

Minutes of Wappenham Parish Council AGM Meeting and Ordinary Meeting held on 5th September 2024 in The Village Hall Wappenham

Present: Chairman P Featherstone, Councillors, H Wickham, A Robbins, M Stewart, M Wilkinson, S Thompson, and T Emerton Parish Clerk. There were no residents in attendance

1. Receive Apologies and Approve the Reasons for Absence

Apologies were received and approved from Councillors I Atkins and Ward Councillor Bambridge

2. To invite Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

3. To confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th July 24

The meetings were approved and signed

Action No.	Description	Action
September 007 003	Litter Picking	Councillor Robbins to organise a date and send out on WIZ
September 007 005	Parish Clerk Role	Chairman Featherstone to share job role with WIZ and NCALC update
September 007 006	DHL Development	Clerk to share concerns with Sarah Bool and objection on WNC planning portal
September 005	To consider issues related to highways, footpaths and street areas	Clerk to add to Fix my Street Nearside 30MPH sign needs replacing on the turning by the last house in the village, a bungalow
		Tree moves - continue to follow up with WNC
		Slapton Bridge the wooden fence seems pushed over. Chairman will review
		Path conditions in Helmdon Road - Councilor Robbins to send photo to clerk to log on Fix My Street
		Path on the High Street is very narrow due to foliage. Chairman Featherstone will discuss with the resident
		Chairman Featherstone will also review and discuss with the resident about the narrow path on Brookside

1. To Receive Reports from The Chairman

- As you know (email a few weeks ago) we are going to lose Tina our PC Clerk at some stage in the future. I am not exactly sure of the timeline but it will happen at some stage.
 - I met with Philip Berry the Abthorpe Chair a couple last Saturday as they are in the same boat. We have both agreed to advertise the role via NCALC and on local platforms such as WIZ
 - Job Advert and Job Descriptions are attached
 - Philip also had two people in Abthorpe who might be approachable....he will try this
 - I will contact Weston + Weedon Lois PC Chair and discuss possibilities of an even bigger share option.
 - We will see what transpires.

2. If you have read Cllr Bambridge's report, you will see that WNC Planning Dept is going to recommend 'APPROVAL' for the DHL sheds. This will be discussed at next week's Planning Meeting @ WNC. This is a complete travesty and shows just how scared WNC are of large corporates who have deeper pockets and smarter lawyers so are too scared to REFUSE the application and have to pay the costs of going to appeal.

2. Finance

5.1 Cash in the bank as of 20/08/24 £6079.70 [here](#)

The Internal Control Councillor Stewart verified the bank statements

3. Invoices for payment

Item no.	Payment to	Description	Total
6.1	Tina Emerton	Clerks Pay (end of September)	468.62
6.2	Clear Council Insurance	Village Insurance renewal (due 10/24)	430.34

The invoices were agreed to be paid. The clerk will clarify when the renewable insurance finishes. Order new defib pads as they are going out of date. These were agreed to be paid before the next meeting.

4. Specific Items for discussion

7.1 Ward Counillor Bambridge update [here](#)

7.2 The St Marys the Virgin Closed Churchyard

- Finance plan
- Liability and Risk Assessment

First payment was given, liability and risks were confirmed that they are in place. This month the stone mason will start the work on the walls, some light spot work will take place and some rebuilding during September. We will receive an invoice for the stone mason. Not sure what happened to the plan of wild meadow but its been mowed.

7.3 Litter Picking

Hopefully it will be this autumn, at the end of September. Councillor Robbins will communicate the date

7.4 Update on Village Hall - Councillor Robbins

Received 3 quotes for the work. A solicitor is reviewing the extension of the lease. Grants requested. Still looking for a new Treasurer.

7.5 Parish Clerk Role Job roles [here](#) and [here](#)

The clerk will be leaving as she is moving out of the area. Chairman Featherstone will share the job spec on WIZ and place in NCALC update follow his return from holiday.

7.6 Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 Notification of West Northamptonshire Strategic Planning Committee Application No. WNS/2021/1819/EIA [here](#) - Land North Of The Bell Plantation Watling Street Towcester

West Northants Council are suggesting an approval for the planning application. We will respond to Sarah Bool with our thoughts. Also send our formal objection to WNC.

5. To consider issues related to highways, footpaths and street areas

- Nearside 30MPH sign needs replacing on the turning by the last house in the village, a bungalow

- Tree moves - Silverbirch outside 2 Pittams Lane was removed by contractors, who were also instructed by insurers to trim the Cherry Tree. We can't find anyone in WNC who instructed this work. They were both originally logged on Fix My Street as a resident raised an issue with them affecting their house, WNC visited and confirmed the trees were not an issue to any house
- Path conditions on Helmdon Road are dangerous. All overgrown. Councillor Robbins will send a picture to the clerk to log with Fix My Street
- Path on the High Street is very narrow due to foliage. Chairman Featherstone will discuss with the resident
- Chairman Featherstone will also review and discuss with the resident about the narrow path on Brookside

6. Parishioners' correspondence

None received

7. General Correspondence Review

None to review

8. To receive items for the next meeting

- Budget versus actual review
- Next meeting date - moved to 24th October. Clerk to send out amended invitation

9. Councillors' Comments

Nothing to comment

10. Any other business

None

Meeting closed at 19.41pm

Signed *Tina Emerton*
Wappenham Parish Clerk

Posted 01/07/24

Dates for next meetings

- 24 October 2024
- 19th December 2024

Council year [here](#)

Policy Review [here](#)