

Great Oxendon Parish Council

Village Hall, Main Street, Great Oxendon

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 8th January 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Steedman (Chair), Cllr Patel-Brown (Vice-Chair), Cllr Barker, Cllr Hogarth, Cllr Rumsey, Cllr Lindsay-Smith.
Ward Councillor: Cllr Parker, Cllr Harris

342. Apologies for Absence were received: Cllr Irving-Swift

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

344. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11 Dec 2023

Approved. Prop: Cllr Barker, Sec: Cllr Patel-Brown

345. Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 Dec 2023

- i. **(332i) Plant a Tree for Jubilee** – Ongoing. Purchase of tree to be actioned by Cllr Lindsay-Smith.
- ii. **(332ii) Councillor Vacancies x2 – Noted:** A reminder there are 2 casual vacancies for Parish Councillors. For more information please contact the Clerk or alternatively come along to a meeting to see what it is all about.

346. Open Forum

Cllr Parker addressed the Council.

The West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) Budget 2024/25 consultation is open for views until the 23rd January 2024. The Police and Fire precept consultation for 2024/25 will close on the 16th January 2024. All consultations can be found on the WNC website here <https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com>

Work is estimated to begin on the drain on Main Street next week. Cllr Parker will keep the Clerk informed and continue to liaise with WNC until works are complete.

Cllr Harris gave an update to the Council on the WNC budget for 2024/25. The final proposal has changed slightly and the reserve reduced to compensate.

You can have your say here <https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/budget-2024-25/>

347. Grant – A grant of **£250** was approved for the ongoing maintenance of the churchyard. Prop: Cllr Rumsey, Sec: Cllr Hogarth.

348. Finance

i. **Budget/Precept 2024/25**

The **BUDGET** for 2024/25 was approved at **£15,539.90**. Prop: Cllr Lindsay-Smith, Sec: Cllr Hogarth,
The **PRECEPT** for 2024/25 was approved at **£15,539.90**. Prop: Cllr Lindsay-Smith, Sec: Cllr Hogarth

This represents no real change to the precept from last year with absorption of inflationary increases within the reserves held.

Date of Meeting: 8 January 2024

Payments to be Approved not yet Paid

DATE	PAID TO	DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	TOTAL
01/01/2024	Mrs Sarah Smith	Parish Clerk Salary - Jan24	351.06	0.00	351.06
01/01/2024	K Stephens	Grant - Churchyard	250.00	0.00	250.00
01/01/2024	Eon	Streetlight Maint Q4 Dec23	26.00	5.20	31.20
09/12/2023	S Hogarth	Expenses - The Defib Pad - Replacement Adult Pads	50.58	10.12	60.70
08/12/2023	Your Locale	Inv 9 - Neighbourhood Plan - Reg 14 Work	2,000.00	400.00	2,400.00
04/01/2024	Npower	Q4 Oct23-Dec23 Streetlight Electricity	157.69	7.88	165.57
20/12/2023	Leicestershire Gardens	Inv 23/227	250.00	0.00	250.00

Payments to be Approved - Paid via Direct Debit

DATE	PAID TO	DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	TOTAL
11/12/2023	BT Group PLC	Telephone and Broadband - Dec23	34.00	5.59	39.59

- ii. 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.

Approved. Prop: Cllr Rumsey, Sec: Cllr Lindsay-Smith

- iii. Resolution of additional payments not listed above or those paid by direct debit.
Prop: Cllr Rumsey, Sec: Cllr Patel-Brown.

An extra invoice for the replacement fencing, completed by Roy Goode fencing around the land next door to the village hall was **approved** for payment once received. **£ 975.00** Prop: Cllr Barker, Sec: Cllr Lindsay-Smith.

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

- iv. The accounts to 31st December 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.

Approved. Prop: Cllr Patel-Brown, Sec: Cllr Lindsay-Smith

349. Planning and Licensing Consultations:

Planning

- **Golden Paddock, Braybrooke Road** – Awaiting planning committee date.

Consultations

All consultations listed below were noted.

- i. **West Northamptonshire Council Draft Budget 2024/25 Consultation** - At their meeting on 12 December 2023, the Council's Cabinet approved plans to consult on WNC's Draft Budget for 2024-25 and we are now seeking views on these proposals. **This consultation closes midnight Tuesday 23 January 2024**
- ii. **Council Tax Precept for Police and Fire next year** – Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Stephen Mold has launched a survey asking the public for their views on police and fire funding and the precepts for the coming year. The police and fire precepts are the amount that Northamptonshire residents pay towards policing and the fire service through their council tax – together, both precepts amount to around 18% of the council tax a household pays. **The survey closes on 16 January 2024. Link to the survey - www.research.net/r/PreceptConfidence2024-25**

Note the change to the deadline from 14th to 16th January 2024.

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

350. Update from Councillors with regards to Areas of Responsibility

i. **Planning and Neighbourhood Plan** – Councillor Hogarth

Changes to the NH draft plan as a result of Regulation 14 are underway by the consultant. A copy of the updated plan will be circulated shortly. All comments will need to be reviewed by Councillors with a possible face to face meeting before the next stage of review can begin.

ii. **Highways** – Councillor Rumsey/Councillor Lindsay-Smith

- Potholes – a pothole on the A508 near the island was reported and filled however the work completed was unsatisfactory and it is expected that the fix will not last. Pothole will continue to be reported via Street Doctor.
- Speed Sign – New Highways Post - Invoice has been paid. Expected installation 8-10 weeks. Clerk to chase for an ETA.
- Drain – Main Street – Item discussed under Open Forum. Work estimated to start next week. Cllr Parker and Clerk will continue to keep Councillors and residents updated.
- Issue surrounding car parking erratically on Main Street – Polite notice to be issued TBC.

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

- The state of various footpaths were discussed around the village.
- Bench Refurbishment – Ongoing – Delay due to weather. Expected to be completed in the Spring.

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

Figures for November 2023 – 133 reported crimes
Great Oxendon – 4 crimes reported
Clipston - 1
Kelmarsh – 2

v. **Environment**

- Safety barrier around raised land – Work has been completed. Awaiting receipt of invoice. Payment of invoice approved in Item 348. Item Closed.
- Cllr Steedman – Nesting sites for Swifts – Ongoing

vi. **Community Engagement and Communication** – Councillor Patel-Brown - None

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

viii. **Audit and Compliance** – Internal audit carried out before the meeting (8/1/24) with Cllr Lindsay-Smith. No issues to report.

351. Urgent Matters for report only (Notified to the Chairman before the meeting)

352. Date and Time of Next Meeting – The next meeting will be held on **Monday 12th February 2024** at 7:30pm at the Village Hall, Great Oxendon.

For Note - Dates of Future Meetings

- Mon 12th Feb 2024
- Mon 11th Mar 2024
- Mon 8th Apr 2024

353. The meeting was closed at 20:17



Mrs Sarah Smith, Parish Clerk
Great Oxendon Parish Council

Email: parishcouncil@greatoxendon.org
Web: <http://www.greatoxendon.org>

Date & Signature of Chairman

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15.01.24