

Hunsbury Meadows Parish Council



Parish Office
58 Bedford Road
Little Houghton
Northampton
NN7 1AB

Telephone:
E-mail: Clerk@Hunsburymeadows.org.uk
Web: www.hunsburymeadows.org.uk

Minutes of the councils meeting held on **Wednesday 6th September 2023** at 7.15pm at the Pineham Barns School, Dragon fly way, Hunsbury Meadows, NN4 9FF

Present: Cllr. Mandy Caunt (chair)
Cllr. Debbie Hammond
Cllr. Alexis Tomlin
Cllr Nathan Stuart
Cllr Stuart Faulds
Clerk: Jennie Allwork (incoming) & Lalitkumar Patel (outgoing)

In attendance: 4 residents, PCSOs, WNC Cllr Brian Sargent

23-24	
044	Invitation: The chair opened the meeting and thanked the councillors and members of the public for attending the meeting.
045	Apologies: Apologies received from Cllr. Imran Choudhury, WNC Cllr. Nick Sturges-Alex and accepted
046	Declarations of interest: None
047	Minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 5 th July 2023 were proposed by Cllr Stuart Faulds and seconded by Cllr. Alexis Tomlin and unanimously approved
048	Clerks Appointment: Outgoing clerk Lalitkumar Patel was thanked for his work in the role and it was acknowledged he would be missed and best wishes were conveyed. Incoming clerk Jennie Allwork was welcomed, formal exchange of contracts of employment were signed by both parties and exchanged.
049	Matters arising: None
050	Public participation: None
051	Northants Constabulary: PCSOs Lee Shelton and his colleague were welcomed to the meeting, it was confirmed the monthly reports should be sent directly to Cllr Hammond email address. A verbal report was given stating a good summer was had with 1 criminal damage and 1 vehicle damage incident. Crime is low with the main concern being motorbikes down canal banks. Cllr Caunt described her experience with motorcycles in the area and potential for them to be doing the graffiti. This will be looked into by the PCSO. Cllr Tomlin reported a concern raised to her over the use of the bench on the Village Green in Pineham Village from 10pm till past midnight with drinking and antisocial behaviour. This was noted and they will look to visit the area. It was reminded that incidents like this should also be logged with the police and a reference obtained. They were thanked for their attendance and then took their leave from the meeting.
052	Principal Authority Reports: A verbal report was provided by Cllr Sargent, main concern being the no. 3 bus with loops through west Hunsbury and ensuring the route is maintained. There is a proposal to link this route with the Swan Valley industrial estate which will then benefit the residents of Pineham Village and potentially Banbury Lane. Cllr Caunt noted the proposed bus stops for Upton Valley Way East at the top of Banbury Lane which were proposed in the original Planning Application for the "34 houses" at the top of Banbury Lane. She noted that when she tried to look up this aspect, she discovered that the Planning Application we had original considered had been "withdrawn". No other or replacement planning Application was brought

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	<p>before us and so now we do not know what was required in the replacement and whether this included the original bus stop proposals.</p> <p>Without the bus stop on Banbury lane there is no opportunity for local residents to use the service that runs across the top of Banbury Lane from Swan Valley . Cllr. Caunt asked Cllr Sargent to see if he could confirm the planning reference so this provision can be followed up.</p>
053	<p>Planning:</p> <p>1) 5G mast – Cllr Caunt reported that following a review by Cllr Kwijuka of the legislation and National Planning Framework guidelines issued in relation to it, it is clear that WNC Planning did not follow the legislation in the approval process. 65 objections were received mainly on appearance which the NPPF Guidance clearly states should be taken into consideration. She proposed that the Parish should now make a formal complaint to West Northants Council accordingly if only to try and ensure that this does not happen to another community. This was approved unanimously.</p> <p>Given that discussions with the Planning Department have not been successful, she also noted that we also now need to liaise directly with the Installers' Agent – Dot Surveying - to try and get them to change the colour of the mast to green. It is now not possible to get any change of location. Cllr Caunt to provide content of email to the parish clerk for issue.</p> <p>Concern was also raised re the unknown / possible long term health risks of such masts and whether they should ever be placed near children's playgrounds and schools. Cllr Caunt noted that her subsequent reading had indicated that the UK is out of step with Europe and the US on this where such masts are not allowed to go near children's facilities. Our safe limits for "non-ionising radiation" are much higher than elsewhere. It was therefore proposed that we write to our MP, Dame Andrea Leadsom regarding both this issue but also, to ask when the planned enhancements to the Guidelines requiring better community liaison before such masts are installed, is to be implemented and written in to the planning legislation. Cllr Caunt will provide suitable wording for such a letter for the Clerk to send.</p> <p>2) 80 houses to Pineham Village update – the Parish Council has objected on grounds of flood risk and displacement of water issues and so we cannot do any more until the planning decision is made by WNC. Sept 7th Committee meeting with 22nd Sept target decision dates.</p>
054	<p>Finance:</p> <p>1) Following the resignation of John Kwijuka the role of Internal Control councillor is now vacant. Cllr Nathan Stewart confirmed he would take on this role. Proposed Cllr Hammond and seconded Cllr Tomlin.</p> <p>2) List of payments for the month of July and August 2023 was approved. Proposed Cllr Tomlin seconded Cllr Stewart</p> <p>3) The 2023/2024 Budget was discussed. Cllr Caunt is concerned about the need to bolster the reserves we hold. Equally, we have not increased our Precept for three years and indeed it was a decrease per household last year due to the increase in number of houses now occupied in the Parish . She suggested that we thus do need to increase the precept this year if we are to maintain our current regular committed expenditure. An alternative viewpoint was made in that the PC should also look to reduce expenditure where needed. Cllr Caunt advised that we need to closely scrutinise the budget this year to identify what to do – what is there that we can cut?. She noted that if we are to fund a football field and possible basketball area at Pineham Lock we need to have the funds to do it and gradually develop the reserve accordingly. She asked that Councillors consider the budget for the next meeting given we need to formally approve the final version in December.</p>
055	<p>Resolutions and Decisions:</p>

*of Caunt
Chair*

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- 1) Cost to replace flower tubs on Banbury lane was £680+vat. This was rejected given that we now have the three tier planters along Banbury Lane. The broken tubs to be moved and not replaced.
 - 2) Renew the wildflower strips on wildflower meadow due to failure last year. Councillor Caunt noted that these had essentially failed due to the dry weather when they were set up. She proposed that we ask Idverde to re do them this year. She will get a quote via WNC and Idverde to do this work. We would then only need to provide seed to plant in spring. The Clerk offered to also speak to the local wildlife trust for advice.
 - 3) The resignation of Cllr Kwijuka was accepted. Thanks were given to all the work he had done in the role. It was also agreed that the Chair would approach the Pineham Village resident who agreed to be a reserve when we last advertised for Councillors before we widen the net to seek a new replacement.
 - 4) The quote for £3768+VAT was approved for the party in the park marquee. Proposed Cllr Faulds seconded Cllr Tomlin
 - 5) It was agreed to approve the purchase of spring bulbs for the 3 tier planters. Cllr Hammond will speak to other suppliers to obtain a second quote. Cllr Caunt provided information on type and numbers of bulbs needed. Cllr Caunt noted that we will also shortly need to confirm the summer bedding order for the planters with WNC for next summer. These cost us circa £4,500 last year including summer watering.
 - 6) Louise a Volunteer first responder who lives in Pineham Village came to the meeting to ask for our financial support for the provision of kit. She gave a verbal report about her volunteer role and the type of equipment needed to enable her to be fully independent. She currently has to borrow kit which is time consuming and also prevents her from being able to do her role quickly and efficiently. As a first responder she is on call to go to medical emergencies she is trained to deal with. An asset to the area for the local residents. £1500 was identified as the amount she needed to have everything she needs, though she hoped to share this cost around other Parishes and organisations. It was acknowledged this amount was not affordable to the Parish, but we would consider some financial help.
- Following Louise's departure, the meeting discussed concerns regarding funding an individual rather than the organisation as she may move on and thus not be in the Parish. It was noted that we provided £500 in 2019 to the Frist Responders to go towards their central provision of kit for First Responders and ideally, we would prefer this option rather than individual funding.
- Cllr Stewart offered to talk to correspond with her but also to look to secure funding through a different means. If not come back to the PC for us to consider again.

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Reports from the councillors and clerk:

- 1) Cllr Stewart reported that the Pathfinder project / Emergency Plan drafting is underway and progress is good. He hopes to complete this by end of September in conjunction with the Emergency Planning Department at WNC. The plan will seek to link us with other surrounding Parishes so that we can share resources in particular emergency shelters. Cllr Stewart will circulate the draft plan and keep the PC updated on progress.
- 2) Land registry search regarding the land adjacent to Wootton Brook and the Canal at Piineham Lock has shown that one side, (canal side) is apparently owned by Aviva and the other side by Prologis. Cllr Caunt noted that it is the Aviva side that is perhaps most viable for a community resource including a small football area and basketball park for local residents. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to Aviva outlining the proposal to see if we can work with them to achieve this. Cllr Caunt to provide address and wording for clerk to send.
- 3) Response to letter to MP Dame Andrea regarding s106 funding has been received. Cllr Caunt noted that she can account for all noted expenditure from those expenditures relating to support for local bus services both in Banbury Lane / Pineham Lock and Pineham Village. It was agreed

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that this will be followed up with a direct letter to WNC who provided the reply to Dame Andrea. This to be followed up with MP requesting further details over which bus service is being funded and when this happened.

Importantly, the letter also noted that there are still funds available in the Section 106 budgets which might be available for community developments including such things as our desired football area on the land at Pineham Lock. The amount is not known at present.

- 4) Cllr Stewart reported that he has yet to send the letter inviting those Pineham Village residents who expressed an interest in setting up a Residents Association an invite to a first meeting. It was felt that the summer holidays were not a good time to try and get people together. He will now follow this up. It was agreed that once this first meeting has been established, there is nothing more for the Parish Council to do as we shall have then done all we can to enhance representation of Pineham Village residents and liaison with Encore their management company.
- 5) Cllr Caunt raised the issue of the originally proposed bus route through the centre of Pineham Village following our confirmation to Cllr Nick Sturges – Alex (who was liaising with Stagecoach on other matters) that the residents did indeed want this route established as originally proposed. Cllr Caunt to follow up with Cllr Sturges-Alex.
- 6) Cllr Caunt confirmed that the two bins for Pineham Village are to be installed next week. A Purchase Order is requested and to be provided by the clerk to Sharon Maddison-Paine at West Northants Council to enable invoice to be raised.
- 7) Thanks were given for the Party in the Park, deposit approval by Cllr Hammond. The Marquis has been ordered for the confirmed event date - **27th July 2024**. It was agreed the event will run next year from 1pm to 7pm. Cllr Hammond reported that she would now book the DJ. It was decided not to have live music.
- 8) Cllr Caunt noted the request received from Oakhampton Parish Council for Cllr Lloyd to contact them regarding difficulties with developer Taylor Wimpey not delivering on expectations. Oakhampton had seen Cllr Lloyd speak on the “Knock off Britain” tv programme. Cllr Caunt will ask Cllr Lloyd if she would mind doing this.

057 **Correspondence:** none

058 **Date: next meeting** agree to be October 4th 2023.

The meeting closed at 9pm

Signed:

J. Caunt Chair

Date:

4/10/2023

Hunsbury Meadows Parish Council

List of Payments & Bank Reconciliation for September 2023

Name	Inv.Ref	Details	Amount	VAT	Total	BACS
Jennie Allwork	Salary	Sep-23	427.28	0.00	427.28	10/5/2023
Lalit Patel	Salary	Sep-23	133.50	0.00	133.50	10/5/2023
NCALC - training	3264	Training course for S Faulds &	250.00	50.00	300.00	INV-3264
Babble	0021649-00283	Office 365 business	98.89	19.78	118.67	
Data Protection	14342793	Data Protection renewal fee	40.00	0.00	40.00	10/30/2023
Zcommune	4610	website hosting	425.00	85.00	510.00	INV-4610
WNC	424001705964	Litter bin emptying	1160.34	232.07	1392.41	INV-424001705964
BOBS	7483	Payroll services July - Sep 2023	69.00	0.00	69.00	INV-7483
Jennie Allwork	Sep-23	clerk expenses	10.11		10.11	
Access storage	34037	storage unit rent	174.17	34.83	209.00	10/12/2023
					3209.97	
Post payment Authorisation						
Post office			2.58	0.52	3.10	9/5/2023
NCALC	INV 3088		48.00	9.60	57.60	9/8/2023
Tesco		Mobile credit	8.33	1.67	10.00	9/12/2023
Access storage		storage unit rent	162.50	32.50	195.00	9/13/2023
Babble		Office 365 access	84.60	16.92	101.52	9/14/2023
Total			3094.31	482.88	367.22	

	£
Cash book balance at 1st September 2023-brought forward	13920.29
Add receipts/precept	10045.33
	23965.62
Less: Payments listed above for September 2023	-367.22
Cash Book Balance-post above Payments	£ 23598.40
Balance as per Bank Statement at 30th September 2023	23598.40
Less: Unpaid list as above	-3209.97
Reconciled Bank Balance at 30th September 2023	£ 20388.43

Approved :

Chair

10/4/2023