



Chairman – Mr F Smethers

Clerk – Mrs S Willis

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Minutes of the Planning, Highways and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 24th June 2024, in the Old School Hall at 7.00pm.

Present – Cllrs J Gibbins, N Bess, F Smethers, C Wilkinson

Also present – 3 Members of the public

Meeting Start: 7pm

54/24 TO ELECT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FOR 2024/25

It was proposed that Cllr Kate Gardener is the chair. Whilst absent from the meeting she had indicated she would be happy to take this role.

55/24 TO ELECT COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2024/25

It was proposed that Cllr Colin Wilkinson is Vice Chair for the committee. He accepted.

As Cllr Gardener was not present Cllr Wilkinson took the chair

56/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr Gardener had sent apologies, these were approved. It was noted that Cllr M Orr was not present. Absence not approved.

57/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

None

58/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Residents asked for update on Sandy Lane Relief Road. The Sandy Lane Link Road should be completed and open by the end of June. We are told this is still on track but council chair has asked West Northants Council for this to be confirmed. Talks are ongoing with Homes England and it is believed that there is an agreement regarding connecting the road to nowhere.

The bridlepath across the fields opposite Larkhall Lane has been closed and it was asked when it is thought this would be reopened. This has been closed due to the road works so it is thought this should reopen when the road opens.

59/24 MINUTES

Councillors **APPROVED** the minutes of Planning, Highways & Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 28th May 2024

60/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No new planning applications. Clerk to ask Planning Department if there is a date for the Committee meeting to discuss the new development at the top of Road Hill.

It was noted that the Parish Council had responded to the Solar Farm consultation but response was showing under neighbours response online. Clerk has asked for this to be updated. Clerk to check and chase if needed.



61/24 STREETLIGHTING

Quotes had been received for standard lantern and heritage lantern, but these were on a bracket and the resident does not want it attached to the house so needs to be on a pole. Clerk to find out if this needs Highways approval. Council would also like to see pictures of Heritage lamp being suggested by contractor. There may be extra ongoing maintenance costs and the difference between this and standard would also need to be picked up by the resident.

62/24 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

- a) It is believed the next meeting of the Local Cycling and Walking Plan will be in the Autumn. We have fed back our wishes so await the paper.
- b) There are HGVs that park in South View overnight. Whilst parking legally this does cause a nuisance to residents with noise and access issues. There is not enough parking at Red Lion Lorry Park. Clerk to contact Highways to see what options are available. Discussed at the meeting were double yellow lines and 7.5t weight limit.
- c) Highways have confirmed that there would be room for a priority feature on Northampton Road and are drawing up plans and costings for Parish Council to consider. Traffic calming features are difficult in other parts of the village due to nature of the roads and accesses. Clerk to follow up on gateways options.

63/24 ALLOTMENTS

- a) There are many overgrown plots on site. Some of these have been paid for but not tended and others are free. A group of plot holders have cleared 6 plots that are free and are asking that they are covered to prevent regrowth of weeds. Plot holders are happy to lay this if purchased by the council. This should also help others who wish to take on a new plot as the task should not be so daunting. It was proposed that the clerk can spent up to £1500 on heavy duty sheeting to be pegged down.
There also needs to be a policy on how often the council will check that plots are being tended and when notice will be given to vacate. Clerk to draft. Councillors set up time to visit site so all were aware of the situation.
- b) There was concern about grass cutting of communal areas and that some areas are not being cut. Clerk to forward map.

64/24 STREET FURNITURE

Clerk advised that she met with the Village Maintenance Operative this afternoon and discussed areas that needs to be checked. He will come back with any points he thinks need work.

65/24 CHURCH

- a) Approval and paperwork has been received for the works to the clock. Clerk to check with the church what has been agreed with regards to scaffolding and timings.
- b) PCC have formally approached the Council to ask to look for more burial ground. Clerk and Chair had met with landowner of field behind current burial ground. He is open to negotiation but certain potential issues were raised. Clerk has spoken to ICCM (Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management) who have advised



the council approach a consultant to help through the process of procuring appropriate land. Clerk to investigate options.

66/24 COMMUNITY

- a) Clerk to work with Cllr Wilkinson for access to Manning Watts House to allow electrician to fit Defibrillator.

67/24 SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Environment and Sustainability Policy was tabled. It was proposed that this is accepted and regularly reviewed. This should be used when making major decisions on behalf of the council.

68/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Clerk advised that the date of the next meeting would be her first day back after a holiday and asked if the council wished to move the date as the agenda would need to be posted quite early. It was proposed to keep the date of the meeting the same.

69/24 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Next Full Council meeting needs to consider process during prolonged period of absence of the clerk (monitoring of email / phone etc for priority items)

Meeting closed 8.30pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 29th July at 7pm

Signed