

FLORE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH SCHOOLROOM ON 12th NOVEMBER 2024 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillors: Mr Andy Anderson, Miss Freya Davies, Mr Tom Higginson,
Mr Simon Levell, Mrs Chris Littlewood, Mr John Thomason
Public: 3 Members of the public present

Acceptance of Apologies for absence: Councillors: Mrs Kathryn Baines, Mr Kev Beasley, Mr Geoff Fellows,
Mr Geoff Holden
Unitary Cllrs Mr Phil Bignell, Mr Charles Morton

Chair: Mrs Christine Littlewood
Cllr Littlewood advised the meeting of the death of Ex-Cllr Mr Peter Jones who served on the Council for numerous years and was a regular member of the public after that.

1093.0	Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct, regarding business tabled for discussion. Nothing declared	
1094.0	<p>Public Forum: for parishioners and reports by Unitary Councillors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident asked if there could be a footpath across the crossroads at Weedon at the bottom of Flore Hill – Clerk to email WNC • Resident advised that he has been looking after the small bridge on the road to the Canal, sanding and painting the railings, cutting back vegetation, and that today's work would be the last time he will be doing it – he wants to retire. The Councillors thanked him for all his hard work for the community and also for his help with other projects, helping to cut back hedging, cutting back vegetation and planting bulbs. • Cllr Bignell sent over notes prior to the meeting regarding WNC's budget, 5 year plan, and peer review. He expressed dismay about the recent approval of the application at Brington Road – Cllr Littlewood read out his statement. 	Clerk
1095.0	To approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th October 2024. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.	
1096.0	<p>Outstanding items - updates (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Warden: Cllr Thomason advised that he is still trying to liaise with local villages to get a coordinated effort in the event of flooding issues. He is also in contact with Environment Agency regarding trees over the river. • Climate Group: Brief details of the WNC Climate Summit were given to Cllrs. Noted • High Street: The Council agreed to go with the three 'works' identified by WNC. These would be two single chicanes, one located at the rear of Capell Rise and one before Brington Road, (both priorities would be the opposite 'flow of traffic' to the existing chicanes); work at the west side of the High Street at the entry to the village which would be the implementation of a 'gateway' feature, associated white lining and signage with new road markings. It was confirmed that WNC could potentially 'match fund this work from the Rural Traffic Calming budget, original funding is also held by WNC under S106. Council to also push for the weight restrictions on the High Street. Clerk to write to see whether dropped kerbs could be installed at the Bricketts Lane junction with High Street to enable wheelchairs/pushchairs to access the footpath throughout its entirety. • NCALC AGM details from meeting were emailed to Cllrs for info. Noted • Rt Hon Stuart Andrew MP had sent around a letter of introduction. Noted 	Clerk Clerk
1097.0	GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE	
1097.1	Handrail extension, Ram Bank. New contractor looking to see what he can find and will come back to us if he can undertake this work	January
1097.2	Land behind Holiday Inn: WNC advised they have visited the site on numerous occasions, and it is an ongoing investigation. Plot owners have been written to but not all plots are registered yet. There are no applications in on this site yet. The owner of the garage site has been asked to remove all vehicles from the land	February follow up
1097.3	Bypass Tree planting: WNC is progressing this, and the second phase of more extensive grass cutting will happen shortly. Tree planting/seeding like to commence in December.	January

January

- 1097.4 Memorial Surround work. Quote not received.
 1097.5 Street Watch campaign. Noted,
 1097.6 Asset of Community Value. It was agreed not to add this to the register at the present time.
 1097.7 Health & Wellbeing survey. Noted

1098.0 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 1098.1 Finance update. It was reported that as at 31st October the Council had £55,443.80 in the bank account. Income received £300 Messenger adverts. There were no matters arising. Reserves: approx. £18,000. Figures accepted. Cllr Levell asked which budget the bus shelter was paid in, confirmed as CIL income used.
 1098.2 Internal Control. Cllr Holden had looked through the paperwork, including bank statements, and confirmed all present and correct.
 1098.3 Precept Budget. Noted that paperwork has been received from WNC for this. Finance group to set date for meeting

1099.0 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Accumulated invoice for year to date – new contract		
SSE	Street light electricity (Oct)	196.92

Agreed at meeting

Halkett	Salary incl backpay to April 24	922.64
HMRC	PAYE	298.78
Halkett	Office rent	17.00
LC Hedging	Grass cutting	619.92
Chris Littlewood	Chair allowance (phone/travel/meetings)	200.00
Zephyr	Finials/tools for flagpoles	131.88
Thomas Drinkwater	Tree planting memorial ground	55.00
Weedon Bec PC	Telephone/broadband/office costs	296.50
URC	Grass cutting donation	350.00
PCC	Grass cutting donation open churchyard	420.00
Unity Trust	Bank charges	6.00
Design to Print	Messenger printing	159.00
		3476.72

Received after agenda published

Norse	Bin emptying	402.96
	Total	402.96
	Monthly Total	3879.68

December payments

Will be Retrospectively Agendered in January (no planned Council meeting in December)		
SALIX	Loan for street lights (Fixed Direct Debit)	3750.00
Halkett	Salary	TBC
HMRC	PAYE	TBC
Halkett	Office rent	17.00
Design to Print	Messenger	TBC
Unity Trust	Bank charges	TBC

2000.0 PLANNING

- 2000.1 **Application: Retrospective: 2024/4948/LBC. 11 The Green.** Fit stairlift by removing door, modern leg and small modern insert. All original wood features retained including head above door. The Council has no objections to this application. It seems that care has been taken to ensure a minimum of impact on the interior of the dwelling.
- 2000.2 **Application: 2024/5001/FULL. The Garden House. The Avenue.** Single storey kitchen extension. The Council has no objections to this application which is inline with the Neighbourhood Plan. The style, symmetry and materials are all in-keeping with the existing property and it is not visible from the road.
- 2000.3 **Application: 2024/5060/FULL. 18 Hillside Road.** Proposed replacement of the existing bungalow and outbuildings with a self-build bungalow and detached garage with sturdy/WC above. The Council has no objections to this application which complies with the Neighbourhood Plan. It fits in to the surroundings and is a good example of design.
- 2000.4 Brighton Road Development – overturned decision at High Court. Council disappointed with this turn of events and totally disagree with the judge's decision to overturn the Planning Inspector which they

Clerk

thought was illogical. Council to be on lookout for planning application to ensure there is 40% of the affordable housing on the site. Unitary Cllrs to be asked to inform Council when this Reserved Matters application is to be consulted on.

2001.0 REPORTS FROM VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

2001.1 Brodie Lodge. AGM in December

2001.2 Millennium Hall. Nothing to report

2001.3 Commonwealth Flags and Disaster Relief Fund: Flags flying well. Group looking to trial flying the village and county flags in the Spring, when no national flags flying.

2001.4 Charities: Flore Charity paid £400 to two students and £100 to a relief in need request. Richard Capell held its AGM and elected Mike Penn as its chair. Parish Cllr Chris Littlewood and PCC representative Ann Maud were welcomed as new Trustees.

2002.0 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- a. MP Introduction letter. 1096
- b. Police Street Watch initiative. 1097.5
- c. WNC Asset of community value. 1097.6
- d. NCALC Health & Wellbeing survey. 1097.7
- e. WNC Precept papers. 1098.3
- f. WNC Planning applications x 3. 2000 (1,2,3)

NCALC Updates and Training
WNC Town & Parish Briefing
WNC Media Updates
WNC weekly planning register
ACRE newsletter

2003.0 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AFTER AGENDA PUBLISHED

WNC: Rough sleepers in parish – nil return submitted

WNC: Highways OFG. Noted will be looked at

WNC: Notification: 2024/2066/MAF. Land between Glassthorpe Solar Farm and Northampton West Substation – installation of underground electrical connection and communication cables extending between the consented Glassthorpe Solar Farm and Northampton West Substation – will be considered by the WNC Strategic Planning Committee on 19th November. Noted

Date of next meetings: 21st January 2025, (no meeting in December),

Items for inclusion on next meeting's agenda.

Flood Warden and High Street work updates

Climate Group (only if something to report)

Trees on bypass further update .- January

Handrail extension on Ram Bank - January

Field behind layby enforcement update - February

The meeting closed at 2025 hrs