Minutes Nether Heyford Parish Council Meeting, Monday 1 October 2018, at 7.30pm
in the Baptist Church Rooms, The Green, Nether Heyford

Present

A-M Collins  S Corner  L Dilkes  L Eales  P Green
N Haynes  C Kiloh (in the chair)  D Musson  Cllr P Bignell SNC  Cllr D Harries, SNC
5 members of public  G Ravine, Clerk (part)  2 representatives from Environmental Agency  G Greaves, Interim Clerk

1. To Receive Apologies and Approve Reasons for Absence. Apologies received from Cllr Basset. The Council Resolved to accept the apologies.
2. To Invite Declarations of Interest. None.
3. Register Of Interests Update. None.
4. Public Participation. Cllr Harries informed that Council that he had just returned from SNC’s Grants Panel and was pleased to report that the Bowls Club grant application for £4,000 had been successful. A member of the public enquired if it would be possible for residents to be encouraged to clean the debris from verges in front of their homes and also to take part in a village tidy up day around the Village Green. The Chairman suggested that an article be included in the next edition of “the Prattler” and include information on the village facebook page and website.
A resident asked the Council about areas of overgrown grass and what was happening about the road closure on the road leading to Upper Heyford from Nether Heyford. The Chairman responded that grass mowing was in hand. The issue relating to a gas leak and subsequent road closure was still ongoing as the gas leak is proving difficult to locate.
5. Presentation by the Environmental Agency – Flood Risk Management Project – Representatives of the Environmental Agency, Tom Lester and Catherine Chinn addressed the Council on the recent activity relating to Nether Heyford. The purpose of the visit was to update the Council on the situation relating to flood risk as planned capital works had not taken place as anticipated. It was explained that the reason for the lack of progress was due to the results of a mapping exercise. The findings of which revealed that the situation relating to the flood risk was not as extensive as first thought. Future works are unlikely to take place before 2021 as there is a need to secure funding. Anglian Water and Northants County Council are being approached to see if they are prepared to contribute. On a positive note a recent development that concerns the revenue works e.g. maintenance that has taken place locally to elevate flooding around Nether Heyford. The has been an update on the flood warning area to reflect changes - all those affected by these changes will be notified by the Environmental Agency and encouraged to sign up to the “flood warning services”. Leaflets are being produced for distribution.
6. To confirm and sign minutes of the meeting held on 3 September 2018. Cllr Haynes proposed the minutes to be signed as a correct record, seconded by Cllr Corner. The Council Resolved to accept the minutes as a true record. The Chairman duly signed the minutes
7. Matters arising from the minutes, for information only.
Village Sign – the Chairman reported that the Northamptonshire County Council Highways Department had been contacted and confirmed that a replacement sign had been ordered and should be installed in the next few weeks.
8. Correspondence – the Council noted the following correspondence.
9. Reports:
A. Lights – The Council discussed a number of faulty street lights. Cllr Haynes reported that he had investigated the ongoing problems with a street light in Roberts Field and he believes it was not affected by the overgrown tree in Furness Lane however it requires further investigation and he will report back to the next meeting.
B. Roads & Pavements – Nothing to report other than the footpath outside the One Stop Shop requires attention and this requires reporting to the StreetDoctor.
C. The Green & Play Area – It was agreed that The Green was looking good although there have been reports of late night users leaving rubbish littered about.
D. Playing Fields – Cllr Eales had nothing to report.
E. Trees – Cllr Haynes reported that the trees in Coronation Avenue have been trimmed.
F. Allotments – Cllr Corner reported that the order for the 27 fruit trees had been placed and that the Allotment Management Group are busy putting together a plan to plant the trees in the Community Orchard. There are now 32 Allotment Holders renting 45 plots of land with a further 14 plots vacant and available for letting, 7 plots given over to community use and wildlife and 10 plots allocated to the Community Orchard.

G. Footpaths – nothing to report.

H. Churchyard – nothing to report other than there is a meeting of the PCC 4 October 2018.

I. Canal – Cllr Dilkes reported that a complaint had been received from a resident concerning the overflowing bins sited alongside the canal. Cllr Haynes agreed to investigate further and report to the next meeting.

J. JJB – The Chairman reported that there are two interiments of ashes pending and the grassed area is tidy.

K. Youth Club – Cllr Dilkes reported that the youth club had noted a very slight reduction in numbers attending. A request will be made to parents and carers to collect children from Youth Club, this information would be posted on the Facebook Page.

L. Defibrillators – The Chairman reported that both defibrillators had been checked although neither had been used.

Planning Matters – Cllr Corner reported that a planning application had been received concerning new signage for the Narrowboat public house. The Council discussed the application and had not objections.

Cllr Corner reported that she would be attending a network meeting on 14 November in Towcester where there would be a presentation on Community Land Trusts.

Cllr Corner informed the Council that she had been contacted by a resident from Manor Park concerning a large branch sited in the river and which may cause a blockage to the stream in front of the Manor House. The Clerk was instructed to write to the occupier of 12 Manor Park to inform them of the situation.

Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Corner updated the Council that work had started to develop the policies to reflect the local situation and that the professional support had provided templates to assist with this. A visit to the professional support by a few of the members of the Neighbourhood Plan working group was being planned. The purpose of this visit was to discuss the requirements for the consultation exercises that are required to be completed as part of the production of the Plan.

Proposal for a shared Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). – Cllr Bignell informed the Council that the new PCSO had been appointed for to serve Bugbrooke. The opportunity to join with Bugbrooke and share the PCSO would be for £20,000 p.a. per parish council. The Council discussed the initiative and the impact on the precept. It was agreed that more information was required to ascertain how the scheme would work and benefit Nether Heyford. It was further agreed that a small working party consisting of Cllrs Dilkes and Green would be established to investigate further and bring their findings to the next meeting of the Council to inform the budget setting and precept for 2019/20.

County Review of Grit Bins – The Chairman reported that further information from Danny Moody, NCALC was awaited on this matter. Deferred to the next meeting.

Accounts for Payment:

a. Receive the External Auditors Report and Decide if Further Action Required. The Council considered the report and the Chairman proposed that the Annual External Audit, Annual Return and Notice of Conclusion of Audit be approved and accepted by the Parish Council, this was seconded by Cllr Haynes and the Council resolved to approve and accept the Annual External Audit, Annual Return and Notice of Conclusion of Audit for 31 March 2018.

b. Check and Approve Payments. Payments were proposed for payment by Cllr Haynes, seconded by Cllr Green and the Council resolved to approve accounts for payment.

c. Accept Receipts – Precept £35,000 – noted.

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A) Bank Balance: Yorkshire Bank Parish Council 31/08/2018 £81,444.77

PETTY CASH PAYMENTS - G Greaves Mileage (£18.00) £18.00

OCT 2018
Pension £26.38 | £48.36
Income Precept SNC | £35.00

*Denotes invoice received after agenda published

16 Direction Sign for the Church. Deferred to next meeting.
17 Planters (sited near the shop). The contents of the planters have been tidied but further works are required to repair the planters. Cllr Green volunteered to undertake the work and any materials used would be paid for by the Council.
18 Annual Schedule of Maintenance Works. Deferred to next meeting.
18 Consider request from member of the public for permission to scatter ashes on Village Green and provide a memorial bench. A request had been received from a former resident of Nether Heyford to site a memorial bench on the village green and scatter their cremated remains at some point in the future. The Council decided that further information would need to be gathered to establish the situation relating to bye laws and regulations relating to the disposal of ashes on public space before reaching a final decision on the request. To be referred to the November meeting.

19 Consider Inviting Village Foundations to Attend a Future Meeting – the Council discussed inviting Village Foundations to attend and future meeting. There was no proposal made to do so.
20 Northants CALC – Attendance at Annual General Meeting – the Chairman proposed that he attend the AGM as the Councils nominated representative and the Council agreed.
20 Items for the next Agenda – Policy for memorial bench/ashes, Shared PCSO with Bugbrooke Parish Council.
Next meetings – Monday, 5 November 2018

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm