



PLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Doc No 242507

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall on 12th November 2024 at 19:45.

Present: Cllr N Beaumont – Chair (Cllr NB), Cllr Jim Brown (Cllr JB), Cllr N Satchell (Cllr NS), Cllr Paul Burford (Cllr PB) and Cllr N Shefras (Cllr NDS).

Also present: Anita Emery (Clerk & RFO), CCllr S Osborne and District Cllr D Stewart-Roberts

Absent: Cllr G Peacock (Cllr GP)

MOP's: 2

1. To accept apologies for absence
 - Cllr GP tendered his apologies and reason for absence accepted.
 - County Cllr S Osborne was absent from the meeting.
2. Declarations of pecuniary and disclosable interests in respect of matters to be discussed.
 - Cllr NDS declared an interest in agenda item 12.
3. To Approve Minutes from Parish Council meeting held on 8th October 2024
 - Unanimously approved – Chair signed to that effect.
4. Clerk's Report and discuss any Matters Arising from previous meeting.
 - Clerk had circulated the report prior to the meeting and published on the website.
 - The dog bin near to East View Fields – LDC have agreed to move to the opposite side of the bridge and to merge the waste bin to a dual waste and dog bin. Clerk is chasing to find out when this will be done.
5. Brief Report from the County and District Councillor on matters affecting this Parish.
 - Cllr DSR reported – Visited Rectory Meadows along with Mark Slater had photos taken outside the council properties in development which have been handed over. Tenants slowly moving in. Also took him down to the Riddens Lane site.
 - Road narrowing for Nolands – County Council taken on board and priority direction has been reversed.
 - Talking with Paul Stevens about lack of broadband fibre. Talking with LibDem group who are working on that.
 - Local Plan – no news on whether the plan needs to be restarted or continue.
 - ESCC commission of transport study is now commencing.



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- David Brown – complained/reported it to Cllr Osborne about ditches overflowing in Beresford Lane and were cleared the next day. Residents do need to action if it needs to be reported.
 - Leslie Boniface Chair of LDC -any organisation/societies in the village that would like a visit to let Cllr DSR know.
6. Questions from Members of the Public – limited to a maximum of 15 minutes in total
- Cllr NB requested that agenda item 13 and 19fii be brought forward so the member of public could discuss. Duly agreed.
 - Item 13 – Late Ken Beards postcard collection. 2 x quotations had been received by Plumpton Village Society to PPC for £2400-£2500. 200 postcards in collection – proposal is to crowdfund the village to be able to keep all of them in the village and also approach commercial businesses. Proposal – hope to raise a reasonable amount and any shortfall to raise via a grant (PPC grant). Clerk advised that any grant application would be reviewed by the finance committee at the June meeting and not before as all applications are viewed on a case by case basis and a figure cannot be agreed in principle. PVS will go away and raise as much funds as they can and then approach PPC if there is a shortfall.
 - Item 19fii - Update on War Pediment – application to the Repair Shop will be going in in the next week or so. Cllr Peacock has been very helpful with putting the application wording together.
7. Planning applications and consider further applications submitted after agenda publication:
- No applications to consider

Items to ratify

Town Police Clauses Act 1847

Event: Remembrance Day Parade

Date: Sunday, 10 November 2024

Organiser: 1st Plumpton Scout Group

Streets Affected: Rolling Road Closure from the Village Hall Car Park, Westgate to the junction with Station Road, Station Road to All Saints Church, Plumpton Green. Rolling Road Closure returning to the Village Hall Car Park at 12 noon.

- It was agreed prior to the meeting that PPC fully approved. Duly ratified.

8. Correspondence

- List distributed prior to the meeting and published on the website. Nothing to discuss.

9. Finance Committee



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ClIr PB reported that FC approve the expenditure items – PF energy bill was much more reasonable at £392.

Additional items of expenditure

Sean Mannion - £910 and £1120 respectively for PF and VH for the new hinges and fire excluders – this means all actions from fire risk assessment are now completed.

Castle Water – PF £83.54

Viking Stationery - £183.54

Total expenditure therefore is as follows;

PPC - £63,978.65 (of which £58k was transferred to the instant access savings account)

VH - £4703.08

PF - £1965.93

YTD housekeeping issues – **Clerk to action**

Grass cutting bill wrong allocation – **Clerk to action**

VH hire income tracking well

- a. To adopt expenditure as itemised on the schedules.
- b. To adopt year to date accounts.
- c. To adopt combined bank reconciliations
 - Duly adopted items a-c
- d. 2025/26 budget update
 - Budgets are done and agreed by FC – Budget NI changes results in a cost increase of £2077. Based on old tax base the precept request is 12.10% increase £1.20 per month increase on a Band D home.
- e. To agree the extra urban grass cutting costs by ES Highways at £678.39 and to decide whether to contribute to ESALC solicitor fees re ES Highways/Balfour Beatty re challenge on cost of urban cut fees.
 - Clerk advised that the increase in fee for the additional four cuts (two standard and four chargeable to PPC) from last year to this year had risen by 32%. (£513 in 2024 v 678.39 for 2025). A 5-year forecast had been provided by Balfour Beatty which shows a 5% inflation year on year (worse case scenario). Therefore 2026 could have an increase of 29%, 2027 30.1% and 2028 5.79%.
 - Agree to 2025 cuts and 30% year on year increase is too much and to research future years with other contractors. **Clerk to action**
 - Clerk advised that the ESALC solicitor fees was mainly to do with the streetlights contract with ES Highways/Balfour Beatty, PPC not responsible for streetlights. SLR meetings affect PPC but not relevant to the contract.
 - Unanimously agreed to decline. **Clerk to action**



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10. Neighbourhood Plan Update

(i) Planning Liaison Working Group update

- Cllr NB – nothing much to report. Was Asked to write a letter to James MacCleary on behalf of the inter council group but not many parishes replied – East Chilton, Streat Parish Meeting and Westmeston PC responded.
- Clerk advised she is attending the LDC Local Plan Steering Committee meeting and will update Council on their plans.

11. To note and action if necessary monthly RA reports.

- Nothing to report. Cllr NS to look at Green 2 and speak to VH Manager.

12. To decide the nature/wildlife management of the pocket park and community use

- Cllr NB – unfortunately cannot lease or rent to any individual as it is a community area. Also, it is protected as a Local Green Space in the Neighbourhood Plan. Duly noted.
- Cllr NB/NDS will meet with the Wildlife Group who have offered to monitor the health of the trees in the area and help manage the wildlife and vegetation.

13. To discuss/consider the valuation/purchase of the late Ken Beards postcard collection of Plumpton (subject to written quotation received from PVS).

- See agenda item 6 above.

14. Update on promotion for parish councillors

- Clerk had made a start on a Facebook promotion with information provided by NALC – to carry on and to share to the more popular FB page in Plumpton. Need to show the parish month by month via the magazine and facebook what the parish council have been doing. **Clerk to action.**

15. ESALC AGM and Conference report

- Clerk had distributed the report provided by ESALC and corresponding presentations. These will be published on the website. Cllr's PB/NB/NS who attended thought it was a well put together event. **Clerk to action.**

16. To respond to enabling remote meeting and proxy voting consultation

- Clerk advised this was a government incentive to enable Cllr's to be able to attend meetings if they are unable to attend in person. It should be noted that to attend in person is far better but having the option especially for bad weather conditions is advantageous for all including the Clerk. PPC support the incentive, however would attend in person unless in extreme circumstances. **Send link to all to respond.**



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17. To discuss condition of bus shelter by The Plough.

- Clerk advised that the handyman had cleared the shelter and advised it was not in good shape. **Cllr JB to have a look and report back.**

18. Allotments – Update on plots

- Handyman had cleared some plots and Clerk is advising the waitlist.

19. Committee/Working Group Reports

- i. Transport and Environment/Footpaths/Policing
- ii. Update regarding the National Nature Recovery Strategy.

Cllr NDS reported a productive meeting with Cllr NB, Wildlife Group and Wild Business co-founder, Dr Christopher J. Sandom who is also Senior Lecturer in Biology (Ecology and Evolution) at Sussex University. The project scope was discussed 1. Data sourcing and information gathering, 2. Recovery opportunity assessment; benefits to the Parish and improved biodiversity, 3. Final report. Dr Christopher J. Sandom was taken through a map of the parish. The Agreement was signed between WB, PPC & PECWG (PPC has a SDNP grant for 50% for the assessments). Once mapping is done, plan to engage local landowners and get community involvement.

f. Village Hall

Cllr NS reported;

Sean Mannion has done all the important hinges and fire seals on the doors.

Disable loo seat has been difficult to find – has to be the toilet manufacturer seat – cost £170.00 – agreed to purchase.

Taps in gent's WC changed

Hot water shutoff has been repaired.

Started to switch heaters on

Aftercare coming on week of the 28th to repair the push bars in the main hall and handle at the pavilion.

i. Update from Cllr JB regarding works behind Kimber Cottages

- Cllr JB – doing some work with Paul (Handyman) – clearing the area where Paul has been cutting back. Cut up the logs and pile for insects and bees. Spoken to the resident and reassured it will be done before the weather gets worse.



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- ii. War Memorial Pediment restoration update –
See agenda 6 above

 - g. Playing Field/Pavilion
 - Clerk advised a personal trainer (PT) is using the playing field etc to run their business – PPC advised to speak to the PT and ask for him to advise when he plans to use, as it is a community asset and is parish council land. Don't have a problem but should advise – ask for a copy of public liability insurance. **Clerk to action.**

 - i. To note playpark inspection and action where necessary.
 - Cllr JB filled the potholes on the path
 - Paving slabs outside fire exit and saved the sink in the outside toilet and changed the taps.
 - Cllr NS will put up the No commuter signs and will give some leaflets to HB to put on windscreens

 - ii. To discuss Quantity Surveyor quotes from George Pottinger.
 - Pavilion QS quote £2-£2.2m to build which is a big ask. Cllr JB reported Charity finance in March. Waiting on planning permission which is due imminently. Clerk to arrange a working group meeting with architect asap. **Clerk to action.**

 - iii. Playing Field Committee meeting Update
 - Meeting took place – not much to report, apart from sorting drainage works and to speak to Bourne regarding the shooting area for archery gets boggy. Minutes will be published shortly.
20. Interaction with Plumpton Primary School
- Nothing to report
21. Communications/Website
- i. New website update
 - Meeting with working group on 18th November at 9.30am – resend first draft of website from James to Cllr NDS. **Clerk to action.**
22. Items to be reported by Parish Councillors and/or to be included in future meetings

Meeting closed: 21.53



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Dates of next meetings:

18th November 2024 – Website Working Group 9.30am

4th December 2024 – Village Hall Committee Meeting – 7pm

10th December 2024 – Finance Committee – 19:00, Full Council 19:45 (Committee Room, VH).

Anita Emery | Parish Clerk 14/11/2024