

# DRAFT COPY

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016 at Bishop Carpenter School at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs D Jennings, M Davison and S Holford  
Clerk E Boswell

Apologies: P Espinasse, G Doidge

Guests: None

1. **Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

1. These were agreed and signed.

2. **Declaration of Interest** - There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Matters Arising**

1. Monitoring of members interests, gifts and hospitality – The councillors interests will be reviewed in May at the same time as the Standing Orders are reviewed and signed, Proposed DJ seconded SH all agreed. Councillors have not received any gifts or hospitality.
2. Check on Bank signatories for main accounts – Bank signatories were amended at the same time the new Clerk was appointed and are therefore up to date.
3. Start to organise annual village ‘spring clean’ – Equipment for this years spring clean has been ordered from CDC and is to be delivered two days prior to the clean up. A notice has been placed in the March issue of the ‘Gossip’ and further notices will be placed in the April and May editions.

4. **Planning Permission**

- 16/00027/TCA – T1X Beech – Crown reduce by up to one third – NOTICE OF DECISION – No further comments or objections

5. **Finance**

1. Review of Income and Expenditure – The RFO was not present at this meeting and therefore the accounts for January & February 2016 will be signed off at the next meeting.

**Bill Payments**

1. The PC resolved to continue with the subscription to OALC - Annual Subscription £133.07 Chq: 300059
2. E Boswell – Clerks Salary & Expenses £385.11 Chq: 300060

6. **Children’s Playground**

1. There were no problems to report and DJ to continue with the diary. DJ will also check salt bin levels when necessary.

7. **Clerks Business**

1. Check phone numbers for emergency planning – update – Emergency plan has been updated and will be circulated to councillors and updated to the website.
2. Park Lane & The Jitty drainage – Following on from DJ’s report that the drains were still blocked the Clerk has taken photos of the drains and reported the issue again to OCC sending the photos as evidence.
3. Replacement post for Park Lane – OCC have still not responded despite being contacted again. The Clerk will continue to chase this up.

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4. Salt containers – CDC have now confirmed that they will provide two additional salt bins at a cost of £100 per bin. The PC had originally resolved to purchase from the internet as they appeared to be less expensive, however, having re-checked the price to include VAT and delivery they only came out approximately £20 less, the PC resolved therefore to purchase the bins from CDC as they felt more comfortable with the source and quality, proposed DJ seconded SH all agreed. One of the bins is to be situated behind the flower planter at the Banbury Road entrance to the village and the other at the bottom of School Lane, subject to obtaining landowners permission. Proposed DJ seconded SH all agreed.
5. Strategic planning consultation – update – Workshop attended by the Clerk who put forward the Councillors views & concerns regarding the impact of increased traffic and highway concerns of additional traffic passing through North Newington if surrounding villages have housing developments.
6. Broken ‘Slow Down’ sign, Shutford Road – update – The sign has still not been repaired and has again been reported to OCC by the Clerk and several village residents.
7. School tapestry – update – Letter to school currently being drafted
8. Neighbourhood plan – ‘Community First’ are holding a Neighbourhood Planning Workshop on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016. The PC has previously resolved not to put forward a Neighbourhood Plan at this time and therefore will not attend the workshop.

## 8. **Any other matters for discussion**

1. Village maintenance & Grass cutting – Wroxton Parish Clerk is organising a meeting/workshop with a representative from Stewkley Parish Council in Buckingham. Stewkley PC has successfully set up a ‘Community Enterprise’ business to undertake grass cutting, verge maintenance, road sign cleaning and drainage, for several Parish’s under one ‘umbrella’, the meeting/workshop is being arranged in view of the budget cuts being imposed by OCC that will result in Parish Councils being expected to take on more responsibility for the up-keep of their Parish. North Newington Clerk will attend and report the outcome back to Council who will then be able to consider if a ‘Community Enterprise’ is something that would be beneficial in our parish. A date for the meeting is to be set in April.
2. The PC has documented on a number of occasions that they have been unable to find anyone willing to cut the greens and verges and as it is yet unclear as to how long a ‘Community Enterprise’ scheme would take to set up, or even whether it would be suitable for this Parish the Councillors resolved to accept the quote provided from Mr Prickett following his recent meeting with the Clerk. Mr Prickett currently has the grass-cutting contract in Wroxton and several other surrounding villages and comes recommended. He has provided a quote to cut the three greens along Main Street, the Playground area and the Daffodil bank at the Banbury Road entrance to the village, £50 + VAT per cut for the playground and the greens to be cut fortnightly and £20+VAT per cut for the daffodil bank to be cut monthly. The PC can review this again before 2017 grass cutting season.
3. Commemorative medal – The PC has received a Commemorative medal from Tower Mint, who are looking for Councils to purchase more from them. The PC resolved not to purchase any, however, they will pass the information to the VIG for their next meeting, as they may like the opportunity to buy some.
4. Drains, Shutford road – A resident has contacted the Clerk regarding a drain along Shutford Road. The drain appears to be blocked due to the bush overhanging it needing to be pruned, the Clerk will report to OCC highways.

The next meeting will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

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