

Minutes of Abthorpe Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 7 November 2016 at 7:45 pm in the Old School, Abthorpe

Present: Councillors: K Fenwick (Chairman), Cllr J Ford-Cordes, M Hulbert, A Hammon,
Clerk B Carter

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Cllrs M Perrigo & M Berry tendered their apologies as they was on holiday.

Cllr. D Cambray tendered his apologies as he has already stated that he cannot attend on the first Monday in the month.

All apologies were accepted.

2. Members' declaration of interest for items on the agenda.

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Acceptance of the minutes of previous meeting

The Clerk had posted copies of the minutes of the meeting held 28 September 2016 via the web and distributed to Councillors electronically.

There were no discrepancies within the minutes and they were accepted and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Action No.	Action	Action taken
Sept 2014 - 001	Clerk to contact SNC regarding ongoing issues at Home Farm	SNC continue to monitor the site. No further update was available as the Court Order is active. There appears to be action to clear the property. Action Dismissed
Jul 2016 - 001	The Clerk and Chairman to submit an application to SNC for a grant of £6300.00 towards the cost of replacing the lamp units.	Application successful (see item 7.4) Action Dismissed
Aug 2016 – 001	Clerk to contact E-on to order a replacement for the faulty street lamp, and ask for a detailed quote to replace the remaining 17 lamps within the village.	The quote has been received. (see Item 7.4) Action Dismissed
Aug 2016 – 002	Clerk to contact NCC to seek advice regarding the cutting of the hedge in Brackley Lane	This work has now been completed. Action Dismissed
Aug 2016 – 007	Clerk to write to Rights of Way Officer asking if the closed path (RA43) can have a style fitted or the gate unlocked.	Contact made. Issue taken up by Cllr Berry. Response received from Forestry Commission Ranger. It was unclear when the path would re-open. Action Dismissed
Sept 2016 – 001	Clerk to write to the owner thanking him for the work, and pointing out that further attention is needed on the hedge along Brackley Lane	Clerk has spoken with the owner and thanked him for his actions. Action Dismissed

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Sept 2016 – 002	Cllr Perrigo agreed to speak to Grand Union Housing Association regarding the maintenance of the hedge	Cllr Perrigo has spoken to the housing association who state that it doesn't believe it is their responsibility. Not now a matter for the Parish Council. Action Dismissed.
Sept 2016 – 003	Clerk to contact Rights of Way Officer and ask for a timetable for opening the paths in Bucknells Wood which have been closed.	Clerk telephoned Colin Wicks. Currently on leave Action On-going
Sept 2016 – 004	Clerk to e-mail details of how to register for Internet Banking to all Councillors.	Internet Banking now set up – see item 7.1 on agenda Action Discharged
Sept 2016 – 005	Clerk to amend Abthorpe Risk Analysis (Document AB008) to reflect the new finance procedure	Document amended. Action Discharged

5. Planning

There were no Planning Applications to consider.

6. Finance

6.1 Cash in bank

Treasurers Account (as at 25 September 2016)	£4838.98
30 Day Business Account (as at 25 September 2016)	£3,875.95
Petty Cash	£ -3.98

Cheques for Payment:

Eon	£414.00	REPLACEMENT OF LANTERN IN Brackley road	Paid on Line	
Eon	£177.78	Supply (1/7 – 30/9)	Paid on Line	
LexisNexis	£79.05	Arnold Baker 10 th Edition.	559	
R Carter	£20.00	Petty Cash	560	

All payments were agreed.

The payment for the replacement lantern was paid by the Clerk in error whilst setting up the on line banking. The Payment to E-on for supply was paid on line at the meeting.

7. Specific Items for Discussion.

7.1 On Line Banking – Multi Authorisation of Bank Payments (Withdrawal of cheques)

The applications for access to on line banking had been submitted and the system set up for most of the applicants. The Chairman noted that most correspondence to individual councillors is sent to the registered address, (the Clerk).

7.2 Regular Report on Defibrillator

Cllr Hammon reported that he was making regular checks of the equipment. A recent report of a potential faulty switch proved unfounded.

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7.3 Regular Report on Speed Sign

The Clerk stated he has had to charge the batteries twice since the unit was moved. His laptop computer is no longer useable and so there has been no speed readings taken over the last couple of months.

7.4 Street Lighting replacement

The Clerk presented the quote from E-on, (all prices exclusive of VAT).

10 new lanterns	10 Lampposts require new lanterns only	£320.00	£3,200.00 + VAT
6 new lanterns	6 Lampposts require new lanterns and new electricity feeds.	£320.00	£1920.00 + VAT
6 supplies		£350.00	£2,100.00 + VAT
1 column	1 old concrete lamppost requires replacement a new lantern and a new electricity feed.	£620.00	£620.00 + VAT
1 column		£388.00	£388.00 + VAT
	Total quote		£8228.00 + VAT

The quote is more than the £6250 awarded by £1978.00. The Parish Council will be expected to pay something towards the cost. There is VAT to be considered although it can be reclaimed.

It was queried if the quote offered the discount promised over the recent lantern provision in Brackley Lane, (this cost £345.00 excluding VAT). There was a discount of £25.00 per unit. There was debate as to the brightness of the lantern. The Clerk stated that the replacement unit was the recommended brightness.

There was a question about the quarterly charge as it was felt that the new lanterns should be guaranteed? Is this correct?

There was also a question the supply charge as this should be less as the new lanterns are LED's, Will this be reflected in the quarterly supply charge?

New Action Nov 2016 – 001 Clerk to enquire of E-on if the quote has been correctly interpreted and will there be a maintenance charge and will the supply charge be less.

New Action Nov2016 – 002 Councillors to look at the effectiveness of the light at the corner of Brackley Lane and Stanhill row in comparison with the existing lights.

7.5 Mini Farm

The Clerk stated that SNC had not got back to him regarding Mini Farm.

7.6 Home Farm

The owner of Home Farm is now actively working to clear the site. As SNC are pursuing this it was agreed to drop the monitoring of the issue.

7.7 Abthorpe Roundabout

Regular Traffic Bulletins will continue to be posted on the web. It was agreed to remove this item from future agendas.

7.8 Annual Precept 2017 – 2018 Draft Costings

The Clerk presented a paper with initial ideas for the 2017 – 2018 precept which will need to be submitted to SNC in January 2017. Several of the figures will require verification. The Section 137 payments for current year will need to be placed on the next agenda for approval.

7.9 Clerks report

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The Clerk circulated notes on three meetings he had attended. The Clerk thought that at some point consideration be given to Assets of Community Value a subject raised at the SNC Parish Clerks Forum

- Presentation on the project for Volume VIII of the Northamptonshire History: Towcester
- Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils, (N^{CALC}) AGM held on Saturday 8 October 2016 at Wootton Hall, Wootton Park, Northampton.
- SNC Parish Clerks Forum – Friday, 4th November 2016

8 Correspondence

The following documents were put in the circulation folder.

- 8.1 Clerks and Councils Direct.
50+ magazine
Ncalc Update

The Clerk had received two e-mails from the police and SNVB which had been distributed.

9 Any Other Competent Business

There was no other issues raised.

The meeting closed at 21.00

Next Meeting Monday 19th December 2016 at 7.45pm in the Old School

Summary of Action Points

Action No.	Action	Action taken for this meeting
Sept 2016 – 002	Cllr Perrigo agreed to speak to Grand Union Housing Association regarding the maintenance of the hedge	Cllr Perrigo has spoken to the housing association who state that it doesn't believe it is their responsibility Action On-going..
Sept 2016 – 003	Clerk to contact Rights of Way Officer and ask for a timetable for opening the path.	Clerk telephoned Colin Wicks. Currently on leave Action On-going
<u>New Action</u> Nov 2016 – 001	Clerk to enquire of E-on if the quote is correctly interpreted, will there be a maintenance charge, and will the supply charge be less	
<u>New Action</u> Nov 2016 – 002	Councillors to view replacement light at Stanhill Row for effectiveness	
<u>New Action</u> Nov 2016 – 003	Clerk to place Section 136 payments on the agenda for discussion	