



SIBBERTOFT PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Fiona Young
32 Holdenby Rd
Spratton Northampton
NN6 8JD

E-mail: clerk@sibbertoftpc.co.uk

Website: www.sibbertoft.org.uk

Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING of Sibbertoft Parish Council, held on Tuesday 7th September 2021 at 7.30pm.

The meeting was held in the Reading Rooms, Sibbertoft

Present – Cllrs Kershaw (Chair) , Ellis, Putt, Walpone, Brunel-While, Tomlinson and Holmes
Cllr Kevin Parker and Cllr Jonathon Harris from West Northants Council (Brixworth Ward)

2 Residents .

Clerk – Fiona Young

2459. **Receive and approve apologies for absence**

There were no apologies.

2460. **Receive and approve for signature the minutes of the Annual Meeting and Ordinary Meeting of Sibbertoft Parish Council held on July 20th 2021.**

The draft minutes were circulated prior to the meeting, no amendments were required, and it was **Resolved** to approve the minutes which the Chair then signed.

2461. **Public Participation**

One member of the public commented on Agenda item 9, Wildflowers. The resident raised concerns that any areas of the village that are turned over to wildflowers needs to be carefully maintained and cultivated. Just simply leaving them to grow wild is not enough and these areas take quite a lot of planning and maintenance. The resident mentioned that a previous attempt to grow wildflowers in the village was not successful and resulted in a lot of weeds and overgrown grass.

2462. **Receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business in the agenda.**

None declared.

2463. **Matters arising and outstanding from the meeting of the 20th July 2021**

- a) The emptying of the brown bin for the Reading Room was arranged by the Chairman, the Chairman explained that he tried to speak to WNC about emptying in the bin but has not managed to speak to anyone, however, the bin has been recently emptied.
- b) The dedicated parish mobile has now been set up; its number is 07708 656803.
- c) Play area inspection report circulated by Interim Clerk. Cllr Ellis agreed to produce a list of jobs that the council needs to action on the play equipment. This will be discussed at the next meeting.
- d) There are some additional policies that will need approval at the October meeting, these have had to be reviewed and re written and will be circulated prior to the next meeting. Cllr Brunel-While asked where the policies were that she had corresponded with the previous Clerk about last year. The Interim Clerk explained that those documents were not on the new laptop and that she would need to do some work to try and find them. It was agreed that the Interim Clerk would try and find the documents and liaise with Cllr Brunel-White and bring this back to the next meeting for Council approval.

2464. **Reports, to receive and agree actions required in the following areas;**

- a) **Highways (Cllr GK)** No report at this time.
- b) **Recreation Ground Inspection and repairs (Cllr ME)** The Chairman reported that unfortunately the state of the mown areas in the village is quite poor at the moment, the grass cuttings do not appear to be being collected. The contractor has been spoken to and it has been requested that more care is taken and that the cuttings are all collected.
- c) **Neighbourhood Watch & Police Liaison Officer (Cllr CT)** Cllr Tomlinson stated that the theft of a dog from a home in Welford was reported this month. There is also a new grant available for landowners to apply for if
- d) they are victims of fly tipping on their land.

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- e) **Maintenance of Hedgerows including Playground hedge.** The Chairman reported that a local tree surgeon has offered to trim the hedges and trees in the playing field, the Chairman has asked him to send a quote in which will be discussed at the next meeting.
- f) **First aid refresher course for the defibrillator (Cllr GK)** Both Cllr Ellis and Cllr Tomlinson agreed to make enquiries about defib training.

2465. Finance

a) **To receive and approve the bank reconciliation statement.**

Bank balance at 01.04.2021 £12015.87. Less payments £5802.40 plus receipts £6500.00 = £12,713.47

Bank balance 31.08.2021 £12,713.47

b) **Council to approve the following payments which were made in August.**

Date	Payee	Details	Amount £	Payment method
09.08.2021	Yu Energy	Streetlighting	12.16	DD
09.08.2021	Yu Energy	Streetlighting	60.22	DD
19.08.2021	F Young	Salary Interim Clerk	240.00	BP
19.08.2021	HMRC	Tax & NI	60.00	BP
23.08.2021	CPRE	Subs	3.00	DD
23.08.2021	Tesco mobile	Parish mobile	9.00	DD

Council to approve the following payments for September.

Date	Payee	Details	Amount £	Payment method
07.09.2021	DM Payroll Services	Payroll services	60.00	BP
07.09.2021	Leicestershire Gardens	Mowing	225.00	BP
07.09.2021	G Kershaw Reimburse	Electrician payment for speed sign	30.00	BP
07.09.2021	F Young	Salary	£240.00	BP
07.09.2021	HMRC	Tax & NI	60.00	BP
07.09.2021	CPRE	Subs	3.00	DD
07.09.2021	Geoffrey Hill & Co	Solicitor , title deeds	280.00	BP
07.09.2021	J Kirby (reimburse)	Dog Poo bin bags	23.40	BP

2466. **Sibbertoft Calendar.** Cllr Brunel-White explained that 22 ladies from the parish including some councillors had agreed to take part in a charity Calendar to raise funds for a Breast Cancer charity and also the British Heart Foundation. The Calendar is on sale now, the Nationwide Building Society has offered to sell some of the calendars and is also helping with publicising it. It has also been featured on Radio Leicester.

2467. **Wildflower meadow on the green** – There was a brief discussion regarding this item. Unfortunately, the resident who was the main drive behind the idea and who had also offered to sponsor it has subsequently pulled out due to negative comments on social media. Councillors main comments were that a wildflower area was a lovely idea but it was quite hard to do properly. A proper wildflower area needs to be



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carefully cultivated, maintained, watered and was a long term project. A previous attempt in the village had not been successful. It was **Resolved** that the parish council will not proceed with the project at the moment but if another person came forward who was willing to sponsor the wildflower area and assist with the cultivation and management of it then it would be considered again.

2468. **Dog waste bins – to discuss the emptying of the dog bin in Westhorpe and agree to the purchase of suitable bags at a cost of approx. £23.40inc vat.** A resident has very kindly been helping to empty the dog bin at the top of Westhorpe, the resident has purchased some large strong bags and it was **Resolved** to reimburse her the cost of £23.40. The council thanked the resident for helping with the bin.

2469. **Meeting start times – To discuss the possibility of starting the meetings at 8pm, requested by Cllr Walpone.** Cllr Walpone explained that he felt as council meetings always used to start at 8pm then the start time should be changed to 8pm again for all future meetings. The Chairman asked for opinions from the Council, it was generally agreed that there was a risk of the meetings ending later than 9pm if the agenda was full. Most Councillors were not unduly concerned about either start time. The Interim Clerk did voice concerns that if a meeting didn't start until 8pm there was the possibility that the meetings could end rather late which she would rather avoid.

The Chairman proposed that the council meetings start at 7.30pm during the winter months and then move to a start time of 8pm during the summer months, this was **Resolved** with a vote of 6 for and 1 against.

2470. **Future agenda items**

- Parish hedgerows

2471. **Date of next meeting. October 5th 2021**