

# NORTHILL PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF NORTHILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN CALDECOTE CHURCH ROOMS ON MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2010 COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM

**PRESENT:** Councillor J Franklin (Chairman), Councillors R Brinkley, G Gilbert, S Mandley, D Milton, M Morgan, D Kay, K Bennett, and the Clerk Amanda Baldwin.

Also present were Central Bedfordshire Councillors P Turner and C Maudlin and five members of the public.

### 1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr J Coutts & Cllr W Momen, Cllr I Robinson & Cllr P Maudlin

### 2. **DECLARATION FROM MEMBERS IN RELATION TO PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST IN ANY AGENDA ITEM**

None Received.

### 3. **OPEN FORUM**

Standing orders were suspended at 7.35 pm.

Mr Wingfield asked about the survey on Northill Pond wall. The chairman stated that the survey has been received and would be discussed at item 5 on the Agenda.

Mr Weller stated that someone had cut the permissive footpath in Warden Road. He was also concerned about the bridleway at Springwood House. Mr Weller was informed that people and horses are able to access the Bridleway.

Mrs Cowell asked if the negotiations regarding Allotments could include parking and a walkway between allotments. The Chairman stated that the owners of the land are happy to provide the land for parking for free and will enquire about walkways.

Mrs Grimes of Sand Lane voiced her concerns about the amount of cars accessing the proposed Allotment site that would be passing by her house. She asked if there was any other way into the site. The Chairman stated that the Parish Council is committed to providing allotments and if it were not involved the Allotment Association would continue with the plan regardless.

Standing orders were resumed at 7.45 pm.

### 4. **COUNCIL MINUTES**

#### **MINUTES OF NORTHILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010**

The minutes of the Northill Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2010 were taken as read with one amendment needed, being 8.1 should read "and not the general precept fund".

The minutes were then confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

### 5. **CLERK'S REPORT & MATTERS ARISING**

5.1 A Copy of the Surveyors report for Northill Pond had been circulated to Councillors.

5.2 Harpur Trust are still trying to locate their copy of the agreement for the Permissive Footpath.

5.3 Clerk has submitted the war memorial grant application form.

## **6. COMMITTEE MINUTES**

### **6.1 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2010 were adopted.

### **6.2 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2010**

The minutes of the Establishment Committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2010 were adopted

## **7. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

Cllr Maudlin reported that she had met with the Amey representative regarding a mini roundabout at the existing staggered crossroads in Upper Caldecote and has been informed that this was not feasible due to costs but sleeping policeman were being considered,

Gypsy & Traveller consultations are to start again in December and the response time has been extended to 8 weeks to cover the Christmas holidays. The site at Magpie Farm is potentially looking at a further 3 pitches being added rather than the 6 first proposed.

A new Central Beds Council website, [www.13-19central.co.uk](http://www.13-19central.co.uk), has been developed to help anyone aged between 13 and 19 make a positive contribution to their communities. The site will be packed full of information about events and activities across the area.

An enterprise fair is taking place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November at the Wetherley Centre in Biggleswade.

Cllr Turner stated that the council tax rates are much higher in the South than in the North of our area and that these two rates should be harmonised.

Further savings of 12 million are to be made in the budget and this will include redundancies and eventually cuts in services.

## **8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

### **8.1 ALLOTMENT SITE**

Cllr Franklin has spoken to the owners of the Bryant's Hill site who have confirmed that there is access to the site via Sand Lane. A cost of £800 per acre has been asked and the owners are willing to provide the land for parking for free as there must be enough land for parking as there are allotments.

A tenancy agreement between the Parish Council and the land owners is to be drawn up and this will cost in the region of £300 plus VAT. It was decided to opt for a five year lease with the possibility of a further five years with a break clause after the first five years. Allotment holders will be asked to sign up for their allotments for a five year period and their tenancy agreement must state that NO cars are to be parked in Sand Lane.

Cllr Franklin offered to do the first cultivation of the site for free.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council start negotiations with the owners of the Bryant's Hill site for an initial 5 year period with a possibility of a further five years if required.

### **8.2 SALT BIN INITIATIVE**

Correspondence had been received from Central Beds Council asking if the Parish Council would be prepared to purchase salt bins for areas in the village not covered in the salting routes. The Parish Council would be responsible in paying for the bins to be filled and the distribution of the salt. It was agreed that if the bins were provided and refilled for free by Central Beds Council then the parish would be happy to have them.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would be happy to have salt bins providing they were free and were filled on a regular basis for free from Central Beds Council and that the Clerk is to request that Biggleswade Road in Upper Caldecote is added to the salting route through the village.

**8.3 REQUEST TO PURCHASE LAND ADJACENT TO 11 POUND CLOSE, UPPER CALDECOTE**

The Council had received a request from the resident of 11 Pound Close requesting to purchase the land adjacent to their property.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk write to the resident informing them that the Parish Council are not in a position to sell the land adjacent to 11 Pound Close as it was a condition of the planning decision when the houses were built that this area remain as an open space.

**8.4 PURCHASE OF A PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM**

The Clerk reported that portable PA systems are available to buy and would cost in the region of £400 to £600 pounds and would need to be set up and dismantled after every council meeting and stored in a secure place.

**RESOLVED** that that a different seating arrangement be set up for the next Council meeting to see if members of the public can hear what is being discussed.

**9. CORRESPONDENCE**

**9.1 REPORT FROM THE SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE TEAM**

Councillors were in receipt of a report from the local neighbourhood police team introducing themselves. Cllr Morgan stated that the report was very confusing and used too many abbreviations and that a representative from the police at meetings, or at least a monthly report would be more beneficial. The Clerk stated that she had tried to contact the police team to attend this meeting and had received no reply to any of her calls or emails.

**RESOLVED** that The Clerk write to the police team asking for a representative at meetings or a monthly report be provided.

**9.2 INVITATION FROM ALISTAIR BURT**

An invitation for Councillors to a meeting with Alistair Burt has been received and anyone wishing to attend on either of the dates provided is to contact the Clerk.

**9.3 EMAIL FROM THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

An email had been received from the Parochial Church Council regarding the condition of the wall at Northill Church.

**AGREED** that the Clerk forward a copy of the email to Cllr Milton and he and Cllr Gilbert are to meet with a representative of the Church Council to discuss the condition of the Church wall.

**10. FINANCE**

**10.1 TO APPROVE PAYMENTS MADE**

D J Granger Grounds Maint. Ltd	Grounds Maintenance	£1,436.11
Miss A Baldwin	Salary + expenses August 2010	£1,586.68
A R Worboys	Grounds Maintenance	£614.88
Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath & Donation	£50.00
Northill Arts Festival	S137 Grant	£250.00
BDO	External Audit Fee	£470.00
D J Granger	Grounds Maintenance	£1,180.18
A R Worboys	Grounds Maintenance	£1,790.23

**RESOLVED** that approval be given to the payments made and the Clerk contact Linda Trevena to clarify which parts of the Invoices received from A R Worboys are to be recharged back to Central Beds Council

## 10.2 TO APPROVE PAYMENTS TO BE MADE

Olive Press	Newsletter Printing	£174.00
All Saints Church Rooms	Hall Hire Upper Caldecote	£24.00
Ickwell Village Hall	Hall Hire	£30.00
Northill Parochial Church Council	Hall Hire	£15.00

**RESOLVED** that approval be given to the payments to be made.

## 10.3 INCOME

Central Bedfordshire Council	Precept 2010 50%	£21,000.00
Quince	Memorial K Presland	£28.00
Seamers	Interment Turin	£66.00
Seamers	Interment Ashes Pratt	£44.00
Quince	Memorial J Law	£28.00
Co Operative Funerals	Interment of Payne	£180.00
Seamers	Interment of Ashes D Sizer	£88.00

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council has received a clean audit report and the notice of completion will be placed on the Parish notice boards.

## 11. FUTURE WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT

The Clerk is to contact Richard Maudlin and D J Granger to obtain a quote to cut back the hedge on the permissive footpath in Warden Road.

The verge/hedge along the back of Dene Way also needs trimming and the Clerk is to contact D J Granger to arrange for this to be done as soon as possible.

## 12. SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE PROPOSALS FROM COUNCILLORS

The Clerk was asked to check how many cuts per year have been agreed for Ickwell Green.

## 13. REPORTS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Councillors were in receipt of the P3 minutes from 22<sup>nd</sup> June and the minutes of the meeting held recently are to be emailed to the Clerk.

Cllr Morgan reported that she had met with the Ickwell Residents Association on 21<sup>st</sup> September and was waiting to hear back from the Cricket Club.

## 14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2010 at Ickwell Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35 pm.