Minutes of the meeting of North Luffenham Parish Council held on **Monday, 15th August 2022 at 7.30pm** at NL Community Centre


**Present:** Cllrs Smith, Burrows, Barsby, Cade, Gorse and 3 members of the public

**108/22** Apologies: Canham, Bool, Waller

**109/22** Declarations of Interest: None

**110/22** Public Forum

There was a short presentation from the Co-Chair of the Empingham Medical Centre Patient Participation group (PPG) about changes in local health services. A member of the Parish Council was invited to join the PPG to help influence debate. In addition, a member of the public raised the condition of the wall at the bottom of the Oval and the need for a working party to strip ivy from it. This was agreed. Charles to arrange working party

**111/22** The minutes of the Parish Council meetings of 20th June and 18th July were approved and signed.

**112/22** Ward Report: None

**113/22** Chairman’s Report

* Anti-Social Behaviour: the Chair described various incidents of vandalism and cruelty to animals in the local area. He has spoken to residents and met with local Police officers. RSPCA is now likely to take forward one prosecution.
* CIL working group: work is ongoing to involve young people in this decision-making process. Cllr Gore described a good case made by older teenagers for a skatepark in the local area. The Chair mentioned services for young people at St George’s Barracks.
* Neighbourhood Plan – discussed later on this agenda.

**114/22** **Correspondence – Clerk**

* The grit bin on Butt Lane – currently missing a lid – was discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk would go back to RCC’s street Scene Officer to establish which authority was ultimately responsible for the repair/replacement of this item.
* The Clerk informed council that a discrepancy on the recent Agar 3 report had been identified by PKF Littlejohn, auditors. An amended version was now on the website.

**115/22 Finance Report – Clerk**

1. The bank reconciliation was deferred to allow Cllr Barsby to meet with the Clerk separately.
2. The following contractual payments were also duly noted:
* £6 to Ionos for website services
* £18 to DCK Payroll Solutions
1. Payments were agreed of :-
* £104 to HMRC and
* £30.42 to the Clerk to cover miscellaneous stationery and USB sticks

**116/22 Planning - Cllr Burrows**

Cllr Burrows set out the position with the three most recent planning applications:-

* 2022/0490/PTA Decision Notice re work on a tree subject to a Tree Preservation Order - The Limes, Glebe Road which had been agreed.
* 2022/0584/FULL Refusal of Planning Permission, King’s Farm, Digby Drive, on the basis that the building proposed would have been considerably larger and taller than the existing portable container.
* 2022/0669/PAD refusal to grant prior approval for the conversion of agricultural building to a dwelling house at Black Barn Settings Farm, Pilton Road on the basis that the building is not considered to be capable of conversion without extensive building works and structural intervention. Therefore the proposal would not constitute a development permitted under the provision of Class Q, Part 3 Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) England Order 2015 (as amended.)

**117/22 RCC Local Plan: Issues and Options**

The Chair explained that it was necessary for NLPC to formally approve the response worked up for the Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation. This was seconded by Cllr Barsby and all voted in favour. It will appear on North Luffenham’s website with a closing date of Friday 16 September

**118/22** **Update report from Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group**

The Chair went on to explain that the draft Neighbourhood Plan has been developed and now moves into a next stage of six week formal consultation. The consultation period will run from 23rd August to 4th October 2022.

He said this was the opportunity for villagers to comment on the overall plan, and specifically on the planning policies it contains. He confirmed that all villagers should receive an official notification of this Regulation 14 consultation.

Approval was given for the draft Neighbourhood Plan and the Regulation 14 consultation,

**119/22** **Report from Community Centre Management Committee**

Cllr Cade explained that the group had met and agreed spend on a new fridge, electricity meter, tool-box, chain lock, yale lock and extension lead. The total expense was expected to total a maximum of £500. This spend was proposed by Cllr Cade and seconded by Cllr Burrows and agreed. The Chair asked for the minutes of each Community Centre Management Committee to be added to the Parish Council’s agenda for discussion each month

**120/22 Financial regulations**

Council discussed the current Financial Regulations and agreed that the Finance Working Group needed to meet and talk about their content in more detail.

Clerk to arrange this.

**121/22 Online banking**

The council’s view was that recent service from HSBC had been less than satisfactory including poor communication, poor interest rates and failure to act on notification of changes of address. One cheque had been stopped as potentially fraudulent without any form of notification. The Clerk presented a short paper on the options available for moving to online banking. Cllr Barsby agreed to take this away and make an additional assessment.

**122/22 Bonfire Night**

The council discussed the arrangements needed to hold a Bonfire night celebration on the Oval on Saturday 5th November. They agreed:-

* The Clerk is to write to Recreation Ground charity re this event. Completed.
* The purchase of a further two Sumup card-readers to allow for greater flexibility in accepting cashless payments.
* To approve the expenditure of £1200 set aside for the purchase of fireworks for this event

**123/22** Date of next Parish Council meeting,

**Monday 19th September 2022.**

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Sue Hammond

 Parish Clerk