

LAMPOR AND HANGING HOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL
Wednesday 16 March 2022 at 7 pm
in the Old Laundry, Lamport Hall, Northamptonshire

1. ATTENDANCE, apologies and Declarations of Interest.

Present: Cllrs B. Cox, C. Dugmore, D. Gasson, C. Harris (in the Chair), R. Flavell-White, F. Allbury (Parish Clerk)

Apologies for absence: Cllrs J. Farr, P. May and Cllr K. Parker (WNC)

2 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 26 January 2022 were approved and signed.

3 MATTERS arising from the MINUTES

3.1 Asset Mapping

The Clerk thanked Cllr Gasson for completing the schedule of assets incorporating the location and condition and for the Chairman for his input. Work is underway to complete the asset mapping project via Parish-Online by 31 March 2022. The Clerk confirmed that Parish-Online offered an initial 30 free trial plus a further 6 months. Therefore, the Parish Council had until 2nd September to decide if they wished to continue with a subscription. With the additional information the Clerk will add the locations to the Asset Register and also restate current replacement costs where necessary.

3.2 Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations

Cllr Dugmore said that an open evening with interested parishioners had been held in order to decide how to celebrate the Jubilee with various options discussed. A further meeting will be held in two weeks to form a working group and agree a format. The Clerk was asked to investigate any possible grants that may be available for this purpose. The Clerk will also forward on a number of emails received in recent weeks selling mementos. £515 is held in the Social Fund Account.

3.3 The Grange, Hanging Houghton

The static caravan parked on site as now been removed. The path clearance has been reported to the agents acting on behalf of the Landlord and the Clerk has been assured that the work would be carried out as soon as possible. She would however send a reminder.

4 HIGHWAYS

4.1 Bus Shelter Lamport

The Chairman commented that work was required to remove heavy ivy intrusion on the structure. The Clerk will ask Cllr Parker if this is the responsibility of WNC or the Parish Council, before organising work to clear it.

4.1 Dog Waste Bin, Manor Road

This work has still not been completed. A tall post has been installed but the waste bin is no longer there. The Clerk will send a reminder.

4.2 Location of bus stop in Hanging Houghton

The Clerk had received an email from Emma Saul, resident at Manor Farm, Hanging Houghton pointing out the danger posed to 4 pupils who have to cross the A508 every morning to pick up the Guilsborough School bus. The bus is only permitted to stop at an official bus stop. The A508 is a particularly busy road and Emma asked if the Parish Council had any responsibility for the positioning of bus stops. The Clerk forwarded Emma's email to Cllr Kevin Parker who is making enquiries at WNC to see if there is any help available to firstly reposition the current bus stop and also reducing the speed limit along the A508.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ukraine Appeal

Cllr Dugmore commented that to date no fundraising had been organised by the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would email Ruth Gasson, Clerk to Brixworth Parish Council asking if

Lampport and Hanging Houghton could be included in any appeal made in their much larger community.

6. PLANNING

6.1 WND/2022/0138: Grooms Cottage, Manor Road, Hanging Houghton
Variation of condition 2 of listed building consent (WND/2021/0594 construction of extension to outbuilding) to allow work to be carried out as per submitted drawing.
Having examined the relevant plans online, Councillors raised no objections to planning approval.

6.2 WND/2022/0162: Meadowcroft, Manor Road, Hanging Houghton
Work to trees subject to tree preservation order DA67.
Having examined the relevant plans online, Councillors commented that they felt that work was required, but as the trees are the subject of a TPO then Councillors had no comment to make.

7 FINANCE

7.1 Balance at Bank: accounts and budget for the current financial year circulated by email.
Balances at bank 16 March 2022: current account £2,412.24 and £1,728.92 in reserve account.
When payments totalling £820.96 are made at this meeting the true total balance will be £3,320.20.
£483.80 of this balance is allocated for maintenance of the telephone box and the defibrillator (having deducted the payment of £60 due in April 2022).

7.2 Items for payment to be made by bank transfer:

F.R. Allbury: salary and expenses /annual use of home office	£726.36
HMRC: Clerk's PAYE	£94.60

Cllr Harris proposed that the payments should be made, seconded by Cllr Flavell While . The Bank account will be accessed online after the meeting to verify that the payments have been made in accordance with those listed in the minutes.

The Clerk referred to the updated budget which was now almost complete saying that a reduced number of grass cuts during the season had resulted in a saving of £480. Between now and the end of the financial year on 31 March 2022, one further payment would be taken from the account for £35 via a direct debit in respect of the Information Commissioner. The account will benefit from a one-off payment of £219.62 from NcAlc for the Asset Mapping project which could be used to cover any expenses incurred.

7.3 Clerk's Salary Increase

NcALC has advised that a pay increase of 1.75% has been agreed nationally for parish clerks. The implementation of the increase from 1st April 2022 will raise her current annual salary from £2980.00 to £3,032.15 per annum. Cllr Dugmore proposed that the clerk be awarded the additional funds: seconded by Cllr Flavell While.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH/CRIME

Report from Peter Dugmore circulated by email 24 January 2022. He was pleased to say that no criminal activity had taken place in the area since his last report. Peter referred to two other incidents that had taken place towards the end of last year involving damage to the dog waste bin and a rave party in farm buildings belonging to Lampport Hall both of which have been addressed. Comment was made regarding the continual danger of traffic speeding along the A508 past Manor Road and the entrance to Lampport High Street opposite The Swan which he pursued with Northants Police and WNC but with very little support or offer of action. The Parish Council was encouraged to keep the matter under review. Peter concluded his report with an update on county activity and initiatives.

Cllr Cox said that there had been a fly tipping incident along Brampton Valley Way which he had reported to the police but because he didn't actually see the offence taking place then nothing further could be done, even though a registration number of a vehicle leaving the scene had been provided. Environmental Health said that they could provide specialised camera equipment but only on proven fly tipping hot spots. This situation will be monitored and reported when necessary.

9 DEFIBRILLATOR

Cllr Cox said that he was still monitoring the status of the battery and would order a new one when required. A new battery could be ordered and fitted within 48 hours.

10 SPRING LITTER PICK

A pre-Jubilee celebration litter pick was agreed for Sunday 22 May 2022 at 11.00 am. Appropriate advertising would be carried out.

11 TREES SUBJECT TO TPO'S ON PUBLIC LAND

Cadent (responsible for gas pipework in the village) has a kiosk situated on public land in Manor Road, Hanging Houghton and they contacted the Clerk requesting the Parish Council to make arrangements to prune an adjacent tree as it was considered a hazard to their structure. After making several enquires it was ascertained that this particular tree is the subject of a TPO and therefore the responsibility of WNC. The Chairman and clerk both feel that the Parish Council need to identify all trees on public land and specify their status in relation to TPO's. The Clerk will contact Mike Venton, Assistant Director Economic Growth & Regeneration, WNC and report at the next meeting.

12 CREATION OF AREA OF CONSERVATION

All Councillors agreed that achieving conservation status would be very beneficial. The Clerk had contacted WNC regarding area reviews and the interest of Lamport and Hanging Houghton would be included in future decisions. Unfortunately, neither village had been part of the first conservation programme completed by Daventry DC.

13 CORRESPONDENCE

West Northamptonshire Council

The Clerk has downloaded a flyer for the notice boards asking for input from residents to a proposal to make a new Public Spaces Protection Order to promote responsible dog ownership and limit smoking in certain public spaces.

14 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT TWO MEETINGS

Parish Council AGM: 18 May 2022 at 7.00 pm in The Old Laundry, Lamport, Northamptonshire.
Annual Parish Meeting: 25 May 2022 at 7.00 pm in the open arched building adjacent to the Old Laundry, Lamport Hall with drinks served at the conclusion of the meeting in the open bar area. (confirmed by Mark Herrod)

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8.05 pm.

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Date:.....2022