

LOWICK & SLIPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20th November 2024 at 7.00pm at The Germain Rooms Lowick

Present: Councillors L Blow (Acting Chair), D Campden, C Bithray

In attendance: N Phillips (Clerk), 1 x member of public, A Hughes (Flood Warden)

24.11/111	To receive and approve apologies for absence Cllrs W Childs (Chair), S Gardner (Vice Chair), D Chipchase,
24.11/112	Public participation session Request for funding for advertising display materials for village events, and for church repairs. Member of public left the meeting at 7.13pm Resolved: Clerk to investigate funding streams
	24/11/135 discussed at this point to allow A Hughes to leave the meeting.
24.11/135	To receive a report from Adam Hughes, Flood Warden, including the draft Flood Management Plan Blocked culvert on far side of A6116 which passes under several properties before discharging into Harpers Brook caused excess water to flood several properties in October. A request was made for help with funding an inspection of the culvert to identify issues before work is carried out, and for a flood kit Concerns raised re the water quality of Harpers Brook A Hughes left the meeting at 7.32pm. Resolved: Clerk to research possible funding sources.
24.11/113	To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. None
24.11/114	To co-opt William Page to Lowick & Slipton PC Due to not being present no co-option was possible
24.11/115	To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18th September 2024 Resolved: Approved and signed by the Chair
24.11/116	To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only Further contact made re offer of memorial donation for the Pocket Park – Clerk to continue working with family. Request made to NNC for information as to how Slipton can acquire Conservation Area status – no response to date.
24.11/117	To receive a report from NNC Ward Councillors No report received
24.11/118	To receive and approve the Balance of Accounts/Bank Reconciliation Resolved: Approved
24.11/119	To examine and approve the Bank Statements Bank balance stands at £14352.68 includes £2145.11 Pocket Park funds. Resolved: Bank statements approved and signed by Cllr Blow

24.11/120	To approve and authorise payment of the following invoices				
	Cheque	Payee	Item	Amount	Power to Pay
	100610	N A Phillips	September expenses	£16.13	LGA 1972 s111
	BAC 11	NALC	Agenda training confidential items	£4.00	LGA 1972 s111
	BAC 12	J C Blowfield	Pocket Park Mowing	£100.00	LGA 1972 s124
	100610	N A Phillips	October expenses	£13.30	LGA 1972 s111
	100611	N A Phillips	November Salary + back pay (April Oct)	£446.68	LGA 1972 s112
	DD14	HMRC	November Tax	£27.60	LGA 1972 s112
	100612	N A Phillips	December Salary	£367.08	LGA 1972 s112
	DD14	HMRC	December Tax	£7.80	LGA 1972 s112
	DD15	SSE	Unmetered supply November 2024	£32.98	PCA 1957 s3
	DD16	SSE	Unmetered supply December 2024	£31.95	PCA 1957 s3
	BAC 13	Eon Energy Solutions	Streetlight maint 01.10.2024 - 30.12.2024	£60.00	PCA 1957 s3
	BAC 14	Plexus media/Spanglefish	1 year website/domain name	£108.00	LGA 1972 s111
	BAC 15	J C Blowfield	Pocket Park Mowing	£100.00	LGA 1972 s124
	Resolved: All payments authorised – cheques signed by Cllr Blow and the Clerk, online payments authorised by Cllr Gardner.				
24.11/121	To review the budget and make any adjustments necessary.				
	Resolved: No action needed at this stage				
24.11/122	To set the budget for the year 2025/26				
	Resolved: Budget set at £15000.00				
24.11/123	To set the precept for the year 2025/26				
	Resolved: Precept set at £15000.00				
24.11/124	To receive the results of the half yearly internal finance checks from Cllr Blow.				
	Resolved: Items 003, 010, 012 checked, all in order				
24.11/125	To note the Clerk's hours worked.				
	Resolved: Hours still on track – no action needed.				
24.11/126	To note the Clerk's NJC pay settlement for the current financial year to include revision to home working allowance.				
	Resolved: £0.62 an hour increase noted. Home working allowance set at £17.50 per month				
24.11/127	To consider and resolve the council's response to planning applications listed below plus any other planning applications advised by North Northamptonshire Council and available on its website between the circulation of this agenda and the meeting.				
	NE/22/00698/OUT: Hybrid planning application at Land Adjacent Haldens Parkway Thrapston – amendments to warehousing application – no response.				
24.11/128	To note response to applications received and reviewed between meetings				
	None received				
24.11/129	To note planning decisions made by NNC				
	None received				
24.11/130	To note that the weekly safety checks of the Pocket Park Equipment are carried out.				
	Resolved: Checks carried out by Cllr Chipchase				

24.11/131	To note that the weekly checks of the defibrillators are carried out Resolved: Checks carried out by Cllrs Blow and Bithray. Batteries still holding their charge
24.11/132	To discuss any highways, or rights of way issues and to resolve what action to be taken Resolved: NNC have ruled out the installation of high kerbs and other suggested methods to prevent/reduce vehicle strikes in Robbs Lane, and have advised that the only measures residents can take are to fix warnings of projecting structure to their properties – Clerk to forward information received on to the residents concerned.
24.11/133	To note any issues with the Council's assets, including streetlighting, and to resolve what action if any to be taken Resolved: Quote received for £375.00 plus VAT to replace Pocket Park gate – Clerk to place order.
24.11/134	To discuss possible traffic calming measures at Lowick including funding Resolved: To apply for a grant to install gates at Lowick and on Sudborough Road, Slipton with any additional funding required to be paid for via the precept – it is anticipated that only partial funding will be available. Clerk to submit grant request forms.
24.11/135	To receive a report from Adam Hughes, Flood Warden, including the draft Flood Management Plan This item moved to the start of the meeting.
24.11/136	To decide the first steps in implementing the Biodiversity Plan Resolved: To check whether the owl box is ready for installation, to research cost of water quality testing for Harpers Brook. Clerk to research if the Environment Agency are responsible for the brook.
24.11/137	To consider plans, budget, and arrangements for the Local Elections 2025 Resolved: To be advertised as information received, Clerk to attend training
24.11/138	To approve the Prevention of Sexual Harassment Policy Resolved: Approved and adopted
24.11/139	Correspondence HMRC – checks for National Minimum Wage payments made – all in order no further action needed Health & Wellbeing Survey – submitted – no further action needed Local Policing Priorities – noted Anonymous letter re overgrown hedge – all correspondence requesting help and support from this Council must identify the sender.
24.11/140	To confirm the date of the next meeting as 15th January 2025 Resolved: Date confirmed with the Pocket Park meeting taking place at 6.45pm followed at 7.00pm by the Parish Council meeting
24.11/141	To close the meeting The meeting closed at 8.14 pm

Signed:

Dated: