

**MINUTES OF THE KINGSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY
21ST FEBRUARY 2024, 7.00PM, AT ST DAVID'S CHURCH, EASTERN AVENUE SOUTH, NN2 7QB**

PRESENT: Cllrs, Titus Ajayi (Chair), Eluned Lewis-Nichol, Gill Askens, Sally Beardsworth, Tony Ward, Arthur Newbury, Anthony Antoniou, Steve Miller, Elaine Miller, Bryan Lewin, Dilip Kumar

ALSO PRESENT: A Barnes (Clerk), Cllr Sam Rumens (WNC), Michelle Grimwood, Hayley Cannon

ABSENT: Cllrs, Rachael Ball, Mike O'Connor, Sam Kilby-Shaw, Mamun Ali

20/24 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs, Ball, Kilby-Shaw, and O'Connor due to other commitments and a family emergency. It was unanimously resolved that the apologies be accepted

21/24 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None

22/24 MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Newbury, seconded by Cllr Ward, and resolved with 6 votes for and 4 abstentions, that the minutes were considered, agreed, and signed as a correct record

23/24 REPORTS FROM POLICE REPRESENTATIVES AND WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCILLORS

23.1 Cllr Rumens thanked the Council for providing the parish 'Welcome' and VAS Signs

23.2 The Cemeteries Forum are meeting for a cemetery walkabout on 3rd March 24

Cllr Beardsworth gave a verbal report on the following:

23.3 The WNC budget includes an average increase to Council Tax by 4.99%, to help generate extra funding of £12m with a further 2% specifically for Adult Social Care

23.4 There will also be an average increase in Housing rent of 7.7% from 1 April 2024

23.5 In light of the on-going cost of living pressures, the 2023-24 Hardship Fund underspend will be rolled forward into 2024-25 with an additional £150k increase to provide support to tenants who may be facing additional financial difficulties

24/24 DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

24.1 There was no public participation

24.2 Michelle Grimwood, Hayley Cannon representatives from Local Area Partnership Lead came along to introduce themselves and update members regarding the development of the health and wellbeing plans. They will keep Council updated through Cllr Beardsworth and the Clerk

At 19.24 Cllr Kumar arrived at the meeting

25/24 CHAIR'S REPORT

Cllr Ajayi advised he would circulate via email, information regarding the meeting with Kingsthorpe Jets to discuss the redevelopment of the Recreation Ground. A discussion was also held regarding the time frame for the next Council Newsletter

26/24 CLERK'S REPORT AND ACTION LOG

Noted

27/24 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS SERVING ON OUTSIDE BODIES

27.1 As Councils 21 Group Library Network representative, Cllr Ward had nothing to report however, he hopes to have more information at next month following a discussion with the Library Manager

27.2 As Councils Police Liaison representative, Cllr Lewin will update at a future meeting following the Community Safety Group meeting

28/24 FINANCE

It was proposed by Cllr Ward, seconded by Cllr Kumar, and unanimously resolved:

- 28.1 To approve and authorise payments for February expenditure totaling £11,199.08
- 28.2 To receive and note the budget report expenditure year to date
- 28.3 To receive and note the Bank Reconciliation for January 2024

29/24 GRANT FUNDING

It was proposed by Cllr Lewin, seconded by Cllr Lewis-Nichol, and resolved with 10 votes for and 1 against, to approve the grant awards considered and recommended by the Grants Panel

30/24 COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

- 30.1 It was proposed by Cllr Lewis-Nichol Ward, seconded by Cllr E Miller, and unanimously resolved that the minutes of the Climate Change and Environment Committee held on 5th February 2024 be approved and adopted
- 30.2 It was proposed by Cllr Lewin, seconded by Cllr E Miller, and unanimously resolved that the minutes of the Grants Panel meeting held on 14th February 2024 be approved and adopted
- 30.3 Cllr Lewis-Nichol gave a verbal update following on from the first working group meeting. Many of their projects they hope to carry forward will be trying to support and build on the work already being done by the many local organisations and individuals concerned about knife crime

31/24 WARM SPACES INITIATIVE

This item was deferred for discussion later in the year

32/24 TO CONSIDER ANY CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Members noted and considered correspondence from Church with Chapel Brampton Parish Council. Resolved that Council will write to Sir Michael Ellis, stating that they are not in support to re-open the Northampton to Market Harborough (N2MH) link, especially as the site where the railway line was previously situated has been developed into a cycle path known as the "Brampton Valley Way", providing a popular leisure facility, and safe and accessible walking routes and cycle paths

33/24 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- 33.1 Cllr Askens advised members that she was a member of the Northamptonshire Police Independent Advisory Group, which the members are working hard to help support and improve the community
- 33.2 Cllr S Miller gave a verbal report regarding the Northampton Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan stakeholder workshop he attended with Cllr Lewis-Nichol. Cllr S Miller will collate any further comments from members and submit on Council's behalf

34/24 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Noted as:

Saturday 16th March 2024 at 2.00pm

Wednesday 17th April 2024 at 7.00pm

Wednesday 15th May 2024 at 6.00pm - Annual Parish Open Meeting

Wednesday 15th May 2024 at 7.00pm – Annual Meeting of the Council

MEETING CONCLUDED 20.31

Signed:
Chair

Date: