

## **Minutes of the Harringworth Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Present:

Cllr A White (Chair); Cllr S McLean; Cllr L Boon; Cllr K Dove; Cllr F Walsh; J Dove (Clerk)

### **1600. Open Session for Parishioners.**

2 parishioners attended the meeting.

### **1601. Presentation by Oundle Volunteer Action.**

David Cashmore and Rachel Dixon attended the meeting to present the services which Oundle Volunteer Action could offer to our community. These comprise a volunteer driving service and a befriending service for those over the age of 65. Leaflets will be distributed around the village and information will be posted on the village website.

### **1602. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr M Wright & Cllr S Milton

### **1603. 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 in their discussion of the Precept.

### **1604. 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.

### **1605. To resolve that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024 be signed as an accurate record.**

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

### **1606. 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 has now been erected.

- c. **Footpaths Update:** The Footpaths Officer, Cllr Walsh, had acquired some Public Footpath sign to clarify the footpath route along the edge of the churchyard. He said that a full footpath review would be conducted once the weather improves.
- d. **Extension to Burial Ground:** Cllr Dove has spoken to the previous landowner regarding the current usage of the area which was acquired by the Parish Council to extend the burial ground. He received reassurance that this area would be cleared and will write to the Parish Council formally to enable the plan to progress. We await his formal response.

#### **1607. Routine Financial Matters**

- a. The following payments were received: T. Randall Donation £25.00  
Interment of Ashes and Memorial Fee £395.00
- b. These pre-approved payments were reviewed: Yu Energy £42.46 & £7.84  
Yu Energy £44.15 & £8.06  
Leics Gardens £550 & £420  
Clerk's Pay £264.00  
HMRC £66.00  
Bank Charges £6.00 & £6.00
- c. The following payments were approved: No payments to approve
- d. The reconciliation sheet was approved by the Cllrs and will be signed off by Cllr Wright on his return

A discussion ensued on the usefulness of the reconciliation sheet and the Clerk agreed to reinstate the "Budget" box on the form so that expenditure can be compared with the budgeted figures as the year progresses.

#### **1608. Setting of Budget for FY2025/26 & Setting of Precept**

The budget was unanimously agreed by the Councillors and a 3% uplift on the Precept for FY 2025/26 was agreed.

Minor amendments to November's Draft Budget were discussed (copy of revised budget attached).

#### **1609. Highway Matters**

- a. Street light above Church Millennium Arch: this has now been repaired by National Grid who are responsible for the light from the box to the road. It has been clarified that this light is on the street lighting circuit.
- b. Water trough at the bottom of Laxton hill: this has been overflowing for a number of weeks now and despite a number of reports to Highways and a visit from a contractor no work has been done. This will be escalated with Highways.

**1610. Planning Matters**

- a. NE/24/01200/FUL Fineshade House: no objections were raised
- b. The White Swan; Cllr McLean said he had been approached by a number of residents who were asking what was happening with the pub. It was agreed that the Planning Officer would be approached for a formal response.

**1611. To consider and respond to the government's consultation on strengthening the standards and conduct framework for local authorities in England**

This document was considered by the Councillors. It was only possible to respond to it as individuals and not as a Parish Council so it was left to individuals to respond if they saw fit.

**1612. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday March 13<sup>th</sup> 2025

The date for the July meeting has been changed to Thursday July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 9.13pm