

Great Oxendon Parish Council

Village Hall, Main Street, Great Oxendon

Minutes of the General Meeting held on Monday 10th July 2023 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Patel-Brown (Vice-Chair), Cllr Hogarth, Cllr Barker, Cllr Lindsay-Smith, Cllr Rumsey, Cllr Parker, Cllr Harris
Cllr Patel-Brown chaired the meeting.

272. Apologies for Absence were received: Cllr Steedman Cllr Irving-Swift

273. Declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests under the Councils Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda – None

274. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 31st May 2023

Approved. Prop: Cllr Barker, Sec: Cllr Hogarth

275. Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meetings held on 31st May 2023

- i. **(257i) Plant a Tree for Jubilee** – No further forward with discussions. Item deferred.
- ii. **(260) Councillor Vacancies x2** - Noted
- iii. **(263) Councillor Responsibilities**

The Councillor responsibilities list was updated.

- Planning/Neighbourhood Plan – S Hogarth
- Highways – C Rumsey, A Lindsay-Smith
- Public Rights of Way - A Lindsay-Smith
- Police & Community Safety – R Barker
- Community Engagement & Communication – S Patel-Brown
- Lighting – S Patel-Brown
- Audit & Compliance - All

- iv. **(264) Nesting Sites for Swifts** – Deferred due to Councillor absence

276. Open Forum

Cllr Parker gave an update to the Council.

Cllr Parker informed the Parish Council about the changes to the planning and consultations notification system. From the 1st of July, West Northamptonshire Council will no longer notify the Parish Council for anything other what is statutory. Clerk made a note to check more regularly the planning application website for anything that is not picked up.

The new 'West Northants Life' newsletter should be appearing on doorsteps in the next week or so. Published twice a year it replaces the original Daventry newsletter and is available alongside the Town and Parish Newsletters. It can be read online here <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/your-council/west-northants-life>

To receive the Town & Parish Newsletter into your inbox, please contact the Clerk to sign up to the Parish Council email list.

The West Northamptonshire Council Annual Report 22/23 has also now been published and can be viewed online <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/your-council/annual-report>

Finally a link to the West Northamptonshire Consultation Hub where you can find a list and have your say on all live consultations - <https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com>

Cllr Harris gave an update to the Council.

A note that the West Northamptonshire Consultation on the future of **Boniface Care Home consultation** closes on the **30 July 2023** not June as was stated in the agenda.

West Northamptonshire Council has released their end of year unaudited finances. Overall the Council were £300 thousand overspent on a £342.2 million budget. In short, the actual overspend was much larger but was offset with a £5 million contingency pot (money held in reserves) and a one-off £10 million pot of money that was put aside to fund business rates etc after the Covid pandemic.

The main reasons for the overspend was due to the continuing struggles to provide the statutory services that the Council must by law provide in adult social care and children's services.

277. Finance:

Date of Meeting: 10th July 2023

Payments to be Approved not yet Paid

DATE	PAID TO	DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	TOTAL
04/07/2023	Mrs Sarah Smith	Parish Clerk Salary - Jul23	325.05	0.00	325.05
01/06/2023	Leicestershire Gardens	Inv 23/069 - May'23 Grass Mowing	500.00	0.00	500.00
18/04/2023	Coeval	Inv 5478 - Speed Sign x2	6,215.00	1,243.00	7,458.00
28/06/2023	Eon	Streetlight Maintenance Q2 2023	26.00	5.20	31.20
28/06/2023	SLCC	Membership Fee SLCC (split with Maidwell 50%)	69.50	0.00	69.50

Payments to be Approved - Paid via Direct Debit

DATE	PAID TO	DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	TOTAL
10/05/2023	BT Group PLC	Telephone and Broadband - May23	34.00	5.59	39.59
10/06/2023	BT Group PLC	Telephone and Broadband - Jun23	34.00	5.59	39.59

- i. The monthly payments were approved – see list above. Invoices were circulated prior to the meeting and were signed. Payments are processed as per the Internal Controls policy found on the website.

Additional invoice received after the agenda was issued for **Npower – Streetlight electricity for Apr-Jun 2023 £94.90**

Prop: Cllr Hogarth, Sec: Cllr Rumsey

As per the Internal Control policy, the Clerk has delegated powers to spend up to £500 on day to day running expenses.

- ii. The accounts to 30th June 2023 were presented. These consisted of:
 - a. Receipts
 - b. Expenditure
 - c. Bank Reconciliation
 - d. Statement of Reserves
 - e. Neighbourhood Plan Grants Expenditure
 - f. Spend v Budget
 - g. Copy of Payments to be Approved.
 - h. Bank Statements

The accounts were circulated prior to the meeting. All documents were approved and signed.

Prop: Cllr Lindsay-Smith, Sec: Cllr Barker

278. Planning and Licensing Consultations:

Planning - None

Consultations

- i. **Noted: WNC Street Trading Policy Consultation** – a new draft policy can be found here <https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/street-trading-policy-2023>.
Deadline for comments 27th August 2023
- ii. **Noted: WNC Consultation – Hunsbury Park Primary ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder) Unit** operating on Chiltern Primary School site, Northampton. **Deadline for comments Sunday 19 July 2023.**
- iii. **Noted: WNC Consultation - Future of Boniface House Care Home** – Due to changing needs, building suitability, condition and underoccupancy a review of the current and future usages of the residential care service at Boniface House in Brixworth. **Deadline for comments Sunday 30 July 2023**

Note a change to the deadline date to end of July.

For all West Northamptonshire Consultation details please visit - <https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com>

279. Update from Councillors with regards to Areas of Responsibility

- i. **Planning/Neighbourhood Plan** – Councillor Hogarth

A working committee group meeting was held in June to finalise a few of the details.

A resolution was made to approve the following changes discussed at the working committee meeting. These were:

- 1) Paragraph 73(a) on Page 18 – A West Northamptonshire Council policy statement to remain unchanged.
- 2) Paragraph 89 on Page 22 – a typographical error now corrected.
- 3) Page 47/48/49 – section on Renewable Energy infrastructure has been removed and any policy will be accepted from West Northamptonshire Council.
- 4) Page 51 – List of businesses unchanged as was noted that a problem will develop on 'where do we stop'.

Changes approved. Prop: Cllr Lindsay-Smith, Sec: Cllr Rumsey

The Neighbourhood Plan is now ready to be submitted to all stakeholders under Regulation 14. The Clerk will now liaise with Cllr Hogarth to complete these next steps.

Windmill Close – Clerk emailed the local planning authority re the fence/boundary however is yet to receive a reply. It was noted that there is significant backlog at the planning department due to various reasons – office moves, new systems, officers absent. Update at next meeting.

- ii. **Highways**– Councillor Rumsey

A508 drains – the drain on the main highway has been fixed however the drain at the bottom of Main Street is still ongoing. Any updates will be shared as and when Councillors are notified.

Speed Sign - Cllr Rumsey will speak to Coeval re speed signs. The Council is waiting for a quote for a new post to house one of the signs and is being sourced from Highways subcontractor. Update due at next meeting.

Reflective Strips - The quote for the reflective strips for the gates were approved at the last meeting. Cllr Lindsay-Smith will purchase and action.

Grass verges along A508 – the Clerk will lease with the grass mowing contractor to get a quote to remove vegetation.

iii. **Public Rights of Way** – Councillor Lindsay-Smith

- Bench Refurbishment – Over 50% of the benches have been refurbished. Work is ongoing.
- A508 Footpath condition – No update

iv. **Police & Community Safety** – Cllr Barker

May 2023 - In the Daventry rural area, the total number of reported crimes was 548 vs 568 in 2022. In Great Oxendon village including Justin Park, 2 crimes were reported.

It was noted that recent anti-social behaviour was being monitored at the playing fields and will be reported to the Police in due course.

v. **Environment**

- Safety Barrier – No Update. Barrier is safe until further quotes can be obtained.

vi. **Community engagement and communication** – Councillor Patel-Brown - None

vii. **Lighting** - Councillor Patel-Brown – None

viii. **Audit and Compliance** – None

280. Urgent Matters for report only (Notified to the Chairman before the meeting) - None.

281. Date and Time of Next Meeting – The next meeting will be held on **Monday 11th September 2023** at 7:30pm at the Village Hall, Great Oxendon.

For Note - Dates of Future Meetings

- Mon 11th Sept 2023
- Mon 9th Oct 2023
- Mon 13th Nov 2023
- Mon 11th Dec 2023
- Mon 8th Jan 2024
- Mon 12th Feb 2024
- Mon 11th Mar 2024
- Mon 8th Apr 2024

282. The meeting was closed at 20:26



Mrs Sarah Smith, Parish Clerk
Great Oxendon Parish Council

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Date & Signature of Chairman

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18.07.23