



UPTON

PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES - ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday 3 rd December 2024		St Crispin Community Centre 19:15hrs
Attendees: Councillor Holt (Chair) Councillor Caddy (Vice Chair) Councillor Bottwood Councillor Earle Councillor Goodley Councillor Haylock Councillor Hull Councillor Kershaw Councillor Warnes Councillor Watson	Apologies: Councillor Ingram	Clerk: Emma Needham Also Present: 5 members of the public
Ref No:	AGENDA:	
164/24	<u>Public Session</u> Members of the public addressed Council on the following matters: Agenda item 178/24: Residents reported that they had made representations to Duston Parish Council, to the CEO of The Duston School (TDS) Board of Trustees and to WNC Planning Enforcement. They note that there is no evidence of TDS promoting a Walk/Cycle to School Policy. They have observed circa 20 spaces available in the school car park. They reiterated the need to convene a stakeholder meeting and await details. Agenda item 180/24: The Finance Manager from Upton Meadows Primary School introduced herself and answered questions from Councillors relating to the Grant Application. A member of the public endorsed the representations from Upton Meadows Primary School and stated the acute need for play equipment to support needs of children in the post-Covid era. Other: A member of the public asked Council to consider speed reduction measures on St Crispin Drive, following two separate collisions near St Luke's Primary School.	
165/24	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> Apologies were received and approved from Councillor Ingram (prior engagement).	
166/24	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> There were no Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests (DPI) to consider. There were no Dispensations or written requests for dispensation of DPI to consider.	
167/24	<u>Minutes of the previous meeting</u> Council RESOLVED to the Chairman approving the minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting on 12 th November 2024.	

168/24	<u>Update from LAP and WNC representatives</u> WNC Ward Councillor Matt Golby sent his apologies. There were no other representatives from WNC present. Councillor Haylock, Councillor Hull and the Clerk had attended the LAP's Children & Young People's Summit on 14th November and gave a brief update.
Item No.	Items from previous meetings:
	Pursuant to Standing Order 1(a), the Chair used his discretion to bring forward Agenda items 178/24 and 180/24 in response to interest from members of the public in attendance.
169/24	<u>St Crispin and Harlestone Cricket Club (SCHCC) Lease</u> There was nothing further to report
170/24	<u>Community Asset Transfers of St Crispin Community Centre and The Elgar Centre</u> There was nothing further to report.
171/24	<u>Transfer of amenity areas at St Crispin's by Taylor Wimpey</u> There was nothing further to report.
172/24	<u>Kent Road and Upton Parish Council Car Park</u> There was nothing further to report.
173/24	<u>Hidden Graves Project</u> Councillor Holt updated Council on the progress of the project and the S106 application. Council NOTED the submission of the application for £25,000 of S106 monies to fund the project.
174/24	<u>Play Equipment for U12s and Older Youth Provision</u> Councillor Caddy updated Council on the progress of the Working Group. The Youth Engagement Strategy should be ready for circulation in the new year. A productive meeting was held with officers from WNC Environment, Countryside & Parks team, providing useful guidance. It is pleasing to note that after reporting to WNC on several occasions, the repair and replacement of broken play equipment at St Crispin Community Centre Play Area is finally underway.
175/24	<u>Remembrance Service 11th November 2024</u> Councillors agreed that it was a good event and well-attended. Improvements for next year were noted as follows: • Arrange use of a portable PA system • Make available an Order of Service, with timings • Consider full closure of car park • Liaise with TDS to avoid noise contamination from adjacent events
176/24	<u>Tree Planting Event 24th November 2024</u> Councillor Caddy reported that approximately 15 volunteers planted 300 saplings on Buttercup Meadow on 24th November. It was requested that the Clerk ask the landscaping contractor to

	leave an additional 1m margin around the scrubland to protect the saplings. Council thanked Councillor Caddy for organising this initiative.
177/24	<u>Business Plan</u> There was nothing further to report.
178/24	<u>School parking and Camelot Way Double Yellow Lines</u> Councillor Holt reported that The Duston School (TDS) have responded to Council's request to convene a Stakeholder Meeting. TDS have stated that they would be willing to meet with the Chairman of Upton Parish Council, but did not feel that extending this invitation to other stakeholders would be beneficial at this stage. It was agreed that the Chairman should attend a meeting with TDS. The aim would be to agree a date for this meeting to take place before Christmas.
179/24	<u>Fingerpost signage to St Crispin Park</u> "To discuss a proposal from Councillor Ingram to install fingerpost signpost at the Berrywood Road entrance to St Crispin Park, to better promote the route to pedestrians and cyclists." Council RESOLVED to defer this Agenda item to the next meeting.
180/24	<u>Grant Application – Upton Meadows Primary School</u> An amendment to reduce the amount of the award by 50% was proposed and seconded. Council RESOLVED AGAINST this amendment. Council voted on the original motion and RESOLVED to approve the application from Upton Meadows Primary School for £1,135.00 to make repairs to their trim trail. Councillor Earle voted against the motion and asked that the votes be recorded: 6 in favour, 4 against.
Item No.	<u>General Matters;</u>
181/24	<u>Defibrillators Replacement Pads</u> Council RESOLVED to: a) approve a cost of £74 excl delivery and VAT for 1 set of main pads (1 x main at One Stop Shop) b) approve a cost of £165 excl VAT for Annual Support agreement (Year 4 of 5).
182/24	<u>Buttercup Meadow</u> Council considered the proposal circulated by Councillor Caddy to install a knee rail fence along the margin of Buttercup Meadow and Burdock Gardens and agreed to submit an application for S106 monies to fund the project.
183/24	<u>Christmas Celebration at St Luke's Primary School</u> Council discussed the request from the head of St Luke's Primary School for Council's support in publicising this event and agreed to advertise the event on Council's website and noticeboards.
184/24	<u>Budget 2025/2026</u> Council RESOLVED to approve the budget for expenditure of £138,368 for 2025/26.

185/24	<u>Precept 2025/2026</u> Council RESOLVED to approve a precept of £118,298 for 2025/26 and authorised the Clerk/RFO and the Chairman to sign the PR1 Form for submission to WNC. <u>POST MEETING NOTE:</u> The precept represents an 88% increase compared to current year. A Budget FAQ document is available on our website which explains the reasons for the increase.
186/24	<u>Code of Conduct</u> Council RESOLVED to adopt the Code of Conduct, as circulated by the Clerk prior to the meeting.
187/24	<u>SLCC Practitioners' Conference 2025</u> Council RESOLVED to the Clerk attending the above two-day conference (day package) on 29th and 30th January 2025, at a cost of £320 excl VAT, plus mileage expenses.
<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Finance</u>
188/24	<u>Income</u> To consider and note all income received in the month as set out in Appendix A.
189/24	<u>Accounts for Payment</u> Council RESOLVED to all payments being made, as set out in Appendix B, subject to the Clerk negotiating a partial credit from B&D Publications. <u>POST MEETING NOTE:</u> B&D Publications have issued a credit note for £77.00.
190/24	<u>Ratification of purchases made between meetings</u> Council ratified an order of £102.77 for printer cartridges and noticeboard magnets.
<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Planning</u>
191/24	<u>Notification of Planning Applications received for comment.</u> Council considered current planning applications for the Parish: a) <u>2024/5351/TCA St Crispin & Harlestone Cricket Club St Crispin Drive St Crispin Northampton NN5 4DT</u> Lift base and crown to approx 4m to 9 x Lime Trees, 1 x Silver Birch Tree, 3 x Wild Cherry Trees, 3 x London Plane Trees, 1 Indian Bean Tree & 1 x Beech Tree. Council agreed to SUPPORT the application but wished to note that the pruning works to the Wild Cherry Trees should not be carried out during dormancy as it opens them up to silver leaf disease. This work would be best done during late summer when silver leaf fungal spores are not around.
192/24	<u>Notification of Planning Application Decisions received from the Planning Authority.</u> Council NOTED the following decision/(s) received from the Local Planning Authority: a) <u>2024/4563/TPO 19 Excalibur Close Northampton NN5 4BJ</u> Crown lift to 1 x Thuja Tree Reduction to overextended limb to 1 x Thuja Tree TPO 064 - G7. Approved.
193/24	<u>Green Hill Solar Farm Statutory Consultation.</u> Council NOTED plans for an application to the Secretary of State for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build a 500MW solar farm on sites to the east of Northampton. The applicant is

	carrying out a public consultation from 7 th November to 19 th December 2024. Details are available at https://greenhillsolar.co.uk/ Council agreed to reiterate its previous comments, in response to the consultation.
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APPENDIX A - INCOME TABLE

Date	Current Account	Amount
Nov 2024	Interest Received	£72.01

APPENDIX B - PAYMENTS TABLE

By	Payee	Description	Power	Amount
BACS	Spectrum Northants Limited	Refreshments for Remembrance Day Service	Local Government Act s137	£50.00
BACS	Coeval	To relocate Happy/Sad face SID	Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 s72	£642.00
BACS	B&D Publications	3 x full page issues (Dec/Jan – Apr/May)	Local Govt Act 1972 s142	£460.00
BACS	R&G	Grounds Maintenance October	Open Spaces Act 1906 s10	£1,051.20
BACS	Raybell and Sons	Tarmac works to access road UPC car park	Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 s57	£3,474.00
BACS	The Community Heartbeat Trust	Annual Support C2 Cost Year 4 (min 5 years) 01/11/2024 – 01/11/2025	Local Government (Misc. Provisions) Act 1976 s19	£198.00
BACS	Employee(s)	Nov Net pay (inc backdated increase)	Local Govt Act 1972 s112	£1,812.48
BACS	Employee(s)	Expenses/Homeworking Allowance Nov 24	Local Government Act 1972 s111	£130.98
BACS	LGPS	Employee pension scheme Nov 2024	Local Government Act 1972 s112	£668.24
BACS	HMRC	PAYE and NIC Nov 2024	Local Government Act 1972 s112	£570.24

In the absence of further business, the meeting was closed at 20:36hrs.

Signed:

Councillor Andrew Holt – Chairman to Upton Parish Council

Date: 7th January 2025