

WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL



NCALC Council of the Year 2020

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Minutes of the **Ordinary Parish Council Meeting** held on **Monday 16th December 2024** at 6.30pm.

Present: Chairman Cllr E Fisher, Cllr J Bilson arrived late to the meeting, Cllr T Bowyer, Cllr M Callan, Cllr S Ghavami, Cllr A Hamilton, Cllr D Harrison, Cllr J Servent and Cllr F Wuddah.

Mrs A Reynolds Clerk to the council, and 6 members of the public.

242/24 To receive apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Churches and Cllr Wanjohi.

243/24 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2024

RESOLVED: The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

244/24 To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Fisher declared an interest in item 252 as she is on the committee of the preschool who are a tenant of the Memorial Hall.

245/24 To receive requests for dispensation

There were no applications for dispensations.

246/24 Police & Public Session

The Clerk from Hackleton Parish Council and members from the Memorial Hall committee attended the meeting and were invited to speak during their individual agenda items.

A member of the public raised concerns about flooding and enquired who is responsible for the balancing ponds in Wootton (as it was dry during the recent flooding) and the culvert in front of Caroline Chisolm School (as it's very overgrown).

The Chairman advised that the environment agency manage the brooks and culvert, the balancing pond on Wooldale Road is owned by WNC. Cllr Larratt had previously advised that the balancing pond isn't working and that WNC are working with Anglian Water and the Environment Agency to rectify the issue.

Action: The Clerk will ask Cllr Larratt for an update with what is happening with the balancing pond. She will also speak to the Environment Agency to request that they unblock the culvert.

Cllr Callan advised that WNC are supposed to be clearing the drains by the sheep farm on 16th December 2024

Action: Cllr Callan will follow this up.

247/24 To receive the Chairman's Report

- The Chairman thanked all councillors who helped with the Christmas Fayre, it was disappointing that some councillors had put their names down to help but didn't turn up. It would be appreciated if more councillors could help as it's always the same councillors who help and assist with the events.

- Mike Reader MP also attended our Christmas Fayre and spoke to all stall holders. He wants to visit our parish again when we do not have an event happening, it's great to have his support.
- Our Library Manager is running a Christmas Craft Day on Saturday 21st December, Councillors Callan, Ghavami, Hamilton and Fisher will be helping at the event. The library manager usually runs her own events with the support of volunteers, so very much appreciates having councillor support.
- The Finance and Community Centre Committee have been working hard putting together the budget for next year, it's not quite ready but will be by the next ordinary meeting of the parish council on 20th January.

248/24 To receive the Clerk's Report

- Library figures for the month of November totalled 2320, it's amazing to see our library being used by so many residents.
- The Christmas Fayre was a huge success, thank you to our Bar and Functions Manager for her hard work in organising such a fantastic event, to our Library Manager for her support over the weekend, and to Councillors Bilson, Callan, Fisher, Ghavami, and Hamilton for supporting and assisting with the event.
- The dog waste collection started on Friday 13th December with our new contractor, the colour of the bin bag will alternate with each collection.
- We have changed the supplier for our beers and ciders in the bar and have had new fonts and pumps installed.

249/24 Finance & Administration

a. To approve the payments made between 14th November – 5th December 2024

RESOLVED: To approve the payments made between 14th November and 5th December 2024.

b. To receive the bank balances for the end of November 2024

- Unity Trust Bank £130,765.48
- Nationwide £115,329.83

c. To receive the budget vs actuals report

Members received the report and there were no questions.

It's encouraging to see that our room hire has generated more income than budgeted - this is a great result.

The Chairman advised that the Finance and Community Centre committee have amended the report for next financial year, moving and merging budget lines together.

d. To receive the internal controls councillor report for Q2

Cllr Hamilton completed the internal controls councillor role for Q2, and a copy of his report was circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: The report was received and there were no questions.

250/24 Resolve to receive and note minutes from the Finance and Community Centre Committee meeting held on 2nd December 2024

RESOLVED: The minutes were received and noted.

251/24 Resolve to accept the Finance and Community Centre Committees recommendation not to budget funds to give to Hackleton Parish Council

The Clerk from Hackleton attended the meeting and addressed the council as to reason why Hackleton Parish Council were requesting assistance from Wootton.

RESOLVED: To accept the Finance and Community Centre Committees recommendation not to budget funds to give to Hackleton Parish Council.

252/24 Resolve to investigate ways in which the Parish Council can assist the Memorial Hall committee in addressing ongoing maintenance needs following the resignation of their volunteer handyperson.

A member of the Memorial Hall committee addressed the council to ask for support from the Environmental Maintenance Officers in addressing their ongoing maintenance needs.

RESOLVED: To support the Memorial Hall committee by providing support via the parish council's environmental maintenance officers. The Parish Council will discuss and agree the hourly rate for call outs with the committee.

253/24 Resolve to accept the finance and community centre's recommendation to replace the old wooden Thrupp Bridge and agree the type of wood to be used and whether to wait until next financial year or take the money from reserves

RESOLVED: To replace the bridge this financial year using money from reserves (putting the money back into reserves next financial year) and to accept the quotation from Bison Bridges to remove the existing old timber bridge, supply and install a new recycled plastic bridge at a cost of £11,626.24 ex VAT

254/24 Resolve to consider installing a new dog waste bin on Newport Pagnell Road

MOTION FAILED: The council resolved not to install a new dog waste bin on Newport Pagnell Road. The Clerk will speak to the resident who requested the new bin, and forward their request to Hardingstone Parish Council, as the new bin will benefit the new Tillia Homes development.

255/24 Resolve to accept the documents relating to the 1997 S106 land transfer from David Wilson Homes and to agree to the proposed changes

RESOLVED: The current license does not specify the outcome of the land ownership at the end of the 25-year lease. The Clerk will consult with the solicitor to request that the lease explicitly states that ownership of the land will revert to Wootton Parish Council at the end of the 25-year term. Pending the inclusion of this clause, the council accepted the proposed changes.

Action: Clerk

256/24 To receive a report from Councillors attending meetings

- Cllr Callan attended a NALC conference about Devolution NALC.
- The Chairman and clerk met with representatives from the Methodist Church and the Medical Centre to investigate options for the expansion of the medical centre. The medical centre have requested help in finding out information about rights of way.
Action: The Clerk will follow up with West Northamptonshire Council.
- Cllr Ghavami thanked everyone for their support with his charity run to raise funds for the church roof.

257/24 Close

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting: 20th January 2025

Signed

date

Wootton Parish Council
Bill Payment List
15th November - 5th December 2024

Date	No.	Supplier	Amount
15/11/2024	DDR	BOC	-133.71
21/11/2024	DDR	Barton Telecom Services	-112.94
28/11/2024	DDR	Veolia	-245.76
18/11/2024	DDR	Lloyds Bank Card	-680.14
21/11/2024	online	Trade UK Account Card	-127.38
21/11/2024	online	Etiquette Services Ltd	-206.40
21/11/2024	online	ESPO	-3.90
21/11/2024	online	Weedwise Ltd	-2,670.50
21/11/2024	online	Almac	-2,755.00
21/11/2024	online	Any Occasion	-588.00
21/11/2024	online	Ashby Computer Services LLP	-1,460.59
20/11/2024	DDR	Booker Ltd	-292.83
20/11/2024	online	Tina Charteress	-500.00
21/11/2024	online	ESPO Energy Gas	-671.27
21/11/2024	online	Etiquette Services Ltd	-227.04
21/11/2024	Online	Etiquette Services Ltd	-1,972.80
29/11/2024	DDR	LWC NORTHAMPTON	-247.95
21/11/2024	online	NCALC	-180.00
21/11/2024	online	Trade UK Account Card	-25.96
21/11/2024	online	SLCC Enterprises Ltd	-36.00
21/11/2024	online	South Northants Responders	-750.00
21/11/2024	online	TotalEnergies	-2,591.30
22/11/2024	online	BACA	-99.00
25/11/2024	online	Ashby Computer Services LLP	-108.00
25/11/2024	online	Stamps Direct Ltd	-39.31
27/11/2024	online	Stoke Goldington	-122.00
27/11/2024	online	ESPO	-244.14
27/11/2024	online	Recycling Bins Direct	-1,050.26
05/12/2024	online	Wootton Patient Participation Group	-300.00
05/12/2024	online	Aura Commercial Cleaning Services	-1,341.60
05/12/2024	online	Etiquette Services Ltd	-247.68
05/12/2024	online	Webb House	-282.00
05/12/2024	online	LGPS	-3,745.15
05/12/2024	online	HMRC	-3,932.28
25/11/2024	STO	Personnel Advice & Solutions	-120.00
05/12/2024	online	PHS Group	-156.82
			-
			£28,267.71
		Salaries	£13,632.34