



NORTHCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

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**MINUTES OF NORTHCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY
10th JANUARY 2022 AT 7 pm SOCIAL CENTRE BELL LANE
NORTHCHURCH HP4 3 RD**

Those Present: Cllr's Jon Clarke, Mark Somervail, Michela Capozzi, Beryl Edwards, Neil Pocock, Lara Pringle and Susan Rees.

Also in attendance was County Councillor Terry Douris and Mrs Usha Kilich Parish Clerk.

13/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive and accept apologies for absence.

RESOLVED, proposed by Cllr Clarke, seconded by Cllr Somervail to accept Cllr Godfrey's apologies of absence. Unanimously agreed.

14/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

a. To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda

None

b. To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests; and

None

c. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None

15/21 Public Participation allowed 15 minutes

There were no members of the public.

16/21 MINUTES

a. To approve the minutes of the meeting of 15th November 2021.

RESOLVED proposed by Cllr Clarke, seconded by Cllr Edwards that these Minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.

b. Matters arising from previous meetings that are not included as an agenda item below.

Nothing to report.

17/21 Cllr Clarke proposes to approve and accept the Budget for 2022/23.

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

- 18/21** Cllr Clarke proposes to approve the Precept demand for 2022/23.
RESOLVED, proposed by Cllr Clarke, seconded by Cllr Capozzi. Unanimously agreed.
- 19/21** Cllr Clarke proposes to approve and accept the Earmarked Reserves.
Cllr Clarke withdrew the motion, the EMR allocation will be discussed at a future meeting.
- 20/21** Cllr Clarke proposes to approve grant application submitted by Friends of St Marys School for £4763.60 (£1088 for swimming lessons and £3675.60 road crossing patrol)
RESOLVED, proposed by Cllr Clarke, seconded by Cllr Capozzi. Unanimously agreed.
- 21/21** Councillor Godfrey proposes that NPC adopt a 6 month operational inspection carried out by a 'RPII Accredited Annual Inspector Outdoor' programme of the Northchurch Recreation Ground equipment at a cost of £225 exclusive of VAT.
In the absence of Cllr Godfrey, Cllr Clarke proposed that NPC adopt a 6 month operational inspection carried out by a 'RPII Accredited Annual Inspector Outdoor' programme of the Northchurch Recreation Ground equipment at a cost of £225 exclusive of VAT, seconded by Cllr Capozzi. Unanimously agreed.
- 22/21** Cllr Capozzi proposes to approve and accept SSRT's quote of £1129.20 inclusive of VAT for the flower bed adjacent to portacabin.
RESOLVED, proposed by Cllr Capozzi, seconded by Cllr Clarke. Unanimously agreed.
- 23/21** Cllr Clarke proposes to award the maintenance contract to SSRT as agreed by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.
RESOLVED, proposed by Cllr Clarke, seconded by Cllr Capozzi. Unanimously agreed.

REPORT From County/Borough Councillor

County Cllr Douris reported that Mandelyns has been resurfaced. Cllr Douris confirmed the £1000 pledged to NPC has been paid, this being for the Senior's Seating Area in the recreation ground.

Cllr Pringle read out her report with various items. Please refer to the report below:
In December I submitted a response to Ashlyn's school admissions proposal both on behalf of NPC and in my individual role as DBC councillor for Northchurch.

[In summary: The changes in admissions proposed by the school only applied to siblings from Berkhamsted/Northchurch households, (recognising that in principle Berkhamsted/Northchurch children should have priority over others in the catchment). At the same time the proposed rules ignored sibling priority in other areas. The proposed changes seemed inconsistent.]

I proposed a more consistent and equitable solution suggesting an alternative writing of the rules. This was circulated to councillors and all who responded supported my response.
[Acknowledgement was received from the school. The response to the consultation is awaited in February.]

A consultation on the sports centre is expected in February. In the autumn I attended the DBC scrutiny committee that deals with the sports centre (of which I am a regular member). I ensured that NPC was added as a consultee (BTC and TTC were already consultees). I have consistently opposed plans to build enclosed sports facilities on East Meadow/Langley Meadow (as was initially proposed). I am pleased to say that the proposals have returned this autumn with no plans to build on East Meadow (although there are plans to improve the facilities through landscaping/planting).

I have called in a planned garage extension on New Road on behalf of residents to be heard by DMC.

Residents on Hamberlins Lane have reported concerns re flooding, resultant gravel and connected road safety concerns that I will be taking forward.

Faulty lighting has been reported on New Road.

Re the gateway, nothing has been heard from HCC since Mike Jarrett retired. This is a matter of HCC being instructed by the PCC office as a client. I am concerned that HCC is not following this up.

Cllr Pringle asked Cllr Douris to confirm that the County Council is responsible for dealing with the entry gate, however, Cllr Douris reported that Ringway are dealing with the matter and he has sent an email to speed up the process.

24/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on the 21st February 2022 at 7.00 pm Social Centre Bell Lane Northchurch HP4 3RD.

The meeting ended at 19.15 pm.