



## NONINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Council - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 19:00

**Present:** Cllr Louisa Jarred (Chairperson); Cllr Julia Plumptre (Vice-Chair); Cllr Clare Delf; Cllr Jane Vurley; Cllr Woods; Cllr Mamjan; 20 Members of the Public; Mrs Steph Woods (Clerk)

- 1. Apologies and approval of absences:** Cllr Jarred welcomed everyone present and thanked them for attending the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Pout (DDC) and PC Bowler (Kent Police).
- 2. Declarations of interest:** Cllr Vurley declared an interest in agenda item 7d.
- 3. Minutes of previous meetings:** The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 was approved as true a record, proposed by Cllr Plumptre, seconded by Cllr Vurley. Signed by the Chairperson.
- 4. Public Forum:** Members of the Public in attendance were afforded the opportunity to ask a question or make a statement.
  - Speedwatch – quote for speed gun was raised and will to be discussed later in meeting.
  - Overgrown hedges throughout village were raised. Clerk to report hidden road signs to KCC Highways. Sites of overgrown to be identified and properties responsible written to.
  - Email received from resident of St Mary's Close enquiring about the overgrown trees/hedges/bushes behind the properties. Field belongs to Ovenden's. It was confirmed that their hedge cutter is currently broken waiting for it to be repaired once this happens the area will be cut back. Clerk to let enquirer know.
  - The Royal Oak PH needs maintenance, there are rats and its overgrown. It was reported that the scaffolding come down soon once the roof contractor has completed their works and the first floor flat will then be let. The current plan is to also find a tenant for ground floor to continue to operate as a public house. It was agreed that strimming/clearance needs to be done now so landowner confirmed they will see what they can do.
  - Pond – needs attention as area is not looking good and residing ducks have not returned due to water quality. Clerk to get quotes for the pond area to be landscaped/improved inc. new reed bed to filter road tun off to improve water quality.

#### **5. Finance:**

Payments and Receipts: Bank Balance as of 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024: £973.39 (Current Account) and £22,434.45 (Savings Account) = Total **£23,407.84**

#### Receipts

Unity Trust – Interest Payment - £120.29

HMRC – VAT Payment - £317.36

### Payments

Hugo Fox – Monthly Website Costs (Jul & Aug 24) - £23.98

Stephanie Woods – Clerk Salary (Jul & Aug 24) - £733.92

Diane Mummary – Annual Finance Audit 2024 - £60.00

Envisage – July 2024 Grounds Maintenance - £330.00

Playsafe – RoSPA Inspections 2024 - £295.20

These payments were proposed by Cllr Woods, seconded by Cllr Plumtre. ALL AGREED.

It was proposed by Cllr Woods to transfer £1,000 from the savings account to the current account which was seconded by Cllr Delf. ALL AGREED.

## **6. Planning**

### **a) New Application:**

- 24/00449 - Land West Of Aylesham Road And South Of, Spinney Lane, Aylesham - Scoping Opinion - Environmental Impact Assessment. This application is only available for the PC's to comment not open to public consultation. Response needed within 21 days so Cllr Jarred will provide response to Clerk to upload on planning portal. Any public comments to Cllr Jarred by 12<sup>th</sup> September so they are considered in the response.
- 24/0083 - The Old Malt House, Easole Street, Nonington - Variation of condition 25 (retention of wall) of planning permission 21/01615 for the "Erection of 27 dwellings with associated access, parking and landscaping (existing industrial buildings demolished)" to allow the demolition of wall. It was agreed that the wall is of historical reference should have been considered before. Developer is now proposing to keep bricks, clean and rebuild using lime mortar. Householders think it should be allowed and rebuilt for health and safety reasons as long as it is stipulated that it is rebuild to original style. PC agreed to support the application if they adhere to the conditions and rebuild back to existing condition.
- 24/00865 - Field Cottage, Vicarage Lane, Nonington - Internal works: removal of plasterboard, replastering ceilings & walls, removal & erection of partitions, replacement floor coverings, removal of coving, repair of fireplace, replacement bathroom & kitchen. External works: Re-pointing, re-roofing, rebuild of roof structure, insertion of rooflight, replacement guttering, refurbishment of windows and doors, infilling of doorway, enlargement of opening, new window opening.
- 24/00864 - Field Cottage, Vicarage Lane, Nonington - Change of use of workshop to home office, replacement roof tiles, soffits, fascia's, cladding, lead work, guttering, alterations to windows/doors, insertion of a roof light, erection of a pergola, dwarf walls and terrace.

The last two applications were discussed together. Cllr Jarred to look at plans and draft a response for the Clerk to upload onto the planning portal.

## **7. Highways and Footpaths**

- a)** HIP – Chairman and Clerk have had a meeting with KCC in early August to discuss the new HIP. Details of the options were detailed to the meeting including new road signs and markings, moving and additional Radar speed camera sites and speed reductions at various locations within the Parish. It was explained that KCC will not currently install pinch points as there is insufficient street lighting. Cllr Jarred will now resubmit a new HIP with the Clerk and there will be follow up meetings with KCC. Grain lorries using Vicarage Lane was raised as they are large and are damaging trees, structures and road signs. Owner of the grain store has informed vehicles to deliver using a different route but this is not always done as Sat Navs takes them a different route. Chairman to speak to landowner to see if they can do anything else. The usage of the new grain store was questioned and it was agreed that the Clerk will speak to Planning Enforcement at DDC to ensure the right permissions have been applied for as it is believed it is only to be used for storage from landowners fields and not a distribution/storage for other businesses.
- b)** Bus Shelter – Chairman has received several resident complaints regarding items left at the bus stop library. It was agreed to put up some signage to stipulate usage. Sign to say Only books, CD's and DVD's. Clerk to get quotations for next meeting.
- c)** Ovenden's/EKR Vehicles – There have been several complaints regarding larger vehicles speeding and causing disruption in the village. Cllr Jarred has been in contact with EKR and Ovenden's to resolve this

issue. FGS Organics lorries were also reported at the meeting as being an issue. The PC will monitor situation and ask residents to continue to report number plates and timings.

- d) Speed Gun – Cllr Vurley gave an update on behalf of Speedwatch and explained it has been difficult to consult with the current Police contact. The original estimate for the SRA3600 radar gun is outdated and they have decided they do not need a new screen. New quotations have been sort and the preferred option is from Decatur UK for a Scout 2 radar gun with rechargeable battery pack and hard case. The cost will be £2,079.54 including VAT. This is a special promotion and there are only three left at current price. Once sold the new units will be subject to a price increase. Cllr Manion indicated that the current bid for funding could be amended to cover the price increase of the new quotation. It was proposed by Cllr Delf the purchase the radar gun now to ensure the discount is received even though the funding might not be obtained from KCC, which was seconded by Cllr Woods. ALL AGREED. Clerk confirmed that the new radar gun would be the property of the PC and loaned to Speed Watch. It will be added to the PC's asset register and the maintenance will be the responsibility of the PC. Clerk to process the order and arrange payment for approval by Councillors.

**8. Playground, Field and Pond**

- a) RoSPA Inspection – This has now been completed and will be circulated after meeting to all councillors. Clerk to obtain quotations for any defects/works for discussion at next meeting.
- b) Decking and Benches – Beach Grove have inspected the railings and there are some that need replacing. They have also removed one bench as it collapsed and another one is damaged. Clerk obtain quotes for two new picnic benches and Beach Grove to provide quotation to repair railings.
- c) Bin by Pond – the bin adjacent to pond which has been repeatedly overflowing will now be emptied twice weekly by DDC to stop this from recurring.

**9. Matters arising not on the agenda**

- Retaining wall by old forge and church is damaged and is a health and safety concern. Responsibility/ownership of wall was discussed and DDC have previously repaired as they look after churchyard. Clerk to contact to DDC to see if they can conduct necessary repairs.
- The “Keep Clear” road marking by the school have worn away and need repainting. Clerk to report to KCC as well as residents. The hedge by the school (opposite side to school) was also discussed as it is overgrown and people using the footpath have to use the adjacent houses driveway. Clerk to contact the school and ask them to cut back the other side of the hedge.

**10. Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 at 7pm in Nonington Village Hall**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed to the public at 20:27.

**Please note these Minutes remain as draft until they are approved by the Parish Council at their next meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024.**

Future meeting dates: 06/11/24 and 04/12/24