

LAMPORF AND HANGING HOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL
Wednesday 22 May 2019 in the The Old Laundry, Lamporf Hall, Lamporf at 6.30 pm

1. ATTENDANCE, apologies and Declarations of Interest

Present: Cllrs Jonathan Farr (in the Chair)
Bob Cox
Richard Flavell While
Colin Harris
Percy May
Mike Philpott
Bruce Ward
Frances Allbury (Clerk)

10 parishioners

Declaration of Interest: None

Apologies: Cllr. Kevin Parker

2. ELECTIONS appointment and confirmation of Councillors and Office Bearers

Cllr Philpott took the Chair for the election of officers:

- Cllr Harris was unanimously elected Chairman: proposed Cllr Farr, seconded Cllr Philpott
- Cllr Farr was unanimously elected Vice Chairman: proposed: Cllr Flavell While, seconded Cllr Philpott

All other Councillors agreed to stand as follows:

Bob Cox	CPRE and Defibrillator
Jonathan Farr	Tree Warden, footpaths and verges
Richard Flavell-While	IT and Website
Bruce Ward	Highways and Snow Warden
Percy May	

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meetings held 13 March 2019 and Planning Meeting 3 April 2019 were approved and signed by the Chair.

4. MATTERS arising from the MINUTES

4.1 Litter Pick

Cllr Ward said that a litter pick will be organised in the autumn with maximum promotion to attract as many residents as possible to help.

4.2 Defibrillator Training

Cllr Cox said that despite his best efforts he had been unable to arrange a date for training with the Community Heartbeat. However a resident of Lamporf is able to provide suitable training on a Sunday afternoon and he will be in touch with all interested residents in order to fix a convenient date. Lamporf Hall has kindly offered use of the Old Laundry for this purpose.

5. HIGHWAYS

5.1 Speeding issued Lamport High Street

The Clerk said that she is in regular contact with Tracey Simonti-Stocker who is heading up the group working on the speeding issued through the village. Ian Boyes, Northamptonshire Highways has confirmed that NCC are now able to fund the signage and road markings recommended. The signs are now on order and will be installed shortly.

5.2 Temporary Road Signs

Cllr Cox contacted Northamptonshire Highways about a temporary road sign next to the A508 travelling towards Lamport. Highways responded by saying whilst they understood the concerns expressed it did not think the sign constituted a hazard or distraction to passing vehicles.

6. PLANNING

6.1 Settlement and Countryside Local Plan Part 2

Cllr Parker has advised that an Inspector has been appointed and the Hearing will take place week commencing 10th June 2019. Further details to follow.

6.2 KET/2019/0144: Land to the west of Mercedes Avenue, Brixworth

Outline application with main point of access included for development to provide commercial floor space for Class Blb, B1c, B2 and B8 employment uses.

Discussed at a planning meeting 3 April 2019: awaiting planning decision

7 FINANCE

7.1 Balance at Bank current financial year: the clerk circulated printed accounts as at 22 May 2019: Current a/c £3,576.08 and Deposit Account £3,320.77. After payment of the invoices listed below there is a true balance of £5,210.48 , £701.88 of which is allocated for defibrillator maintenance:

7.2 Items for payment:

Chq 521	F.R. Allbury: Clerk's Wages/Expenses	£440.76
Chq 522	HMRC: Clerk's PAYE	£99.20
Chq 52	NCALC: annual membership*	£408.34
Chq 524	C'wide Grounds Maint: village grass cutting	£324.00
Chq 525	BHIB: annual insurance renewal	£340.47
Chq 526	A. Boullemier: NHW Newsletter Expenses	£13.60
Chq 527	Comm. H'beat Trust: Annual Emergency Phone	£60.00

The Clerk gave Councillors the background to the increase in the payment to NcALC rising to over £400 this year. Until 2017/18 Parish Council expenses has always fallen below £5000 resulting in an internal audit fee of Band 1. However, the purchase of the defibrillator caused a spike in expenditure resulting in the internal audit fee falling into the next Band (£5,001 - £25,000) and a rise in fee from £98 to £176. The Clerk said that to her knowledge the range of Band cover has not changed in 10 years and because of ever increasing costs in that time, more and more parish councils were finding themselves sucked into Band 2 and the resultant very high increase in the cost of using NcALC to carry out the internal audit. After discussion, Councillors reluctantly sanctioned the payment and the Clerk was instructed to pass on the Council's feeling to NcALC with regard to the increase.

7.3 End of year accounts to 31 March 2019 was examined. The Parish Council started the year with a reserve of £5,339.35 and closed with a balance of £4,167.27 including £761.88 itemised in a Projects Statement relating to funds in hand for the defibrillator. Expenditure was largely in line with the agreed budget for the year. A satisfactory Internal Audit Report had been received with no issues raised.

7.4 External Audit papers. The Chairman and Clerk signed and dated all relevant documents which had been internally audited for uploading onto the Parish Council website and the notice boards.

8. REVIEW OF PARISH COUNCIL POLICY DOCUMENTS

Financial Management, Standing Orders, Financial and Risk Management Policy, Asset Register and GDPR documents were all signed off unamended.

9. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Tony Boullemier, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator said that there had been a recent day time burglary in Hanging Houghton but had no further details to report. However a green van had been noticed in the vicinity on the same day. Parking and speeding remain an issue. Unfortunately, authorities are reluctant in reduce the speed limit along A508 at the junction with Lamport High Street which will inevitably result in accidents. There is still a continuing problem with anti-social behaviour in Hanging Houghton and along Brampton Valley Way with young people and possibly drugs. Mr. Boullemier emphasized the importance of all residents to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the police.

10. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE POLICE FIRE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

The Clerk reported on a number of community grants available upon application in respect of Making Northamptonshire Safer, Road Safety Community Fund and Tackling Hate Crime. All enquires should be made through the Parish Clerk.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Village BBQ

Cllr Flavell While said that some young people in Hanging Houghton have requested permission to run a lemonade stall at the BBQ in aid of charity. Permission given.

14 Date of next Meeting

10 July 2019 at 7 pm in The Old Laundry, Lamport Hall. The Clerk has contacted Lamport Hall asking if it would be possible to hold future meetings on the third Wednesday rather than the second Wednesday bi-monthly. Further information to follow.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.00 pm

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Dated.....

Chairman