



Chairman – Mr F Smethers

Clerk – Mrs S Willis

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Minutes of the Strategy, Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on 27th February 2024, in the Old School Hall at 7.00pm.

Present – Cllrs F Smethers (Chair), J Gibbins, B Hancy, G Madle, D Starmer

Also present – S Willis (Clerk), P Thomas (Clerk of Harlestone Manor PC) and 1 member of the public

317/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies accepted for Cllrs Cordingley, Gardner and Roberts

318/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

Cllrs Smethers and Starmer advised they were trustees of the Playing Field (Item 326/23b)

319/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Member of the public expressed concern over the flow of water from fields at the current time which can only get worse when the houses are built and concern over proposed new development, especially as it is thought there will be more wet winters. Council can only wait for the planning application to see what plans the developer proposes. However, others have expressed similar concerns.

320/23 MINUTES

Councillors **APPROVED** the minutes of the Strategy, Finance and Policy Committee of 6th February 2024.

321/23 NORTHAMPTON WEST SUSTAINABLE EXTENSION

Next meeting is on site in early April.

322/23 NORWOOD FARM SUSTAINABLE URBAN EXTENSION

Next meeting at the end of March where we will get more information on the SLRR and connection back to Sandy Lane.

The Bridleway from Sandy Lane by Larkhall Lane entrance is still closed. Should only be for 6 months but we expect this will be extended.

323/23 DEVELOPMENT RELATED ROADWORKS

WNC have announced they will be receiving £162m in April 2025 towards priority roads. It is thought that the parish council should suggest that some of this is put towards completion of the Sandy Lane Relief Road.

Completion of SLRR has slipped and is expected to be late May for bringing back to the existing Sandy Lane. WNC are speaking to Homes England about an S106 which they believe will be in place before the end of the year.

It was noted that the new road from Boughton to Harlestone is due to be completed by end of June.

It was agreed that the council need to keep the pressure on WNC to get more certainty on the completion of the full SLRR and to push for the “warts and all” details that we have been

promised. It was thought that this will be done after the meeting at the end of March when we have more information.

Council to ask if HGVs can be diverted away from Sandy Lane until the full SLRR is open.

324/23 COMMUNICATION ACTION PLAN

Last noticeboard has been delivered and fitted.

Welcome packs will be sent out later this week.

Parish Online have all the information they need to set up new website and we are just awaiting first version to check.

325/23 PAYMENTS

Payments scheduled for payment in February, as per list.

Payee	Amount	VAT	Power used
Canva (Via CC)	99.99	0	LGA 1972 S112
Viking	106.78	4.88	LGA 1972 S112
Harpole Bowls Club	40	0	LGA 1972 schedule 12
Parish Noticeboard Company	3352.50	558.75	LGA 1894 s 8.1
Staff Costs	TBA	0	LGA 1972 s112
Banana Print (Via CC)	116.90	0	LGA 1972 S142

All payments were **APPROVED**.

326/23 SPORTS PROVISION

- a) No response from Barwoods. Clerk to chase and also contact WNC to advise of plans and to see if they can engage developer.
- b) Meeting of Playing Field Trust in March to vote on transfer to Parish Council as sole Trustee. It appears that the council will have to take this on and run as a charitable trust rather than as part of PC assets. Meeting with Solicitor later this week to discuss.

327/23 CIL

Fencing at Allotments was discussed at last PHIC and recommendation to go to full council.

Still awaiting quotes on car park for sports club.

328/23 FLOODING

Flore Flood warden attended the PHIC meeting and gave updates on his thoughts about the flooding on Sandy Lane / South View and Nobottle Road. It seems that the ditches are not allowing the water to flow to where it needs to go to. Is this due to blocked pipes?

It was thought the council should try to ensure that watercourses are flowing as well as possible but the issue is that many issues are on private land and landowners will need to be notified.

Clerk at Harlestone Manor asked if HPC would be interested in joining with other parishes that have flooding issues to work together to resolve issues with WNC. It was thought this would be a good idea.

Clerk of Harlestone Manor and Member of the public leaves.

329/23 LOCAL PLAN

Clerk and chair attended a meeting this morning. More information will be provided next week with consultations starting in April. In the meantime there is a consultation on Settlement Hierarchy to be discussed at Full Council.

330/23 WEIGHT RESTRICTION

Signs and locations were discussed. It was asked if locations at Northampton Road could be altered to make it more obvious for vehicles turning off A4500 before they are committed to the turn. Signage needed at the turning point coming from Northampton. It was proposed that it is recommended to Full Council that CIL funding is used.

331/23 BOWLS CLUB LEASE

Solicitor had a few queries about the rent reviews and tenancy breaks that were discussed. Clerk to refer back to solicitor

332/23 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

No further items at present

Meeting closed 8.40pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 2nd April at 7pm

Signed

Date