample flagstones for matching. Work will start on 22 April. Cllr Cocks will enquire about renovating the lettering on the main memorial. Since it was cleaned, algae have been growing on the memorial. Cllr Cocks will ask advice about controlling this.
<b>23/566</b>	<b>To receive a report from Cllr Powell on the website and email accounts. Social media to be reviewed when the website is completed.</b> There were problems with some of the new email addresses which will be addressed by Cllrs Powell and Beckett.
<b>23/567</b>	<b>To receive a report on provision of broadband in the village.</b> A response from Openreach had been received. The situation has been referred to a Senior Fibre Planning Officer who will respond by 19 April. The pole at Rose Cottages has been declared unsafe and cannot be used for Full Fibre. Paint marks had been put down indicating the conduits in the areas not currently connected.
<b>23/568</b>	<b>To consider provision of training on the use of the defibrillator.</b> This has been arranged for 18 May 2024 in the church, 10.00-12.00. Mrs Carol Smith will lead the training, supported by Andy and Christine Hotchin from the village. All villagers will be invited to attend.
<b>23/569</b>	<b>To receive an update on the electricity community supply on the Green.</b> Cllr L Brown reported that she was still awaiting a response.
<b>23/570</b>	<b>To review the car parking situation around the village, noting areas such as the village green and Amen Place and look at options to make safer and to resolve what actions, if any, are to be taken.</b> The application for a business account with West End DIY had been approved. Cllr Powell will purchase the stones.
<b>23/571</b>	<b>To consider the provision of a plaque to mark the trees planted as part of the Queen's canopy.</b> Cllr L Brown will continue to chase these.
<b>23/572</b>	<b>To receive a report on removal of signage on Burrows Farm Lane.</b> There has been no update from NNC Highways and Waste.
<b>23/573</b>	<b>To receive a report from the Village Neighbourhood Plan group.</b> Cllr Cocks is awaiting a response to the application for designated neighbourhood status. Cllrs L Brown and Sheppard will draw up terms of reference. Further progress is anticipated when new funding becomes available at the end of April.
<b>23/574</b>	<b>To receive a report from the LA/GA villages liaison group.</b> Cllr Cocks reported that the ComMunity Bus visit to Rushden Lakes on 21 March had been cancelled because of lack of response. A visit to a garden centre is being considered. The D-Day celebrations have been finalised, starting at 6.00 pm. Fish and chips will be available only on pre-paid order. Avelia will sing and play for two 45-minute sessions, the last just before the beacon lighting at 9.15 pm. A flier is to be posted round both villages. Villagers can bring their own refreshments. Some hay bales will be available for seating. An outing is planned to Huntingdon Beer Festival Race Day on 23 November. Coach transport is being investigated. A men's games night at the Hare and Hounds and a ladies' summer meal at the Bell are planned for 6 September. It was agreed that there would be a joint villages litter pick on 5 October.
<b>23/575</b>	<b>To consider designating The Bell as an Asset of Community Value.</b> This is in progress and will be submitted when it is complete..
<b>23/576</b>	<b>To receive any updates from the Clerk.</b> The Clerk had not joined the NCALC Lunchtime Lowdown on year-end procedures as she had received help from an online source and from Helen Hoier.

	<p>The invoice for hire of the church had been received together with a reminder that in 2021 the Council had agreed to make an (unspecified) contribution to the church floodlights. This was agreed with six in favour and one abstention.</p> <p>The Clerk reported her overtime hours for December 2023-March 2024. It was agreed to consider an increase in hours in the budget for 2025-26.</p>
<b>23/577</b>	<p><b>To consider arrangements for the 2024-25 Annual Parish Meeting to involve more of the villagers.</b></p> <p>It was noted that a report from LA Bloomers would be included on the agenda. Kevin Bingley had agreed to give a presentation about the situation regarding the proposed Kettering Energy Park after the formal meeting.</p>
<b>23/578</b>	<p><b>To report on the preparation of an information leaflet for new residents of the village.</b></p> <p>This is in hand</p>
<b>23/579</b>	<p><b>To receive an update from Cllr Maxwell on the business at NNC.</b></p> <p>None received. Cllr Maxwell had accepted the invitation to the Annual Parish Meeting.</p>
<b>23/580</b>	<p><b>To decide on items to be included in the next issue of Saints Alive (April).</b></p> <p>Annual Parish Meeting Cllr Beckett introduction. D-Day Joint Villages breakfast brunch at The Bell on 11 May, 10.00-13.00. £10 per head. Drinks extra. Contact The Bell direct on 01933 651700. Next PC meeting.</p>
<b>23/581</b>	<p><b>To identify any future additional agenda items for the meeting on 21 May.</b></p> <p>Election of the Chair. Audit reports. Acceptance of Council policies for the current year. <b>Any further items to be notified to the Clerk by Wednesday 27 March.</b></p>
<b>23/582</b>	<p><b>To consider changing the date of the meeting in June.</b></p> <p>It was agreed to move the meeting on Monday 24 June. Cllrs L and T Brown gave their apologies. Cllr Sheppard will chair the meeting.</p>
<b>23/583</b>	<p><b>To close the meeting.</b></p> <p>The meeting closed at 21.22.</p>

**Signed:**

**Dated:**