

Minutes of the Harringworth Parish Council Meeting held on 14th November 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Cllr A White (Chair); Cllr S McLean; Cllr L Boon; Cllr K Dove; Cllr S Milton; Cllr M Wright; J Dove (Clerk)

1588. Open Session for Parishioners.

No parishioners attended the meeting.

1589. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr F. Walsh

1590. To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting.

All Councillors declared their interests as residents of Harringworth.

1591. To consider any dispensation requests and to grant such dispensations as the Clerk may consider necessary.

The Clerk agreed to the request for dispensation for Councillors to discuss the Precept.

1592. To resolve that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 26th September 2024 be signed as an accurate record.

The minutes were accepted as accurate and signed by the Chair.

1593. Matters Arising:

- a. Bollards on Jubilee Green:** No response to the Chair's suggestions have been received from NNC.
- b. Give Way Sign on Laxton Hill:** This still has not been erected despite months of promises from NNC. The Chair asked the Clerk to lodge a formal complaint to NNC.
- c. Footpaths Update:** In the absence of the Footpaths Officer, Cllr F Walsh, the Chair gave an update on the village footpaths which needed attention. A successful working party has cleared the footpath behind Sunvollen and special thanks were given to Cllr K Dove for his efforts and to all the volunteers who gave up their time to help. There will be a working party organised in due course to tackle the footpath opposite the Church leading to the viaduct. The Shotley footpath has now been mown and cleared of

A D White
Chairman
Date 22 November 2023

overhanging brambles making it much more accessible. A village litter pick should be organised very soon.

- d. **Turtle Bridge:** The Clerk reported that a surveyor from the Highways Department had visited Turtle Bridge to survey the damage. Some clearance of the vegetation growing into the bridge and some of the dangerous brick debris has been moved. It is hoped that NNC are now on the case to repair this historic bridge.
- e. **Financial Regulations:** The Chair proposed that the delegated authority for the Clerk be reduced to £250 and for the Clerk together with the Chair to £500. This was agreed. The financial regulations as amended had been reviewed by the Parish Council’s auditor, who declared them appropriate for our Parish Council.

1594. Routine Financial Matters

- a. The following payments were received: Memorial Fee £95
- b. These pre-approved payments were reviewed: Yu Energy £34.65 & £7.75
PWL B Repayment £299.96
Bank Charge £18 & £5.40
RBL Wreaths £39.98
- c. The following payments were approved: Cable Ties for Street Poppies £22.96
- d. The reconciliation sheet was approved by the Cllrs and signed by Cllr M Wright

1595. Draft of Budget for FY2025/26 & Precept Discussion

A draft budget was presented by Cllr Wright which indicated that our spending this year was in line with the precept. The long-standing provision for extending the burial ground, plus election costs looking ahead to 2025 will be the main features of the 2025/26 budget. A possible increase of 3% in the Precept for 2025/26 was discussed with a view to making a final decision at the January meeting.

Cllr Dove explained the estimated costings for fencing and grass seeding the extended burial ground. Following consultation with the landowner regarding the boundary and the tenant running the riding stables regarding the equipment currently stored on the land, it is hoped that the area can be fenced in Spring 2025, seeded by September and opened by March 2026.

The Chair reported that he is looking into the apparent cost increase of the new email system and web hosting to ensure that we have accurate figures in the budget for 2025/26. Clerk’s afternote – the email supplier, Glory Hall Design, has confirmed that the original quote remains valid and

the 6 basic accounts will be free of charge with the two enhanced email accounts for the Chair and the Clerk each costing £35 per annum.

1596. To approve the draft Financial Risk Register 2025 and the Risk Management and Assessment Policy

These documents were discussed and approved by the Councillors with some minor additions.

1597. Highway Matters

There were no specific highway matters to report.

1598. Planning Matters

a. NE/24/00851/FUL – Land to rear of Beau Lodge Main St Laxton

Following a detailed discussion, it was decided to object to this application. The full comment can be viewed on the NNC planning portal.

b. NE/24/00959/FUL – 16 Wakerley Road Harringworth

This application was unanimously approved by the Parish Council with no comments or objections.

1599. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday January 16th 2025

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8.45pm