

Notton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:30pm on the 7th December 2023 in Notton Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Taylor (Chair) Cllr Hicks, Cllr Pywell, Cllr Jagger, Cllr Callaghan.

Clerk to the Council: Andrew Woodhead

District Councillors: Ali and Cummings

Public: Three

104/1223- To receive comments or questions from members of the public attending

a)-It was understood that there are plans to plant a line of trees along the side of the green, which the member of the public was not supportive of. Council stated that the project has appeared in several newsletters and no objects had been brought prior to this.

b)-It was noted that there was some work required to tidy the bases of trees recently planted and consideration would be given to this and future planting.

c)-Bushes at the end of the Green would be cut back further although they did not restrict sight lines.

d)-Objections were raised with regards to planning application 23/01961/FUL the Council stated that it shared some of the concerns with the member of the public and had submitted an objection. The plans submitted did not have the building at the side of the proposed development and the Council asked District Councillor Cummings to report this matter to planning.

105/1223- To receive and consider apologies for absence.

No apologies.

106/1123- To receive any declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interests.

None.

107/1123- To receive Parish information from District Councillors/Inform the District Councillors of Parish Issues

a)-The sign from minute 92/1123(d) has been repaired.

b)-It was reported that the Hedge at Sekar Lane had been cut back and that George Lane vegetation had been cleared.

c)-It was noted that the Casualty Reduction Partnership is considering rural roads and Bleakley Cross Roads is on the list of identified sites.

d)-It was suggested that Alison Lowe the deputy Metro Mayor for West Yorkshire be invited to a Council meeting to hear about road safety issues.

e)-Wakefield Council are considering metal shutters for the empty property called the Cedars, currently going through probate.

f)-It was noted that pot-holes on the pavement at Ingswell Drive were marked up some time ago but no work has been done. Cllr Cummings will chase this up on our behalf.

g)-It was stated that a very old York Stone pavement had been uncovered by a resident on Woolley Mill Lane, the issue now was that there is a real risk the stone will be stolen. Cllr Cummings stated she would raise the issue with Wakefield Councils conservation officer.

Signed..... 4th January 2024

h)-Yorkshire Water had recently closed George Lane with no notice given and no diversion set up, it is recognised that emergency works sometimes require this method of working, but this was done to connect a domestic supply that would have been planned for some time. Cllr Cummings will investigate.

i)-District Councillors were thanked for their work and support for the Parish.

108/1123- To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday the 2nd November 2023 as a true and accurate record.

Resolved to approve the minutes of the 2nd November 2023 as a true and accurate record.

109/1123- Highways Matters

a)-It was noted that Police had been monitoring traffic speeds in Notton, although this was not a speed gun exercise.

b)-It was suggested that if work with Wakefield Council and Partners resulted in roundels and/or road markings of various sorts, this would be better than nothing and if required the Parish Council could look at CIL funding if there was no alternative funding streams.

110/1123- Planning Matters

a)-To consider planning validated applications.

23/00643/NMC01, Non-material amendment 123 George Lane- Noted.

b)-To receive information on planning decisions.

None

c)-To receive information on any appeals.

None

111/1223- Financial Matters

a)-To approve accounts for payment for November 2023.

The following items were noted and approved for payment.

PAYMENTS NOVEMBER 2023

Date	Item	Payee	£
01/12/2023	Clerks Salary	A Woodhead	214.59
01/12/2023	PAYE (Clerk)	HMRC	53.65
01/12/2023	SLCC Membership	SLCC	80.00
01/12/2023	Parish Online	GeoXphere Ltd	45.00
		Total	393.24

It was noted that the invoice for Newsletter printing had not arrived despite the Newsletter having been printed, collected and distributed. It was agreed that the invoice can be paid once it is received the expected sum is in the region of £200.

b)-To receive information on receipts & expenditure.

It was noted that all Allotment rentals have now been received although one cheque is still going through bank.

c)-To receive the bank reconciliation.

The bank reconciliation presented was accepted by the Council.

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Bank Reconciliation

Notton Parish Council

	£
Cash brought forward from 2022-2023	10790.69
Income to date	15765.77
Total	26556.46
Expenditure to date	10720.68
Current Balance	15835.78

Awaiting payment	214.59
	53.65
	80.00
	45.00
Total	393.24

Date 1st December 2023

STATEMENT NUMBER 242

Bank Balance	16229.02
Awaiting payment	393.24
Balance	15835.78

d)-To receive the current budget

The current spend to budget was presented to Council, expenditure is as expected with no areas of concern, noted.

e)-To consider the draft budget for 2024-25

The first draft budget was presented to Council, it was requested that Councillors consider this and any amendments in preparation for the meeting in January 2024.

f)-To consider the internal audit for 2023-24

The Clerk stated that he had a list of internal auditors for our next internal audit, having contacted the two closest to our area, neither were interested in the work. The clerk was instructed to contact Ms Winham to inform her that the Council would like her to undertake the audit for 2023-24.

112/1223 To consider correspondence and take action where necessary.

The following correspondence received by the Council was noted:

- YLCA Analysis of parish precepts 2023/2024
- NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin 9 November
- SLCC Vital Training to Enrich your Council
- WMDC Free Trees
- WMDC Free trees, grants and sustainable travel funding
- SLCC News Bulletin - 15 November 2023
- NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin 16 November
- Parish Online mapping and website sessions (Training)
- NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin 23 November
- YLCA Various Finance Related Webinar Training Courses

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- WMDC Community Grants Team – Cherry Trees on the Green
- YLCA Training Programme January – March 2024
- YLCA Training Bulletin 4-14 December
- NFP Workshops Nov to Feb Training Dates
- YLCA CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN
- YLCA November Law and Governance Bulletin

113/1223- Grounds Maintenance

No issues identified.

114/1223- Allotments

It was noted that a letter requesting cultivation of Allotment plots by Easter had been sent to an Allotment Plot holder. No overdue Allotment rental letters are required this year.

115/1223 Governance

a)- Public statement on level of reserves

It was noted that the current level of reserves stood at the equivalent of one quarter precept, consideration would be given to increasing this to the equivalent of half the precept as part of the budget discussion at the next meeting.

b)- Notton Parish Council Asset Register Review

The Cone Climber has now been dismantled and this item needs to be removed from the asset register. The register will be updated and brought to the next meeting for consideration.

116/1223- To receive information on the community spending (CIL) and other projects and agree action.

a)-To receive update on CIL money.

The Clerk asked Council to give consideration of spending the majority of the Councils CIL allocation to ensure that all spending against this allocation was undertaken with the time limits of the funding.

b)-To receive an update on Cherry Trees on the Green.

It was stated that the funding for the external funding application submitted by the Village Hall had been successful and once the paperwork has been received and returned the project can commence. It was noted that two objections to the project had been raised; however, as this project has been outlined in newsletters and these are the only objections raised project will be progressed.

c)-To receive an update on the hanging baskets.

The supplier had offered Christmas illuminations for free in lieu of a discount on hanging baskets. The Council did not feel that illuminations extra to the tree on the Green were acceptable to the public and that it may raise an expectation that such items were going to be on an annual basis. Council therefore declined the offer. The Clerk was instructed to inform the potential contractor.

d)-To Consider the state of the playground and equipment

The search for a company to undertake sand blast and paint has yet to find a suitable way forward, it was agreed that the play equipment would be cleaned in the spring.

117/1223- To receive an update on the Police safe scheme

The Police Safe Scheme report for November was accepted by the Council, it was noted that the village had been quiet over the period.

118/1223- To consider Parish Matters

a)-Notton Christmas Tree Provision 2024

Resolved that Notton Parish Council will pay for the Notton Christmas Tree for 2024 and will pay for the Christmas Tree from this point forward. It was noted that a living tree, in situation all year round would save money, but the consensus was that having asked parishioners the general feeling was against such a consideration.

b)-Section 137 Grant

A sum of monies was requested to cover some expenditure of a Carol Evening in the Parish Hall. It was agreed that as the sum did not exceed £50 the Parish Council would give a small grant of money using Section 137. Receipts and details to be sent to the Clerk to raise the payment.

c) Memorial

Requests for some sort of memorial for three recently deceased villagers had been received. There was some discussion about a possible seat on the eastern side of the Green.

119/1223- Matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.

Councillor Taylor gave his apologies for the meeting in January 2024.

Meeting closed at 9:20 pm