

WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 11 APRIL 2022 AT 7.30 P.M.

Item No	
22(4)1	Chairman's Welcome The Chairman welcomed all Councillors present (a quorum of three) and one member of the public.
22(4)2	In attendance Cllr John Stannage (Chairman); Cllr Richard Clarke; Cllr Martyn Handley; Marie Lewis (Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer) Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Quentin Bambridge; Cllr Graham Garner; Cllr Tim Pearson (Vice Chairman) and Cllr Gavin Elsey. Their reasons for absence were accepted.
22(4)3	Declarations of Interest The Chairman reminded Councillors of their obligation under the Codes of Conduct to declare personal and pecuniary interest. There were none declared.
22(4)4	Public Time The member of the public in attendance, who was also a parishioner, spoke about home insulation that was available free of charge to 'hard to heat' households within the area covering Peterborough City Council (PCC). He informed Councillors that PCC held funds for 'hard to heat' homes and that householders were not means tested. Robert Rayner of PCC was a contact point. A company called SCIS, insulation specialists, were recommended and familiar with the scheme and the parishioner recommended that initial contact be made through a surveyor. During this discussion the parish council meeting adjourned at 7.38 p.m. and restarted at 7.42 p.m. as a parish councillor had received an urgent family phone call. Discussions then continued about the free insulation available and the Chairman proposed, and all Councillors agreed, to publish details of the scheme in 'Living Villages' and also on the parish council website. Cate Harding of the Good Neighbour Scheme would also be informed of this opportunity in the event that certain households were identified that could be helped by having insulation. Action: Clerk
22(4)5	Minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2022 The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that the Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 14 March 2022 be accepted after one minor amendment to the name of Mr Collingridge be made which had been spelled as Mr Collingbridge in the Minutes. Action: Clerk
22(4)6	Matters arising from the Minutes of 14 March 2022
21(11)12	Wansford Community Hall The Chairman reported that the Parish Clerk had received a letter from Hunt & Coombs regarding the registration of ownership of the Community Hall. Hunt & Coombs required an initial payment of £350 from the parish council and confirmation of identity of two parish councillors. The letter contained a form to complete. The Chairman proposed, and all Councillors agreed, that a cheque be raised to Hunt & Coombs for the initial payment of £350. Whilst Hunt & Coombs had given an initial cost of £700 plus VAT for their services (as well as a charge of £170 for a Land Registration fee and £12 for an ID check), they had also informed that these charges may increase in the event that additional research was required beyond initial expectations. Cllrs Stannage and Clarke would provide Hunt & Coombs with their ID for this matter to go forward. Cllr Clarke would also contact the owners of 4 Peterborough Road to enquire if they held any documentation relating to the Community Hall which could be of help. Action: Clerk & Cllrs Stannage and Clarke

	<p>21(11)14 Old Leicester Road/A47 Junction The Chairman reported that there were no further updates to report on this agenda item, although on a related matter, the Clerk confirmed that she had written to PCC to bring to their attention the poor state of the road between the western roundabout and the Old Leicester Road/A47 junction and requested that the necessary road repairs be made.</p> <p>21(11)15 Vehicle Activated Speed Signs (VAS) A discussion took place regarding the current positions of the VAS speed signs and the results recorded. It was noted that a vehicle had crossed Wansford Bridge at 10 p.m. one evening at a speed of 62 mph. The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed that the Wansford Bridge speed sign be moved from the bridge because new growth of leaves on trees would render its solar panel inactive and it be moved to the north side of the Yarwell Road. Cllr Clarke would research the speed on which to monitor vehicles in that area. Action: Cllr Clarke</p> <p>21(11)16 King's Cliffe Industrial Estate Traffic Routing The Chairman reported that the parish council were in communication with North Northamptonshire Council about a private road sign erected at King's Cliffe Industrial Estate which was too small for HGV drivers to read with ease; also, the message on the new sign was not as requested by the parish council. A further email had been sent to the enquiries desk of the planning department at Northants as the North Northants employee that had been dealing with this matter may be absent from work. If the parish council continued to experience difficulty in progressing this matter a local Councillor in Oundle would be contacted to help. Action: Clerk</p> <p>21(11)18 Highways – Declassification (Road Signs) The replacement signage for the posts were awaited. Cllr Handley would chase Leander. Councillors would ensure that appropriate safety measures are in place when the signage is installed. Action: Clerk & Cllr Handley</p> <p>21(11)19 A47 Dualling Cllr Clarke reported that he had participated in meetings held between 14 – 16 March 2022 regarding the routing of the A47 and traffic modelling on the roundabout. The Inspector had asked Highways England to justify their use of a much reduced traffic volume on Old North Road in their traffic modelling when their own measurements showed that it had not reduced. The Inspector had decided that the hearings scheduled for early May would not be needed. The Inspector's recommendations to the Secretary of State would be made by end July 2022. National Highways had tried to cut out parish councils from the ongoing consultation process but the Inspector insisted that we be consulted. National Highways had claimed that the western roundabout was outside of the scheme but the Inspector had challenged this. A recommendation had been made that National Highways should revisit the plan for the western roundabout. Cllr Clarke would continue to participate in discussions with National Highways and report back to the Parish Council. Action: Cllr Clarke</p> <p>21(11)27a Website The Parish Clerk reported that the new website was ready to be launched and that PCC were currently in liaison with JISC over this matter. The Clerk was currently awaiting information from PCC of when the new domain would become live. The old domain would remain accessible but Excitant would put a trigger on that site which would lead users to the new site. Action: Clerk</p> <p>21(11)27b Councillor's email addresses The Parish Clerk reported that parish councillors would be given gov.uk email addresses once the new parish council website was installed and the new website administrator could set up the new email addresses free of charge. Action: Clerk</p> <p>21(11)27c Defibrillator (Webnos training session) The Parish Clerk reported that Thornhaugh parish council was aware of Wansford Parish Council's interest in this training session but, as yet, no date yet been arranged although its parish clerk had undertaken to inform of the date when this was known. Action: Clerk</p> <p>21(11) 27d Telephone Kiosk Cllr Clarke reported that a working party would assemble to work on the repainting of the village telephone kiosk in the coming weeks because warmer weather was anticipated. Action: Cllrs</p> <p>21(12)11 Compliance The Chairman had attempted to make contact with Ashton Parish Council but found that it was not currently in existence although he was aware of where its documentation was held. Wansford's missing documents were not with theirs. All Wansford documents were currently held securely in the Community Hall in a locked cabinet and had been stored in alphabetic order in new folders and labelled.</p> <p>21(12)14 Good Neighbours Scheme</p>
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	<p>The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, to sign the Good Neighbours – Rural Peterborough Agreement with the parish council and for Cllr Stannage to be its Trustee. That agreement had been presented for signature by Cate Harding, the scheme’s coordinator. The annual fee of £225 would be paid, as already agreed at the last meeting of the parish council. There remained a vacancy for the parish role of Lead Volunteer and it was hoped that Wansford Surgery could suggest a suitable candidate.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Cllr Stannage</p>
<p>22(2)15 New Benches</p>	<p>The Chairman proposed, and all Councillors agreed, that the provision of benches in the Old Leicester Road and near the play area in Nene Close, be left in abeyance and discussed at the next meeting of the parish council on 9 May 2022.</p>
<p>22(2)16 Replacement Bins</p>	<p>Councillors discussed further the replacement of a plastic bin to a wooden one on the corner of the Old North Road on the village green. A quotation had been received from PCC for the replacement bin of £700 which councillors believed to be expensive. A parishioner had donated some larch wood which allowed Councillors to make one bin, possibly two, themselves. Councillors would look at the bases upon which to set the bin(s) to ensure suitability.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Councillors</p>
<p>22(2)18 LED Lighting at St Mary’s Church, Wansford</p>	<p>Councillors continued their earlier discussions relating to the parish council’s support towards the provision of new external LED floodlighting of St Mary’s Church, Wansford. The lighting had originally been quoted at a total cost of £1,849.28 and viewed to be rather high. A parishioner had since kindly offered to fit the new LED lights free of labour charges with a materials cost of £455 (inclusive of VAT). The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that we liaise with Thornhaugh and Wansford Parochial Church Council to propose that the parish council pays the whole amount of £455 (thus allowing the parish council to reclaim the VAT) but that we would reduce our grant towards their electricity costs by 60%.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Clerk</p>
<p>22(2)7 Planning</p> <p>Reference: NE/21/01744/FULL</p> <p>Proposal: To extend warehousing with an additional 538 sq metres of storage space Site address: Brays Solutions Ltd, Kings Cliffe Road, near Wansford Please note that this matter was discussed within Agenda Item No. 21(11)16 above.</p> <p>Augean’s ENRMF planning application</p> <p>To discuss Augean’s proposal to extend their existing landfill site to deposit hazardous waste. The link below gives details of the planning application which is to be scrutinized by the Planning Inspectorate later this month. ENRMF Planning Application Augean Hazardous Waste Specialist (augeanplc.com)</p> <p>Councillors had earlier discussed this Planning Application at its meeting held on 14 March 2022 and a response was currently awaited from King’s Cliffe Parish Council to know of their views on the application which Wansford Parish Council would support.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Clerk</p>	
<p>22(3)12 20mph Road Traffic Speed Restriction in Wansford</p>	<p>The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed to defer this item to the next meeting. This agenda item is to consider extending the existing 20mph speed restrictions in the Old Leicester Road and the Old North Road, Wansford.</p>
<p>22(3)13 National Highways & the Relocation of Sutton Station House</p>	<p>Councillors discussed National Highways plan to relocate Sutton Station building from its present site to Wansford Station and the local community’s preferred location to re-site it equidistant from its existing position to the south side of the historic rail bridge alongside the former rail bed. Cllr Clarke reported that he was aware there was national guidance on the relocation of buildings to state that, for a building of this type, it should be relocated as near as possible to the original site and, as a consequence, the consultation process was to be restarted. There had also been some discussion about Sacrewell possibly managing the use of the station in the future.</p>
<p>22(4)7 Planning</p>	<p>To consider and discuss an Appeal submitted by Kelland Developments against Peterborough City Council for their alleged failure to determine an application within the relevant statutory timescale in respect of the following proposal:</p> <p>Description: Construction of up to 14 prestige self-build dwellings and associated infrastructure in field to the east of the Old Pump House, Old Leicester Road, Wansford.</p>

	<p>The Parish Council's comments must be submitted to the Appeals Bristol Office by 3 May 2022. The appeal will be based entirely on written evidence.</p> <p>Councillors revisited the proposed development of Seeds Field and discussed their earlier concerns relating to the proposal to have 14 prestige self-build dwellings there. Councillors' earlier concerns had been (a) related to potential contamination from its proposed natural drainage soak-away and (b) the development being outside of the existing village envelope. After some lengthy discussion, Councillors understood that the issue of drainage had been resolved but that the issue of the village envelope remained. The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that on condition the actual layout in the plans (including the number of houses) were strictly adhered to and satisfied planning criteria for development outside the village envelope, the parish council would not object to the proposal. However, it was felt that correspondence with the Planning Inspector must give our strict conditions relating to layout, trees, construction time, land ownership (e.g. who owns the land that is not developed?). Cllr Clarke would draft a response to the Planning Inspector. Cllr Stannage would enquire if residents adjacent to Seeds Field had been contacted by the Planning Inspectorate. A response would be made by the deadline of 3 May 2022. Action: Cllrs Clarke & Stannage</p>
22(4)8	<p>Accounts to Date 2021/2022</p> <p>The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that the Receipts and Payments Accounts presented prior to the meeting for scrutiny, be accepted. Councillors noted that the cheque written to the value of £562.66 on 13 September 2021 for the Executors of our late parish clerk, Jill Sandeson, had not been cashed. The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that a letter be sent to her Executors care of her last home address to inform that, as the cheque had not been presented, it was no longer valid and the cheque had been cancelled. Action: Clerk</p>
22(4)9	<p>Budget 2021/2022</p> <p>It was noted that the Budget for 2021/2022 had remained within its parameters and that the Budget for 2022/2023 was now in place. Action: Clerk</p>
22(4)10	<p>Finance</p> <p>The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, to the following payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Parish Clerk's Salary (21 hrs x £13.21 = £277.41) b) A grant to Thornhaugh & Wansford Parochial Church Council towards running costs of lighting (£150) c) A grant to Community Hall Management Committee (£200) d) A payment to reimburse Cllr Handley for fingerpost replacements (£372) e) A payment to Rural North West Peterborough Good Neighbours (£225) f) A payment of £350 to Hunt and Coombs for the Community Hall registration. <p>The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that from May 2022 we must have an additional signatory for cheques due to the retirement of Councillor Pearson. Action: Clerk</p>
22(4)11	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Councillors discussed the Strategic Plan for North Northamptonshire, guiding development and growth for the period 2021-2041 which would review and replace the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy adopted in July 2016 to take account of changes in policy and to plan for growth. Details of the Plan were outlined in the following link.</p> <p>North Northants Strategic Plan Scope and Issues Consultation - North Northamptonshire Council - Citizen Space</p> <p>Cllr Clarke said that we should inform North Northants Council that King's Cliffe Industrial Estate should not be allowed to extend as there was potential for that development to negatively impact traffic in the village. It was noted that a response to the proposals had to be received by North Northants by 23 May 2022. After discussion, the Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that the parish council's main concern for future growth within North Northants was further development of King's Cliffe Industrial Estate and the Parish Council would insist that this did not take place. Cllr Clarke agreed to draft a response from the parish council and present it for agreement at the next meeting of the parish council. Action: Cllr Clarke</p>
22(4)12	<p>Road Traffic Diversions into Wansford and Traffic Crossing Wansford Bridge</p> <p>Councillors discussed the volume of traffic entering the village as the result of road work traffic diversions from the A1 and the resultant traffic congestion in the Old North Road and Wansford Bridge. They also discussed the problem of HGVs crossing Wansford Bridge which had a weight limit of 3 tonnes.</p>

	<p>The Chairman reported that he had spoken with National Highways and had been informed that there would be no further weekend closures of the A1 near Wansford. Councillors discussed the idea of temporary traffic lights on Wansford Bridge to alleviate congestion of traffic in the Old North Road and at the bridge. There was a view that better road signage may also reduce congestion. The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that he liaise with National Highways and Sibson-cum-Stibbington Parish Council to propose that the A1 remains open in some form in both directions but, if this was not possible, for temporary traffic lights to be positioned by Wansford Bridge.</p> <p>Regarding the matter of HGVs crossing Wansford Bridge, after some discussion the Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that the parish council write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ask that they focus their efforts on preventing HGVs from crossing the old bridge and, if needed, to install CCTV cameras at the bridge to monitor HGVs using the bridge and that such vehicles be prosecuted. Peterborough City Council's Highways Department would also be informed of the problem. The Chairman reminded Councillors that the bridge had shown cracks in the past due to its misuse and repairs had taken place at great expense.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Clerk and Cllr Stannage</p>
22(4)13	<p>Wild Flower Meadow in Nene Close, Wansford</p> <p>Councillors discussed the planting of a wild flower meadow near the children's play area, Nene Close, which could cost in the region of £40. It would be known as The Platinum Jubilee Wild Flower Meadow. The Chairman proposed, and Councillors agreed, that we write to Mr Collingridge at PCC to inform him of its proposal that the area of land west of the play area become a wild flower meadow and seek advice on how this could be achieved successfully, and also to ensure that the area is not mown during the growth months.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Clerk</p>
22(4)14	<p>Weight restrictions on Vehicles entering the village via the Old Leicester Road</p> <p>To discuss the possibility of having a 7.5-tonnes weight restriction on vehicles entering the village via the Old Leicester Road. It was agreed to defer this matter to the next meeting of the Parish Council.</p>
22(4)15	<p>The Ukrainian War</p> <p>Councillors discussed the possibility of donating to those charities recommended by PCC to support Ukrainian refugees as the result of the Ukrainian war. The Chairman stated he was aware that there were families who planned to accommodate Ukrainian refugees in the village and he proposed, and Councillors agreed, that if a request was received from any of those residents for our support, the parish council would seek to help them. The Clerk would write to PCC to inform that Wansford Parish Council would not, on this occasion, be giving donations to their recommended charities.</p> <p>Standing with Ukraine - Peterborough City Council</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Clerk</p>
22(4)16	<p>Parish Council Election on 5 May 2022</p> <p>The Chairman reported that all existing Parish Councillors' nominations were accepted (making six councillors) but there remained one Councillor vacancy for co-option which would be advertised.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Clerk</p>
22(4)17	<p>Matters for future consideration</p> <p>There were no Agenda items proposed for the next meeting not already covered above.</p>
22(4)18	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>To confirm the date of the next meeting as Monday, 9 May 2022 at 7.30pm as well as the Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Meeting. Cllr Clarke gave his apologies for absence for 9 May 2022.</p>
22(4)19	<p>Village Magazine Reports Rota</p> <p>May 2022 (Cllr Stannage)</p>

Marie Lewis,
Wansford Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer