

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Hargrave Parish Council**  
Held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at Hargrave Village Hall

Members present:  
Cllr D Farrington in the Chair

Councillors  
C Jones M Leonard  
Clerk- Ms J Hodgson  
6 members of the public

Meeting started at 7.30p.m. Note, this meeting had been postponed from 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

**22-31 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor West. **RESOLVED** that Cllrs West's reason for absence be approved. Apologies were received from North Northamptonshire Council Councillor Howell, Levell and Wilkes and co-option candidates Mr Phillips and Mrs Taylor.

**22-32 Minutes**

**RESOLVED:** that the Minutes for the meeting held 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**22-33 Declaration of interests**

There were no declarations made.

**22-34 Co-option to fill casual vacancies**

It was noted that North Northamptonshire Council had confirmed that the three casual vacancies created by the resignations of Councillors Brotherton, Gunthorpe and Newcombe would not be subject to a by-election and as such, the Parish Council was able to co-opt to fill the vacancies. The vacancies had been advertise locally and expressions of interest have been received from N Phillips, R Sheppard and S Taylor.

In accordance with the Parish Council's adopted policy, a vote by secret ballot was held.

**RESOLVED** That N Phillips, R Sheppard and S Taylor be co-opted to the Parish Council.

Mrs Sheppard completed the Declaration of Office and joined the remainder the meeting as a councillor.

**22-35 Public Speaking Time**

The applicants for NE/22/00407/FUL addressed the meeting to describe their proposals for the land and their view of how the application addresses previously stated highways concerns for the B645.

A resident of Church Road gave his opinion on the woodland as an important landscape feature and listed his reasons for objecting to the application.

A resident of Church Road drew attention to the road safety campaign instigated by the Parish Council, residents, the Ward Councillors and Member of Parliament, indicating that this demonstrated that it was a dangerous stretch of road.

A resident of Church Road congratulated the newly co-opted Councillors on their co-option. He congratulated the Parish Council on the Neighbourhood Plan referendum result. He drew attention to public comments on the North Northamptonshire Council planning website regarding application NE/22/00407/FUL.

The resident was thanked for his previous years of service on the Parish Council.

## **22-36 Planning Matters**

### a. Planning applications

**NE/22/00407/FUL** Provision of a single track access to The Grove woodland from the B645 at Hargrave. Currently the woodland has no access and this is required to enable sustainable management of the woodland to take place. Vehicular access for pick up sized vehicle required and turning access would be constructed in the woodland. An inward opening gate would be provided

Councillors considered the safety aspect of the access from the B645 including the frequency of accidents on the length of road from Chelveston to three Shires corner. It was noted that the parcel of land subject to the application had historically been part of the Radcliffe Trust and the access to the overall site at that time had been at a different location to the one now proposed. It was noted that drivers of farm vehicles (tractors etc) tended to be in an elevated position compared to drivers of cars and therefore were better placed to view the road to determine if it was safe to join the B645.

Councillor Jones made a statement that he was approaching the debate with an open mind and declared that he had spoken with the applicant particularly regarding an alternative access.

Councillor Farrington stated that he had spoken with the applicant prior to their purchase at their instigation and, as a private individual, suggested they addressed the issue of the access with the selling agent before completing their purchase.

The Council recognised that any area of woodland would require management under appropriate licences but members of the Council were not satisfied that sufficient evidence had been provided to support the assertion that the woodland was dying. It was the view of members that there was some dead wood, a significant proportion from felling in previous years, but also a lot of good growth.

It was agreed that the woodland provided screening for residents of Hargrave and biodiversity in terms of flora and fauna.

**RESOLVED** That the Parish Council objects to the application. The Council objects on the grounds of highways safety and draws attention to the record of accidents and fatalities on the B645 in recent years. The Council does not accept the assertion that there is clear visibility for 250m but asserts that the topography of the road, the dips where a fatality occurred in September 2021, reduce visibility to under 100m.

The Council rejects the suggestion that the proposed access is comparable to a nearby farm access as that access is used by farm vehicles that have drivers cabs in an elevated position, affording drivers an enhanced view of the road and oncoming traffic.

The Parish Council is of the opinion that a vehicle access would necessitate the need for parking and a turning circle. This would result in ground clearance on site. A change of use should be required so that full planning scrutiny can be applied.

It is not clear from the planning papers what the ultimate use of the site would be. Reference has been made to visitors arriving by foot and bicycle. The B645 cannot not be considered a safe route for pedestrians and the council would question where visitors arriving by car or coach would park. It is not clear whether the site would be operated on a commercial or charitable basis. This should be clarified.

The Parish Council is of the opinion that any ground clearance would cause a loss of visual amenity for residents and a loss of amenity in general.

The Parish Council therefore requests that this application is refused.

b. Planning decisions made by North Northamptonshire Council

It was noted that permission had been granted in the case of:

NE/21/00616/FUL Change of use from a Public House with ancillary accommodation to a Residential Property with ancillary domestic workshop at The Old Nags Head, Church Street

20/00990/FUL Erection of Building for storage of Light Aircraft and Hay and Use of Field as Grass Landing Strip at Hargrave Lodge Farm, Shelton Road

## 22-37 Report from North Northants Councillors

There was no report to give.

## 22-38 Financial Matters

a. Payment schedule - **RESOLVED** that the following payments be authorised:

Payee	Amount
HM Revenue & Customs – first quarter tax and national insurance (paid prior to meeting in order to meet HMRC deadlines)	£195.20
Northants CALC – annual subscription, Data Protection Officer fee & Internal Audit Service fee.	£448.53
J Hodgson – 2 months’ salary, travel expenses	£547.93
Transfer of funds from current account to a deposit account	£130.55

The General Power of Competence was adopted May 2021

The following payments have been made under the Councils Direct debit arrangements

Date	Payee	Amount
08.05.2022	Yu Energy – street lighting	£12.80
08.05.2022	Yu Energy	£26.28
08.06.2022	Yu Energy	£13.06
08.06.2022	Yu Energy	£26.02
30.06.2022	Unity Trust Bank – service charge collected quarterly	£18.00
08.07.2022	Yu Energy	£12.66
08.07.2022	Yu Energy	23.85

- b. Financial report from the Clerk – as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 the Council held £12183.39 in the current account and £12214.85 in the deposit account. The two deposit accounts with Barclays Bank have been closed and a cheque for £130.73 has been paid into the Unity Trust current account. This sum will be split between the Herdsman charity account £130.55 and the remaining 18p will remain in the current account. This reflects the allocations within Barclays Bank. Unity Trust Bank have confirmed that Councillors Brotherton and Gunthorpe have been removed from the mandate and Councillor Leonard and West have been added.

The HMRC 'basic tools' software used to complete payroll has been updated in accordance with current guidance.

- c. Platinum Jubilee Grant received from the Wind Farm Trust **RESOLVED**: that the sum of £150.00 be divided equally between the Village Hall Committee and the Parochial Church Council as the two bodies responsible for organising Jubilee events. A summary on how money had been spent would need to be provided to the Clerk to support the payment.
- d. Platinum Jubilee Tree **RESOLVED** that a budget of £150.00 be set to purchase a suitable tree and plaque to mark the Platinum Jubilee. It would be expected that there would be an unveiling ceremony and the precise location for planting is to be agreed at a later meeting. Cllr Jones will investigate suitable species. This could be nominated as part of the 'Queen's Green Canopy'.
- e. Clerk remuneration point **RESOLVED** having considered background to local government pay scales, the experience of the Clerk and the support provide especially in the past two years, it was agreed that the Clerk should be moved to spinal point 18 with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022, the start of the fiscal year.

## **22-39 Neighbourhood Plan**

- a. Result of the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

The result of the Poll held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 was received.

Yes votes 77 (87.5%)

No votes 11 (12.5%)

45.4% turn out

The Counting Officer declared that more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan.

It was noted that at North Northamptonshire Council a report is being prepared to go to the Executive in August to recommend the making (adoption) of the Hargrave Neighbourhood Plan, following the outcome of the referendum.

- b. Log of communications

The log of communications regarding an objection lodged against Referendum being held was received.

## **22-40 Community and road safety**

- a. Noise monitoring cameras on the B645

It was noted that a resident had been in correspondence with Mr T Pursglove MP requesting the B645 between Chelveston and Kimbolton be nominated as a site for noise monitoring

cameras. The government is looking for four sites nationally to host a pilot scheme for noise recorders as well as visual road cameras to combat excessive speed and noise pollution. The matter had been referred to Mr G Shapps MP as Secretary of State for Transport. The North Northamptonshire Council Executive Director of Place & Economy, Mr G Candler, has written to Mr Pursglove MP confirming that the B645 would be a suitable trial site and that North Northamptonshire Council officers would work with Mr Pursglove's office to continue with the proposal.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council supports the application for the B645 being included as a pilot location for the scheme and will provide any support it can. The Council commended Mr Wilson for initiative in this matter.

#### **22-41 Village Infrastructure**

a. Kerb stones and drain connections

Further to Minute 21-122 it was noted that the Council had not received a substantive response to the enquiries made regarding unauthorised drain connections and the failure to include kerbstones to hold up the county verge as part of the planning process. **RESOLVED** that the matter be escalated to North Northamptonshire Council Chief Executive officer.

#### **22-42 Report from village hall committee representative**

It was noted that the kitchen ceiling was due to be painted and that a successful barn dance had been held.

#### **22-43 Report from the Wind Farm Trust representative**

There was no report to give.

#### **22-44 Correspondence list**

The list of correspondence received that forms Appendix A was received. No further action was identified.

#### **22-45 Next scheduled meeting**

The next scheduled meeting will be on 5th September 2022. It was agreed that there should be agenda items to include Remembrance Sunday, specifically the individual crosses; Rights of Ways, especially near the white bridge; winter maintenance to public areas on Raunds Road and Brook Street.

Meeting closed 8.50.

**Chairman**

### Correspondence list 3rd May to 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022

This list is comprised of generic or informational emails sent by other organisations and Councils rather than listing correspondence with members of the public. A separate list of correspondence with members of the public or correspondence on specific matters with other bodies is not maintained.

1. Email: Latest news from the ICO
  2. Email: N ACRE Parish Council Members - May Ebulletin (circulated to Councillors)
  3. Email: N CALC Friday mini eUpdate - 13/05/22 (circulated to Councillors)
  4. Email: Mayor of Raunds 2022-23 (circulated to Councillors)
  5. Email: Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner - Newsletter May 2022 (circulated to Councillors)
  6. Email: N CALC Friday mini eUpdate - 06/05/22 (circulated to Councillors)
  7. Email: N CALC Friday mini eUpdate - 20/05/22 (circulated to Councillors)
  8. Email: Northants CALC Mini Training Newsletter May 2022 (circulated to Councillors)
  9. Email: NNC Update from the Leader of the Council # 25 (circulated to Councillors)
  10. Email: Northants CALC eUpdate - May/June 2022 (circulated to Councillors)
  11. Email: NNC consultation: UK Shared Prosperity Fund ((circulated to Councillors)
  12. Email: Superfast Northamptonshire Newsletter
  13. Email: NCALC DPA Missive from WNC
  14. Email: NNC Revised closing date for the survey on the Shared Prosperity Fund
  15. Email: NCALC Wednesday mini eUpdate - 01/06/22 (circulated to Councillors)
  16. Email: PRESS RELEASE: Northamptonshire ACRE calls for more action to protect the climate
  17. Email: Anglian Water - Vulnerable customer support (circulated to Councillors)
  18. Email: NNC Consultation on Draft Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Policy and Conditions
  19. Email: NCALC Free training opportunity (parish online)
  20. Email: NNC Update from the Leader of the Council #26 (circulated to Councillors)
  21. Email: N CALC Friday mini eUpdate - 10/06/22 (circulated to Councillors)
  22. Email: Northants CALC Training Newsletter (circulated to Councillors)
  23. Email: Bedford Borough Local Plan 2040 – Plan for Submission consultation
  24. Email: Latest news from the ICO
  25. Email: Developing in the Forest of Marston Vale SPD
  26. Email: HMRC Important information for employers
  27. Email : Weekly Schemes Works Programme For Councillors
  28. Email: Notification of road closure for work by Anglian Water (circulated to Councillors)
  29. Email: Notification from PKF Littlejohn of receipt of the audit paperwork
  30. Email: NCALC Friday mini eUpdate - 17/06/22 (circulated to Councillors)
  31. Email: NCALC Membership satisfaction survey 2022 (Councillors) (circulated to Councillors)
  32. Email: Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner - Newsletter June 2022 (circulated to Councillors)
  33. Email: Raunds TC Invite to Murder Mystery Dinner - 29th July 2022
  34. Email: NCALC Friday mini eUpdate - 24/06/22
  35. Email: Ravensden Neighbourhood Development Plan
  36. Email: NCALC Friday mini eUpdate - 01/07/22
  37. Email: N ACRE Parish Council Members - June 2022 E-Bulletin (circulated to Councillors)
  38. Email: Details of The Anne Robson Trust Helpline
- End