



NORTHCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

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**MINUTES OF NORTHCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY
4th OCTOBER 2021 AT 7 pm SOCIAL CENTRE BELL LANE NORTHCHURCH HP4
3 RD**

Those Present:

Cllr Clarke

Cllr Somervail

Cllr Capozzi

Cllr Godfrey

Cllr Edwards

Cllr Pocock

Cllr Rees

County Councillor Douris

Officer: Usha Kilich

83/21 APOLOGIES FOR THE ABSENCE

Cllr Pringle sent her apologies.

84/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Pocock declared interest in item 93/21 Musa Landscape and did not participate in any decision making.

85/21 Public Participation allowed 15 minutes

86/21 MINUTES

a. To approve the minutes of the meeting of 13th September 2021 .

RESOLVED proposed by Cllr Clarke, seconded by Cllr Pocock. Unanimously agreed.

b. Matters arising from the previous meetings that are not included as an agenda item below.
There were no matters arising from previous meeting.

87/21 REPORT FROM BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS

To receive a report from Borough/County Councillors

County Councillor Douris reported that he had received an independent report for Darrs Lane and Mandelyns.

1. Darrs Lane – vehicles parking close to bend but not on the bend. Cars are having to give way to one another but are doing so without issue. Cars are slowing down when approaching bend from both ways but are spending when on the straight road of Darrs Lane. Two car parks at bottom of Darrs Lane by High Street (One of which is off the bend). Comments from Inspection Report Darrs Lane – Double yellow lines not needed at this time. Vehicles seem to be doing ok without it. Could potentially be done in the future but would not list as a priority.

Mandelyns – Peugeot parked within 10m of junction even though there is plenty of space available. Two lane road. Cars turning in from High Street make a wide turn to come into the road, so wide they are half in the other side lane.

Comments from Inspection Report Mandelyns – Double yellow lines could be implemented at a junction to avoid parking in such close proximity. The turning into the road is due to the right turning arrow on High Street being too far up.

The proposal to reduce speed limit to 20 mph on Mandelyns is at consultation stage, the letter has gone out to those primarily on Mandelyns and 5% response is required, should the residents of Mandelyns show interest, it will be implemented.

NPC Council members felt it was not appropriate for Herts Highways to spend £4k on reducing the speed limit to 20mph on Mandelyns, it was felt that the money can be spent on double yellow lines on Darrs Lane and Mandelyns. Cllr Douris will address the safety issues to Highways should NPC decide that is the step they wish to explore. Cllr Douris will wait for instructions from NPC.

2. Cllr Douris informed members that drainage improvement work has been programmed to take place.
3. Cllr Douris will release £1k of the locality budget upon work being taken place on the quite area.
4. Cllr Douris Douris has impressed upon the relevant team to get a quote for the northern gate on A4251 to the Go20group as quickly as possible.
5. Cllr Douris advised that a complaint has been received from a member of the public regarding the new lights. He advised the member that this is something that will be dealt with NPC and Ringway.

Cllr Pringle's report (sent in her absence, attachment to the minutes)

88/21 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a. Expenditure for the hedge/tree on the allotment total cost £2400 approved at F&GP 29/09/2021 approved
- b. Expenditure for the Willow trees on the recreation ground of £800 approved at F&GP 29/09/2021 approved
- c. To report on Audited AGAR 2020/21 and report from external auditors PKF Littlejohn
- d. To report on Northchurch United Charities grant for £600 approved
- e. To update on the progress of street lights to be adopted by HCC

Cllr Clarke reported that over the past 7 years, Hertfordshire's street lighting has been converted to LED, and placed under HCC's central control. The lumen package of the new lantern provides an improved lighting output and meets HCC's policy of no worse than before lighting design.

Northchurch is one of the last parishes to have their lights replaced by HCC lanterns. HCC have confirmed all the new lanterns used for Northchurch Parish meet their safe and operational street lighting policy. Once a final inspection is carried out, HCC and NPC will sign an adoption agreement. Thereafter, the lighting points will be owned by HCC and the provision of energy and maintenance will be at their expense.

89/21 CLERKS REPORT

- a. Allotment invoices preparation for October invoicing
- b. On the advice of our broker, the insurance for NPC has been renewed for another three years. This is for information only

90/21 Cllr Clarke will provide a summary of the Recreation Ground tender scoring process and proposes the winning supplier be recommended to Full Council

Cllr Clarke informed members that NPC councillors spent hundreds of hours asking park users what improvements they would like. Councillors wanted to focus on the views of frequent users. Councillors researched their suggestions and put them into a tender document which was circulated to play companies using a government website. The original idea was to let local people choose the best proposal. However, subsequently, Councillors discovered that government rules for tenders over £25,000 would prevent NPC of this. To comply with these rules, Councillor Clarke stated that the 3 councillors scored the tenders independently AND all reached the same conclusion. scored each proposal against the criteria for tender.

The two companies that responded were: Kompan and Proludic. Their supporting documents ran to several hundred pages. Cllrs Somervail, Capozzi and Cllr Clarke went through each page and scored the proposals against the tender criteria. The exercise was carried out individually to avoid influencing each of the councillors. It was felt that both proposals were of a high standard, but that Proludic provided the best match for NPC's criteria. The F&GP Committee met on 29th September to vote and recommend Proludic's proposal to the Full Council on 4th October 2021. Councillor's Capozzi and Somervail provided a full visual presentation to council members and answered all the questions.

RESOLVED Cllr Clarke proposes to go with Produlic, seconded by Cllr Capozzi. Unanimously agreed.

91/21 Cllr Clarke proposes to review and approve Year To Date Summary Report.

RESOLVED Cllr Clarke proposed to accept the YTD Summary, to seconded Cllr Godfrey unanimously agreed.

92/21 Cllr Clarke proposes that the Council employs T Clubb to lay the path and basketball court (provided that the work is carried out within the time scale for a similar price)

Cllr Clarke informed members that two large tarmac companies based in Hemel were approached for a quote, however, the companies declined to visit the site and were only prepared to quote over the phone. Both of the companies were double the quote to what has been quoted by T Clubb.

RESOLVED, Cllr Clarke proposed to go ahead with T Clubb seconded by Cllr Capozzi unanimously agreed.

93/21 Cllr Clarke proposes to approve and accept the quote received from Musa Landscapes for the total cost of £880 to remove the recreation ground ramp.

Cllr Clarke informed members that two further quotes were received, Musa Landscape provided the best value.

RESOLVED, Cllr Clarke proposed to accept the total cost of £880 to remove the recreation ground ramp, seconded by Cllr Godfrey. Unanimously agreed.

94/21 Future Agenda Items.

- a. Further discussion of the verge hardening
- b. £1000 funding for quite area
- c. Two oak trees on the right side of the Social Centre
- d. Survey report for the Willow Trees

95/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on the 15th November 2021 at 7.00 pm Social Centre Bell Lane Northchurch HP4 3RD.

The meeting concluded at 8.10 pm.