

Norton Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting

held on Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 7:00pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: Kim Russell (Chairman), David Birtles, Carole Child, Steph Goulden, Jeff Paybody, Chris Thomas

In attendance: Emma Fontaine (Clerk/RFO), Cllr David James (WNC) and four members of the Public

14.11.674	The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
14.11.675	There were no requests for dispensation from members of the Council.
14.11.676	There were no declarations of interest.
14.11.677	<p>Public Open Forum</p> <p>A resident spoke to thank the Parish Council for their work on refurbishing the Village Hall, specifically in relation to the recent works.</p> <p>Cllr James updated on WNC matters including the Daventry district plans for the future.</p> <p>Discussion regarding item 14.11.688 (planning application DA/2020/0100) was moved to this agenda item, so members of the community could speak, and they could then listen to Councillor discussion and the formulation of feedback to the planning application.</p> <p>The Parish Council RESOLVED to provide the following feedback to the Planning Officer:</p> <p><i>Norton Parish Council recommends that conditions should be attached to any planning permission that may be granted. That condition is that the traffic calming contained within the Local Plan for Norton be completed <u>before</u> implementation of any works on the B4036 or any works on the site.</i></p> <p><i>We cannot find any survey on the impact on traffic upon Norton village therefore we request a survey is done and that any survey or data upon which you base your decision is up to date and no longer than 12 months old. We would like an up to date VECTOS surveys to predict the impact of traffic movement before, during and after the development.</i></p> <p><i>Norton was severely impacted by the work on the A5/A45 upgrades in approximately 2018/19 and was used as a 'rat run' between Daventry, Northampton and Milton Keynes. Please note the impact upon the village that has been seen previously from major works such as your proposals.</i></p>
14.11.678	Apologies were received from Cllr Statham.
14.11.679	It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10 th October 2023 as a true and accurate record of the matters discussed.
14.11.680	<p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The payments listed in Addendum A were reviewed and approved.• The bank balance of the current account as at 31.10.2023 was £22,989.70. The balance of the reserves account as at 31.10.2023 was £14,346.57.• The budget for 2024/25 was confirmed as £21,372.• The precept for 2024/25 was confirmed as £19,000 which is an increase of 2.70% on the previous year.

14.11.681	<p>Jack's Patch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Child expressed her concern about Jack's Patch and that considerable maintenance will soon be required. Cllr Thomas will again undertake some urgent maintenance for safety. It was resolved to order more bark from Dennetts. Cllr Thomas will spread it in Jack's Patch so that it doesn't need to be closed. ACTION: Cllrs Russell and Thomas. • No residents have taken up the offer of having a goal post, so the money will instead be put toward the bark top up.
14.11.682	<p>Village Hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Birtles will be assisting the resident next to the Village Hall to undertake some maintenance works relating to damp, which is affecting one side of the Hall. • The roof slate work is complete and heating will be installed at the end of the week. It will be infared and wifi enabled. Payment to the contractor will be made in two tranches, one at the end of November (approved this meeting) and one at the end of December. • The windows were cleaned inside and out by Cllr Goulden. • We will start looking for a used kitchen on eBay/Marketplace in January. • Cllr Russell will undertake a test to see how much electricity might be used with a typical Hall rental. ACTION: Cllr Russell. • The Clerk confirmed she had responded to MP Chris Heaton-Harris with a summary of the resolution of the electricity issue, highlighting areas of business practice that are cause for concern with the energy companies. • A working party of Parish Councillors will be held at the weekend to clean and tidy the Hall post refurbishment works. • The grand opening will take place on 2nd December with Norton Kitchen in attendance, as well as some craft stalls.
14.11.683	There was no update on Gouldens View this meeting.
14.11.684	<p>Speed Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Birtles will be the speed sign contact for the Electrician. The Clerk will provide him with contact details. ACTION: Cllr Birtles and Clerk. • The 20mph scheme will be further reviewed in January. • Cllr Birtles will ask the Highways Liaison Officer (meeting scheduled for next week) if Highways would repair the gateway sign entrance to the village, which is broken.
14.11.685	The work has been completed and the payment was approved. It was RESOLVED to ensure like for like quotes for work are received in future.
14.11.686	It was RESOLVED to have an ad hoc maintenance plan in place with Eon, not the annual maintenance plan. It was RESOLVED to get the Gouldens View light repaired now we have been able to find a contractor. ACTION: Clerk.
14.11.687	Councillor roles and responsibilities was deferred to the January meeting. ACTION: Clerk.
14.11.688	This item (planning application DA/2020/0100) was moved to the Public Open Forum so residents could hear the discussion. Aside from the formal response provided, it was RESOLVED to ask the Developers to attend a future Parish Council meeting.
14.11.689	The meeting closed at 8.30pm. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 9th January 2024 in the Village Hall.