



Illustration by Rosemary Englewood

Ecton Parish Council

Minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting of Ecton Parish Council** held on **Tuesday 25th January 2022** at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr D Dicks (Chair), Cllr A McCarter, Cllr N Bond, Cllr J Fernley, Cllr S Grisewood, Cllr I Whittaker and Cllr G Littlewood

Also Present: Mrs S Wong (Clerk) and NNC Cllr C Hallam

Item No	
837/2022	<p>To Receive Apologies Apologies were received from Cllr P Godby (Isolating) and NNC Cllr S Brown (also isolating).</p>
838/2022	<p>To invite declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda Declarations of interest were received by the Chair Cllr D Dicks relating to any matters relating to the Strategic Plan Spatial Options Consultation due to owing one of the three identified plots of land in Ecton.</p>
839/2022	<p>To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 23rd November 2021 and the Extra Ordinary meeting held on the 8th December 2021 It was RESOLVED the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Parish Council held on the 23rd November 2021 and the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on the 8th December, having been previously circulated, were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair Cllr Dicks.</p>
840/2022	<p>Parish Council Vacancies - Discuss any applications and co-option on to the Parish Council The Parish Council has one current vacancy for the position of Parish Councillor. No new applications have been received.</p>
841/2022	<p>To receive a report from Unitary Councillors NNC Cllr Hallam reported NNC is still running within its plan. Contracts are still be negotiated. The Norse contract will be going inhouse from April. Norse staff are be “Tupped” across. With regards to the Strategic Plan Spatial Options Consultation. It appears that WNC potentially wanted to allocate land within the NNC boundary. No decision will be made by WNC on any land within NNC, only NNC can make a decision. During this process the NN’s Plan and Joint Care Strategy also need to be considered. Lastly the Ecton neighbourhood Plan will also carry some weight with the decision making at NNC.</p>
842/2022	<p>To note any Matters Arising from the previous minutes not covered by items on the agenda. Local resident Brian Beck expressed an interest recently to pay to install a Winawood Sandwich 3-Seater (recycled plastic) bench in the play park in memory of his late wife. The benches have been out of stock for several months now. It was RESOLVED the Clerk could pay £20 to reserve a bench for the next</p>

	supplier delivery. All were in agreement.
843/2022	<p>Financial matters</p> <p>a Review Financial Statement as at 25/01/22 and propose payments and sign cheques RESOLVED to approve payments to be made in January 2022 (Appendix A). The Clerk reported the Bank Balances to date as reconciled to the bank statement were as follows: Current Account £50.00 Reserves Account £26,894.78 = Bank totals of £26,944.78. Less payments to be made of £1,230.98 = £25,467.80 This is broken down into £3,879.73 David Cross funds, -£810.76 Playing Field Funds and £22,398.83 Parish Council Funds.</p> <p>Income received since 23rd November 2021 - Bank Interest £0.48. Financial reports were received for information.</p> <p>It was noted the 3rd quarterly internal financial inspection was carried out by Cllr McCarter on the 11th January 2022 all booking keeping and financial recording practices were found to be correct and in order.</p>
844/2022	<p>Discuss any correspondence received</p> <p>a. To engage with the Northants CALC Asset Mapping Project (AMP) and to appoint an AMP Working Group comprising the Clerk and 2 Councillors. It was RESOLVED to form a working group comprising of the Clerk, Cllr I Whittaker and Cllr A McCarter to log all community assets and services owned / provided by West Northants Unitary Council and Collingtree Parish Council as requested by NCALC. The Clerk will attend a Zoom training session on the 9th February 2022 first. A government grant of £236.90 will be paid by NCALC to CPC for completing the project.</p> <p>b. Discuss and agree whether to hold any events for the Queens Jubilee It was RESOLVED to Cllr A McCarter would represent the Parish Council on a Jubilee Working Party. Cllr McCarter will attend the first group meeting shortly and report back to the Parish Council. Options will be explored for grants and the PC will consider any applications for financial assistance / grant funding from the Jubilee Working Party.</p>
845/2022	<p>Village Services</p> <p>a Receive any updates on the Playing Field including the Annual Inspection Report The Annual Health and Safety Inspection of the Play Equipment has been received a few items have been flagged for some small remedial works. The twister needs a baring fitting. A post is loose on the climbing frame and there is a crack in the swing. Action: Clerk to contact Reids Playgrounds to take a look and quote for the works. All were in agreement.</p> <p>b Discuss any Highways matters It was noted that the pot holes in West Street were inspected earlier today by Highways. The path leading towards Sywell has had its hedges cut back and the path has been cleared. It is now wide enough to allow a buggy to get through. The path is clear up to the lodges in Sywell Lane.</p> <p>It was noted that footpath along the A4500 up to Earls Barton needs clearing and that the wooden bridge by Whiston Lock is dangerous to walk on. As it is very slippery due to mud on the bridge. Action: The Clerk is to contact Earls Barton Parish Council to request the footpath and bridge are reported asap.</p> <p>It was felt that the drain issue in the village may be sorted now.</p> <p>c Receive any updates on the fly tipping in Lower Ecton Lane The Chairman Cllr D Dicks reported a resident has some evidence that might be helpful to a fly tipping incident. Cllr Dicks will collect the items and pass on to Charlotte Tompkins NNC Waste Services Manager to help with investigations.</p>

	<p>d Receive updates and discuss any village maintenance matters inc Lower Ecton Lane hedges The jitty between West Street and High Street was very overgrown behind the bungalows. A working party comprising of the Chair Cllr D Dicks, Cllr N Bond and Cllr A McCarter agreed to carry out the works. This has now been completed.</p> <p>The Hedges along Lower Ecton Lane on both sides (the whole strip) are overgrown and encroaching on to the road. The Clerk previously reported it to Ben Wright at Kier who will be writing to all land owners requesting they all take immediate action. Action: The Clerk will continue to chase for progress updates.</p> <p>e Receive any updates on street lighting matters No street lights were reported as not working.</p>
846/2022	<p>Discuss any planning related matters including those not yet determined NW/21/01085/FUL – 49 West Street – Removal of existing conservatory and construction of two storey side extension, removal of existing render to main house, new cladding to front porch, insertion of new doors & window to rear elevation and insertion of two new rooflights. Action: The Clerk is to respond to the application clarifying that anything that needs replacing should be replaced with wood/timber materials and not UPVC, in keeping with the area (also within Ecton Conservation area) as well as within the Ecton Neighbourhood Plan. Also stating the PC does not agree with the Heritage findings as we find on the whole the application is in line with the Ecton Neighbourhood Plan.</p>
847/2022	<p>Date of next meeting – 22nd March 2022 RESOLVED to hold the next Meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 22nd March 2022 at 7.30pm at Ecton Village Hall.</p>
	<p>Close: The meeting ended at 8.40pm.</p>

Signed byDate

843/2021 Financial Matters

Review Financial Statement as at 25/01/2022 and propose payments and sign cheques

Monies must be paid out only in pursuance of statutory powers (SP) vested in the Parish Council.

RESOLVED balances as presented be accepted. **RESOLVED** the following accounts be paid.

Chq Number	Amount	Inc VAT of	Payee	Details	Power
714	22.72	1.08	Southern Electric	Electricity Standing Charges to 04.01.2022	Highways Act
715	312.34	14.86	Southern Electric	Electricity to 04.01.2022	Highways Act
716	144.00	24.00	Seagrave Inspections	Annual Inspection of Play Equipment	Open Spaces Act
717	44.00	0.00	NCALC	Off to a Flying Start- I.W 6.12.21	LGA 1972 s 112
718	5.00	0.00	Nigel Bond	Printing Costs	LGA 1972 s 112
719	102.00	0.00	Alistair McCarter	Jubilee Tree	Open Spaces Act
720	340.17	0.00	Shirley Wong	Clerks Salary 23.11.21 to 25.01.22 35 hours Office & Broadband Mileage 13.4 miles Less tax and NI £260.75	LGA 1972 s 112
721	260.75	0.00	HM Revenue & Customs	S Wong – Tax and NI contributions Dec/Jan	LGA 1972 s 112

Total of Cheques Raised £1,230.98