



SYWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman Cllr John Amos
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Sywell Parish Council
held on **Thursday 14th November 2024 at 7:30pm** at Sywell Village Hall

In attendance: Cllrs John Amos (Chairman), Tim Dobson, Fiona Ingrams, Elizabeth Brown.
Clerk: Maureen Holliday

- 153/24 PUBLIC SESSION:** No attendees
- 154/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies were accepted from Cllr Nan Muttock
- 155/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATION REQUESTS** – Councillors are reminded that if they have either a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or other interest in any of the agenda items then they should declare the interest and withdraw from the debate or meeting as appropriate.
- 156/24 RECEIVE CHANGES TO REGISTRABLE INTERESTS (if any) None**
Request for the Completion of Register of Interests: Periodic reminder that under the Localism Act 2011 (sections 26-34 and regulations made thereunder), the monitoring officer of North Northamptonshire Council is required to establish and maintain a register of interests of elected and co-opted members.
- 157/24 RESOLVED TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING** Thursday 12th September 2024 and signed by the Chairman
- 158/24 NORTH NORTHANTS COUNCILLORS – Reports None**
- 159/24 CHAIRMAN, CLERK and COUNCILLOR REPORT** on items not on the agenda (verbal).
- 160/24 RESOURCES: Resolved** to approve the following (a to h) Documents in Website Meeting Papers.
- a) **Bank Balances at 31 October 2024:** Current Account: £2,966.58
(Traffic Calming Funding) Reserve Account: £79,183.02
 - b) **Income received since last meeting:** Nil
 - c) **Receipts & Payments: Budget Summary, Bank Rec for year to 31 Oct 2024.**
 - d) **To approve payments made at and between meetings Appendix 1**
 - e) **Grant Request:** Request from Charity for payment for churchyard mowing £360.
 - f) **Update on Utility Providers.** New providers are SSE for church floodlights and Tomato Energy for unmetered street lighting. Contract for one year only as changes are being discussed.
 - g) **NCALC Pay Award for 2024/25.** Increase in Clerk rate on SCP 26 from £18.10 to £18.72 per hour.
 - h) **St John Ambulance is offering Basic Life Support Sessions** which include how to administer CPR and the use of a defibrillator. It was agreed to publicise the suggestion to the community in the newsletter and social media and measure response before making arrangements.
- 161/24 PLANNING: Resolved** to agree responses and actions.
- a) **New Applications:** Circulated.
NW/24/00596/FUL 56 Overstone Road Sywell Change of roof to provide habitable living space three dormer windows in the front elevation and three dormer windows in the rear elevation, single storey rear extension and two storey front extensions, alterations and new vehicular access. **Appeal.**
NW/24/00559/FUL 24 Overstone Road. First floor rear extension over the existing utility / WC area below for use as a bedroom. **No Observations**
 - b) **Awaiting Decision: None**
 - c) **Applications Decided:**
NW/24/00468/FUL Land Rear and Adjacent To 204 Holcot Lane Sywell. Redevelopment of Disused Menage site to Two Paddle Tennis Courts and Associated Areas of Hardstanding surround by black mesh steel and glass panels with a maximum height of 4 metres **Permitted**
NW/24/00435/FUL 42 Ecton Lane Sywell First floor front extension. **Permitted**
NW/23/00863/LBC 18 Sywell Village Sywell Listed Building Consent for alterations to outbuildings to form a one bed annex. No observations but the path should be reinstated. The approval notice details the planning response to protect the footpath. **Permitted**
NW/24/00240/FUL 7 Holcot Lane Sywell Proposed part single and part two storey extensions to rear and single storey porch extension to front. **Permitted**

NW/24/00346/OUT 41 Ecton Lane Sywell. Outline planning application for a proposed Self-Build Dwelling with All Matters Reserved Aside from Access. **Awaiting Decision**

d) **Planning applications and matters since publication of the agenda** (applications notified by BCW received prior to the meeting will be considered)

e) **Other Planning Matters:**

i) **Buildings and Field, Wellingborough Road, adjacent to old village of Sywell. FOI request submitted to NNC.** NNC responded that the matter does not fall into Freedom Of Information request.

Action: Clerk to contact Unitary Cllrs and Conservation Officer for help in getting the enforcement Officer to visit the site.

ii) **Green Hill Solar Park – invitation to Public Consultation from 7 November to 19 December.** Circulated. The information has also been circulated in the newsletter.

162/24 HIGHWAYS, MOWING AND MAINTENANCE: Resolved to approve items (i to vi) further action or response.

Village Maintenance, Traffic Calming and Speeding in the Village:

i) **Traffic Calming/CIL money (Overstone Leys).** Clerk will update the council on responses from NNC via Data Request. **Response:** A full response has been received which states that after this programme of works have been completed there will be funding of £14,000 available for future projects. Also, NNC gave a full report of works completed and dates for completion.

ii) **Lengthsman Report from Peter Clayton.** The Council extended thanks to Peter.

The report highlighted various areas prone to flooding which are reported on FixMyStreet where they can be monitored by Peter.

Potholes on side roads do not meet the priority status of 4cms deep. Except 2 reported in Stonelea. Kerb and drain in Stonelea Rd have been reset.

Damaged and sinking drain cover on Wellingborough Rd has been reported.

Leaves on Overstone Rd by bus stop and on pavement towards Village Hall have been cleared.

Request received for leaves to be cleared on pavement in Ecton Lane.

Action: Clerk to Liaise with Peter Clayton.

iii) **Street lighting:** The Clerk has carried out a full check of all lighting and arranged repairs. Clearance of foliage to be decided. All faulty lighting has been reported to the supplier (Parish owns the lights).

Action: Clerk to make a request to Lengthsman to clear foliage where safe to do so and lamp glasses on vintage lighting in the old village.

iv) **Bus service Stagecoach X10 Kettering/Northampton/Kettering:** The Parish Clerk has been in communication with a number of residents in the village and Overstone Lakes all of whom would like a bus service. Feedback from communications with various levels of management within the Stagecoach bus company is poor. It is exceedingly difficult to make changes to existing routes or to add new services as it is a national decision.

In discussion with Moulton Minibuses, it has now been arranged to put in place the following trial:

From **Tuesday 19th November** two single pick-up bus routes per week **from Overstone Lakes:**

Tuesday: 10am to Wellingborough, returning at 1:30pm

Thursday: 10am to Weston Favell, returning at 1:30pm

Lakes residents should notify the Lakes office of their intention to travel and on which journey.

Moving forward, if this is successful the scheme could be extended to providing a service from Sywell village. The results of the take-up will be examined and further discussion will follow.

Action: Clerk to follow up

v) **Speeding through the village following response from Northants Police.**

Following communication from an old village resident expressing disappointment that there are little traffic calming measures on entering the village through the old village, particularly the lack of the speed van. The Clerk contacted the Police Safer Roads Team Strategic Manager (MO) and the Safer Roads Team Enforcement Supervisor (MM).

MM manages and plans the speed camera van licencing and movements. **MM responded:**

“This road, unfortunately, is currently lawfully unenforceable, it does not have sufficient signage to enforce the 30mph hour speed limit, it would need additional streetlights or 30mph repeater signs (with accompanying traffic order - Highways would be responsible for this)

A 30mph restricted road with a system of streetlights is defined as a minimum of 3 streetlights spaced no further than 183m apart. The streetlights must be able to light up the carriageway and be clearly visible to drivers. The road also has 2x 20mph signs which should have a traffic order to restrict the speed limit to 20mph. 20mph zones/limits should also have sufficient traffic calming/engineering in place to restrict the speed of vehicles.

*In 2021 I requested a traffic survey which at the time did **not** meet the criteria for police enforcement, I have attached this report to the email for you.*

I do remember visiting last year following concerns raised by (the resident) direct to us and we did pass our concerns on to Highways re the speed limit issues.”

It is generally considered that if traffic needs to negotiate parked vehicles this provides natural traffic-calming. However, the homeowners have taken to parking off-road which leaves a clear route for vehicles to pass at speed.

Action: John Amos (Chairman) will provide a response for the December newsletter.

vi) Other Highways matters to be discussed.

a) A request for double yellow lines between Pie Corner and Webbs Lane. **Action:** Clerk will make enquiries with Highways.

b) A request has been received for a litter bin in the lay-by on the A43. **Action:** Clerk to follow-up.

163/24 ELLIOTT PARK: Consider Report, Proposals and Actions. Discussion on outstanding issues: **Resolved** to accept reports and actions.

a) To receive a report from the Clerk regarding recent communications with Proludic and Wicksteed.

Wood Plank Edging: around the edge of the sandpit and play area is now in poor condition with wood planks constantly rotting and breaking. The Clerk, Chairman and Elliott Park committee have met to discuss the possibilities and possible materials to be used. **Action:** The Clerk will follow up on the suggestions and source possible alternatives to using wood.

Wicksteed have provided an estimate to refurbish the old roundabout of parts = £6,409.12 plus labour of around £800. These roundabouts were first produced in the late 60s and withdrawn from manufacture in the early 80s. **Action:** Further consideration.

b) To receive a report from the Committee.

It has been necessary to replace the Queen Elizabeth celebration tree which has died.

164/24 TRAINING and Advice Sessions: To consider any training opportunities/requests.

Northants Police: Invite to Safe and Sound - a new mission for public safety in Northamptonshire - via Teams with PFCC Danielle Stone on Tuesday 3rd December at 6pm. the regular Teams meeting with the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner are restarting. The First meeting with Danielle is scheduled for Tuesday 3rd December at 6pm.

As the new Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, Danielle is putting together her first public safety plan for the county. The plan will be based on the feedback from an extensive public consultation exercise that was held earlier this year

165/24 URGENT MATTERS FOR REPORT ONLY (Notified to the Chairman before the meeting)

166/24 DATE OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING – 9th January 2025 7:30pm, Village Hall, Syw

Signed:
Chairman

Date : 16 January, 2025

Future meetings 2025: 13 March, 8 May, 10 July, 11 Sept,

Appendix I Payments made between meetings

16-Sep-24	British Gas	BGL0463847-0446002	52	-34.81	-1.66
23-Sep-24	Gigaclear PLC	C301522	53	-36.00	-6.00
30-Sep-24	Unity Bank	Service Charge	54	-18.00	
01-Oct-24	SSE Energy Supply	0058534-DD00663460	55	-192.71	-12.13
01-Oct-24	SLCC	Planning Training	56	-36.00	-6.00
01-Oct-24	M Holliday	Clerk Salary	57	-654.03	
01-Oct-24	PARK LANDSCAPES (N	1644	58	-966.00	-161.00
01-Oct-24	SLCC	BK217871-1	59	-383.00	-43.00
01-Oct-24	HMRC PAYE	475PQ00822792	60	-160.43	
01-Oct-24	AUTELA PAYROLL SER	Payroll Services	61	-81.86	-13.84
02-Oct-24	GOCARDLESS	SECURIFIRESY-9FF7C	62	-31.86	-5.31
15-Oct-24	British Gas	BGL0463847-0446002	63	-36.80	-1.75
18-Oct-24	Elizabeth Brown	Prunus	64	-226	-37.67
18-Oct-24	Mr T J Dobson	Raised Beds	65	-39	
18-Oct-24	Fiona Ingrams	Planter flowers	66	-38.98	-6.50
23-Oct-24	Gigaclear PLC	C301522	67	-36	-6.00
31-Oct-24	Service Charge		68	-5.4	
31-Oct-24	SSE Energy Supply	0058534-DD00715209	69	-186.5	-11.74