

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on the 14 May 2019
at the Village Hall Great Houghton (subject to approval at next meeting)**

Annual Business

714/19. Election of Chairman and declaration of acceptance of office	Cllr Thomas Bowler was re-elected as chairman for the ensuing year
715/19. Election of Vice Chairman	Cllr Rod Jeakings was re-elected as chairman for the ensuing year
716/19. To receive and approve Apologies for absence	Cllr Jeakings had offered apologies but attended part way through meeting
717/19. To approve minutes of previous meeting held on Tuesday 9 April 2019	The minutes of the previous meeting were APPROVED
718/19. To receive declarations of interest related to the business on the agenda. (<i>Members are reminded that the disclosure of a Disclosable Pecuniary interest will require that the member withdraws from the meeting room during the transaction of that item of business</i>)	There were no declarations of interests from councillors present
719/19. Public Participation Section <i>(Members of the public are invited to address the council. limited to 15 minutes maximum with individual contributions limited to 3 minutes)</i>	There were no members of the public present
720/19 To Approve/re-adopt following policies (previously circulated):	With the exception of the Council Action Plan all other policies were APPROVED .
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-adopt Standing Orders • Approve Council Action Plan • Re-adopt Declaration of Acceptance of Office • Re-adopt Data Control Policy • Re-adopt Financial Regulations • Re-adopt Complaints Procedure • Re-adopt Equal Opportunities Policy • Re-adopt Training Policy • Re-adopt Councillors apologies for absence • Re-adopt Freedom of Information Transparency Re-adopt Model Publication Scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-adopt Privacy Notice • Re-adopt Records retention policy • Re-adopt Risk Management Policy and Statement • Re-adopt Governance Risk-Assessment Policy • Approve Internal Control Procedure • Re-adopt Travel Allowance Policy • Re-adopt Media Policy Re-adopt H&S Policy • Re-adopt Website Management policy • Re-adopt Code of Conduct

721/19. To assign Councillor Responsibilities and Areas	All these existing responsibilities and areas were APPROVED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAG: Cllr Shaw – Cllr Garner – N Declerck – N Perkins • DSAG: Cllr Jeakings – Cllr Shaw – N Declerck – N Perkins • ICM: Cllr Jeakings • GHPFA: Cllr Jeakings – Cllr Garner 	

Ordinary Business

722/19 Reports	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To receive report from County Councillor Representative a) To receive report from Borough Councillor Representative b) To receive reports from Police / Neighbourhood Warden c) To receive report from Great Houghton Playing Fields Association 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) NCC Cllr Bowen Reported on NCC/Unitary developments (see appendix) b) NBC Cllr Flavell advised willing to assist with real time bus stop. Will enquire about 50p charge going into bus station. c) Police report presented at Parish meeting. Warden reported fly-tipping incident dealt with d) Delegate attended GHPFA Trustee training seminar most informative

<p>723/19 To receive and adopt the Finance & Administration Report</p> <p>A) To receive Receipts and Payment Accounts end of April 2019</p> <p>b) Confirm Payments to be authorised</p> <p>c) To consider and approve part 3 AGAR Page 3: Certificate of Exemption Section 1: Annual Governance Statement Section 2: Accounting Statements 2017/2018 Page 4: To receive and note the Internal Audit Report</p> <p>d) To receive report on Clerks annual appraisal and revised contract</p> <p>e) Consider and determine renewal of Insurance</p> <p>f) To receive Internal Control Report March 2019</p>	<p>a) Accounts to end April 2019 APPROVED</p> <p>b) Following payments were AUTHORISED</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="710 280 1356 705"> <tr> <td>14 Parish Clerk</td> <td>100591</td> <td>Salary</td> <td>314.90</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 HMRC</td> <td>100592</td> <td>PAYE</td> <td>71.80</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 Key Conveyancing</td> <td>100593</td> <td>Land Registration</td> <td>900.00</td> <td>105.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 Curtis Website Design</td> <td>100594</td> <td>online survey</td> <td>60.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 NCALC</td> <td>100595</td> <td>Membership</td> <td>547.51</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 AC Print</td> <td>100596</td> <td>Parish News</td> <td>80.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 Parish Clerk</td> <td>100597</td> <td>Expenses</td> <td>305.93</td> <td>18.62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 CTL Property</td> <td>100598</td> <td>Maintenance</td> <td>140.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>16 Came & Company</td> <td>100599</td> <td>Insurance</td> <td>344.74</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"></td> <td>2764.88</td> <td>123.62</td> </tr> </table> <p>c) AGAR page 3 certificate of exemption APPROVED.- Section 1 Annual Governance Statement APPROVED – Section 2 Accounting Statement APPROVED. – Page 4 the Internal Audit Report and actions taken were NOTED</p> <p>d) The chair advised the meeting of the outcome of the Clerks Annual Appraisal which was noted and APPROVED.</p> <p>e) The quotations for renewal of insurance were considered and it was RESOLVED to purchase the AXA Inspire policy recommended by Came & Company brokers, subject to increase in cover for war memorial to £10000</p> <p>f) The internal control report for March 2019 was received and NOTED. The meeting was referred to the amended report form that will help safeguard against failure to renew insurance policy.</p>	14 Parish Clerk	100591	Salary	314.90		14 HMRC	100592	PAYE	71.80		14 Key Conveyancing	100593	Land Registration	900.00	105.00	14 Curtis Website Design	100594	online survey	60.00		14 NCALC	100595	Membership	547.51		14 AC Print	100596	Parish News	80.00		14 Parish Clerk	100597	Expenses	305.93	18.62	14 CTL Property	100598	Maintenance	140.00		16 Came & Company	100599	Insurance	344.74					2764.88	123.62
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<p>724/19 To receive the Clerk's report</p> <p>a) Councillor Vacancies – update from councillors on contacts</p> <p>b) Update on new IT equipment</p>	<p>a) Councillors still seeking volunteers. Advert to be refreshed.</p> <p>b) Meeting advised new equipment received and arrangements made for set up</p>																																																		
<p>725/19 To receive and consider monthly planning applications (as previously circulated and accessible at www.greathoughton.org.uk)</p> <p>a) N/2019/0519 – 22 Atterbury Way – Single storey extension and first floor pitched roof extension</p> <p>b) Northampton Local Plan part 2 – LAA1098</p> <p>c) Receive report from PAG</p> <p>d) Receive report from DSAG – Village survey update</p>	<p>a) Council to OBJECT on grounds of overlooking/loss of privacy to neighbours</p> <p>b) Response to be determined by next meeting to comply with consultation period</p> <p>c) No report from PAG</p> <p>d) No report from DSAG. Meeting advised of need to comply with new planning policies</p>																																																		
<p>726/19 To receive report on village maintenance matters</p> <p>a) To receive update on site visit – The Green – Parking Paget Close</p>	<p>The meeting was referred to response from Highway site visit. ACTION Clerk to write to residents seeking their support and cooperation.</p>																																																		
<p>727/19 To consider matters relating to GHPFA</p> <p>a) Update on Renewal of Lease and Land registration</p>	<p>a) The meeting was referred to enquiry from Land Registry. ACTION Clerk to respond to conveyer and chase up solicitors.</p>																																																		

b) To determine purchase of Playground Equipment	b) Purchase of equipment To be deferred to next meeting
728/19 To receive updated report on traffic management issues a) To receive update on site visit - Paget Close Parking – The Green chain-link fence b) Update on GHV signs c) Update Bus Stop Bedford Road d) To consider and determine Ability Community Transport Service	a) Dealt with above (minute 726/19) b) HGV signs to be erected along with 'property of' stickers. c) Meeting referred to response received from NBC awaiting cost information d) It was RESOLVED that the council go ahead and authorise commencement of the service for the one off £500 contribution from council
729/19 Alteration to retaining wall – High Street	The meeting was advised of discussions had recently with resident. ACTION Clerk to write to Highways and planning regarding removal of retaining wall and to write to resident advising enquiries ongoing.
730/19 To consider proposal from resident for 'Village Sale'	To be referred to GHPFA for possible fund-raising opportunity on field or in hall.
731/19 To consider the monthly public messages	Make sure you have your say regarding the 800 housing development proposal at The Green!

Meeting closed 9.30pm

Signature.....

Dated.....

Appendix

NCC Councillor Bowen Report

Following on from my full report at Xmas, the focus continues to be very much on the finances, but now with a very clear direction of where funds will be focussed for the short, medium and long term.

Figures recently show that Northamptonshire County Council will be underspent in 2018/2019 – down from a projected overspend at one point this last year of £64.4m.

The latest finance monitoring shows that the current forecast year-end position is an underspend of £0.1m – an improvement on the £0.9m overspend position reported last month. The current financial position is regarded as being such a move in the right direction that the Commissioners, who are currently overseeing the running of the authority, recommended that the Section 114 Notice be removed

HOWEVER, we still need to be cautious, as although this is exceptionally positive, it does not mean that the council has made a full recovery. Our financial position remains fragile.

As such, the Council will maintain its ROBUST spending controls, including the continuation of the spending control panels, to ensure all spending is scrutinised to demonstrate best value in fulfilling the Council's objectives.

The agreed budget targets investment into adults' facilities and children's homes, to provide better support for some of the county's most vulnerable people, while at the same time drive more cost-effective ways of delivering services.

Roads and infrastructure are another key focus.

A 4.99% COUNCIL TAX increase (and we did not take this decision lightly) will retain the Council's position as still having one of the lowest tax rates in the country. It will mean a rise of between 75p and £1 a week, while providing increased financial sustainability for the new unitary councils.

For the last year it has become customary for the words "Northamptonshire County Council" to be associated with "CRISIS", but this troubled time for NCC, is now paving a way to a more optimistic future.

The agreed budget for next year which balances, and has at its heart a commitment to transform services to make them more cost-effective, rather than simply cutting them and this responds directly to the concerns people raised with us through the recent consultation period.

The budget includes investment in Adult Social Care centres and homes to provide new accommodation and services for older people, those with learning disabilities and mental health requirements to increase capacity and therefore reduce the reliance on costly external placements. As you may know this is of particular interest to me and I continue to input into this area.

The budget also signals investment in Children's Services to build in-house provision including increasing occupancy at the council's own residential homes to reduce the cost of using external service providers.

Unitary plans are well under way which will see Daventry, South Northants and the Borough merge together under one operating umbrella. Councillors in their division will be responsible for all areas of Council business covering both County and District duties.

Today at Cabinet Theresa Grant confirmed that the Secretary of state has given his seal of approval so we are good to go!

There will be a TRANSITION period before going solo Unitary. So Unitary elections next May 2020 and fully operational April after

As the newly elected Chairman of our South Northants association, I will be arranging selections and I would urge anyone interested in being part of this Unitary, to please come forward. We need a new fresh input from residents who have possibly not been involved before.

Roxhill / Ashfield land Rail Freight applications continue to cause us all much concern; not least with Traffic congestion and environmental pollution and we await the decision by the Government on these proposals.

Thank you to your very diligent Parish Councillors.