



**Chairman** – Mr F Smethers

**Clerk** – Mrs S Willis

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Minutes of the Planning, Highways and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025, in the Old School Hall at 7.00pm.

Present – Cllrs J Gibbins (chair), N Bess, M Callaghan, S Philips, F Smethers (part), C Wilkinson

Also present – Clerk, Cllr D Starmer (part)

Meeting Start: 7pm

As chair and vice chair were not present, councillors voted for Cllr Gibbins to chair this meeting.

**372/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Cllrs Gardner and Madle had sent apologies. Apologies were approved.  
Cllrs Wilkinson and Smethers had advised they would be late

**373/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

Cllr Gibbins as an allotment plotholder

**374/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of public present.

**375/24 MINUTES**

Councillors **APPROVED** the minutes of Planning, Highways & Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

Cllr Wilkinson joined the meeting

**376/24 PLANNING**

Committee considered amendments to planning application 2024/5633/MAR - Approval of Reserved Matters (RM), appearance means of access, landscaping, layout and scale for Phase 2 and part of Phase 1B. Amendments were noted. There was also a comment that the committee thought that adding chimneys to new builds with no fireplace was not necessary.

**377/24 EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Kislingbury Flood Warden has met with Environment Agency regarding flooding at the river. There are 2 outlet pipes from Harpole Side that need repairing. Clerk to investigate whose responsibility this would be.

Cllrs Smethers and Starmer join the meeting.

A drain on the playing fields that overflows was also mentioned. Playing fields are aware.

2 members of the working party met to start pulling together a plan. It is thought that equipment is needed first. Flood cubes have been ordered and arrived today. There was



a discussion about potentially needing a generator and walkie talkies. Another meeting is needed. Clerk to contact WNC Emergency plan officer to see if she is available to meet and help direct.

**378/24 STREET LIGHTING**

There is a pole on A4500 that was knocked in a traffic accident. This is still laying on the ground with tape despite happening months ago. Clerk to chase.  
Clerk to chase insurance company regarding light on School Lane.  
Councillors to look at dark spot on Northampton Road to see if and where a light is needed.

**379/24 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS**

- a) There was a discussion about the need for a 20mph zone in the village. It was agreed that a consultation is needed and could be based on a walkability checklist. A survey could go out with the next newsletter. It was agreed that Cllr Callaghan could contact the school to discuss their concerns.
- b) Despite the extended car park at the sports club there are still times when there is inconsiderate parking on Larkhall Lane. If measures are put in place, who would enforce? We would need to be careful that we don't push the problem to other streets nearby. Clerk to contact WNC and police to seek clarification on who has what powers and what powers the PC could use.
- c) Councillors and clerk had met with WNC Cllr Adam Brown and discussed concerns about residents walking between Western Gate estate and village. There was no commitment for any works but will ask for a desk top study to see if culverting and footpath is possible on Larkhall Lane. If desktop suggests it is then an onsite study to understand feasibility and costings involved. There is no timeframe for this, but it was thought that this should be chased after the elections.  
Concerns about Davidson development and connectivity to the village was also discussed.
- d) There has been a proposal from WNC to extend the 7.5t weight limit which will cover part of Norwood development, Sandy Lane and South View which has been welcomed by council.  
Clerk to ask if barriers on Upper High Street are still needed.

**380/24 ALLOTMENTS**

Clerk has been advised that gate by school is catching. The company that installed has been called and they will come out to brace later this week.  
Clerk has met with the grass cutting company to discuss an area that had been missed on the last cut.

**381/24 STREET FURNITURE**

- a) 1 quote received for new flagpole. Clerk to ask a couple of questions regarding installation and await other quote for next meeting. Clerk to draft flag flying policy.
- b) If playing Field want to buy new Parish Council notice board they have council permission.
- c) Refurbishment of benches on hold until council have decided what they would like to do. Clerk in process of ordering bins.



Grass cutting on Upper High Street opposite the Strawberry Farm has been missed. As has a verge on Manor Close opposite the nursery. Clerk to contact contractor.

**382/24 CHURCH**

- a) No updates on burial ground.
- b) Clerk had requested 3 quotes for cleaning war memorial but only received one. Clerk to chase and bring to next meeting.
- c) Committee agreed that the security costs would not have been needed if the scaffolding had only reached the clock and therefore the council would only want to pay for half of the scaffolding costs as originally agreed.

**383/24 CHRISTMAS TREE**

Clerk and councillor were meant to meet with Welford Christmas Tree Farm last week but the meeting did not take place and has been rescheduled for this week.

**384/24 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

No further items to add

Meeting closed 8.55pm

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm

Signed