

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
MORETON PINKNEY PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Wednesday 25th November 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall**

Present:

Richard Lainchbury (RL)	Vice Chairman
Dorothy Brooke (DB)	Councillor
Brian Collett (BC)	Councillor
Les Tucker (LT)	Councillor
James Smith (JS)	Councillor
Gary Denby (GD)	Parish Clerk

Public:

Charles Behrens and Richard Smallwood (St Mary's)
Roy and Samantha Murphy (Four Candles)
Christian and Nicola Finn

Welcome and any announcements from the Chair

No announcements.

1. Apologies

Andrew Jalland (AJ) – a prior long-term commitment.
Ben Vincent (BV)

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th October 2015.

The minutes of the meeting were distributed to all prior to the meeting. They were agreed by all present and signed by the Vice Chairman as a true record.

3. Public Time

No comments from the floor.

4. Matters Arising from the minutes

- 4.1 5.1) The Clerk has written to David Mooney, accepting his explanation for the unauthorised work, suggesting the Parish Council might pay out of contingency funds at the end of the financial year, possibly earlier if offered a discount on the full amount presently invoiced. His response is that the invoice for £330 + VAT dated 17 August 2015 is already discounted from their usual rates and he is therefore unable to offer a further reduction; that there were the extra works that he agreed not to charge for [for which the Parish Council pay a maintenance contract]. This is addressed in the 2016 budget.
- 4.2 5.2) Councillors reported that Stephanie Fountain has commenced with the November edition of the Moreton Pinkney Village Calendar (asking around for Christmas dates etc).
- 4.3 5.3) The Clerk has taken before & after pictures of the removed trees. The letter of appreciation to Mr Shenton at Moreton Pinkney Station is outstanding. **GD**

- 4.4 6.1) The Clerk has yet to finalise audit dates for 2016 with BDO (a paper form).
- 4.5 6.2) Cllr Brook has completed a survey on Village Services.
- 4.6 6.6) Cllrs continue to seek a replacement Neighbourhood watch co-ordinator for the village. The Clerk has yet to find suitable words for the Village Calendar and web site. **GD**
- 4.7 6.9) The Clerk attended the N-CALC training on Minute Taking and distributed a 2 sided reflection on the same to Councillors. This will result in more specific agendas and a revised numbering system in the New Year. Councillors agreed to distribute agendas and minutes to our District and County Councillors. Recent minutes need uploading to the Parish Council web site, as part of the Transparency Code for smaller authorities (2014). **GD**
- 4.8 8.3) Cheque sign-off was by Cllrs Collett and Tucker.
- 4.9 11.1) Topping of the residual foundations of a structure on one margin of The Green has been completed by Cllr Smith, also some metal and stone has been removed. Next Spring the mowing team need to be encouraged to include this area.
- 4.10 11.2) Cllr Brooke has inquired whether New Homes Bonus funding might be used towards the playground refurbishment project. There is a note on the possible funding for the church roof replacement. Some items of the playground equipment have been removed, which were dangerous and beyond repair.
- 4.11) 11.3) The Clerk reported the drain at the top of Brook Street to Thames Water. Some inconclusive investigations have been performed. This is ongoing. Cllrs agreed that monitoring would be appropriate.
- 4.12) 11.4) Cllr Tucker has not yet removed the limbs of encroaching trees by the bench coming into the village – he should have time over the holidays. **LT**

5. **Correspondence Received**

- 5.1 Correspondence received from Colonel Tim Eastwood on 16th October, regarding the launch of the appeal for funds for the church roof. Subsequent discussions between Andrew Jalland (Chair) and Richard Smallwood of St Mary's church gave the Parish Council's full support for any application for funding from the New Homes Bonus provision available to the Parish Council. Mr Smallwood has received useful guidance from Katie Arnold, the SNC Grants Officer in Towcester. It was agreed that the Clerk shall write a letter of support on behalf of Councillors, to support the application for £5,000 being submitted on 26 November. **GD**

- 5.2 A letter from South Northamptonshire Council, Environmental Health dated 23 September, announcing that the *Gambling Act 2005 – Consultation on Statement of licensing Policy* came into effect in April 2005. The policy must be consulted upon every three years, next due in January 2016. Comments were required by 3rd November 2015 – none forthcoming from Councillors.
- 5.3 A printed copy of Clerk & Councils Direct November 2015 has been received for circulation.
- 5.4 The Clerk completed a zero return for an estimate of rough sleepers in Moreton Pinkney on 12 November 2015, requested by the NCC Homelessness Strategy Officer.
- 5.5 The Clerk disseminated a closure notice by Northamptonshire Highways, for Leicester Lane on 17th December for repairs.
- 5.6 The Clerk disseminated an application by the Four Candles for its license. No villagers have asked Councillors to represent their concerns. Roy Murphy explained that it is standard practice nowadays to request for extended hours on the license, so as not to utilise the limited number of TENS license applications for usual activities. He plans to lock the front door at midnight on weekdays and at 10.30pm on Sundays, per the previous license.

6. **Planning (snc.planning-register.co.uk)**

- 6.1 S/2015/2039/FUL: Proposal for a detached stable building / store on land adjacent to The Piggeries, Banbury Road, Moreton Pinkney. Approved.
- 6.2 S/2014/2479/FUL: Appeal under section 78 on Agricultural workers dwelling at the Stables, Brook Street, Moreton Pinkney. Application was to replace the existing mobile home with a dwelling house. Refusal was on the grounds of inadequate justification to erect a dwelling contrary to local and national planning policy which seeks to restrict new development in the countryside. The appeal against refusal was dismissed on 13 November 2015.
- 6.3 S/2015/2671/TCA: For information only, to fell one willow tree and reduce one ash tree at The Old Crown on Brook Street.

7. **Re-adoption of Moreton Pinkney Parish Council Standing Orders.**

These were last revised in November 2014. There is a consensus developing that photographing, recording, broadcasting or transmitting of proceedings can no longer be prevented with current smart-phone technology; that to do so might be against the openness being sought for Parish Council proceedings. Danny Moody of N-CALC advises that the NALC Model is likely to be revised in 2016. Cllrs agreed to re-adopt the present Standing Orders.

8. Re-adoption of the Parish Council Members' Code of Conduct.

These were last revised in November 2014. Danny Moody advises that there are no plans to update this in the foreseeable future. Cllrs agreed to re-adopt the present Members' Code of Conduct.

9. Finances

9.1 The Clerk has distributed a draft budget for 2016-2017. This includes a £400 provision for the lamp replaced without authorisation by E.On. It proposes a 2% increase in the Parish Council precept, in order that Parish Council reserves might better approach the recommended 90% of Precept. This met with Councillors approval and will be formally proposed at the next Parish Council meeting. **GD**

9.2 A letter was received from Gill Jackson, Garden Club Secretary on 26 October, suggesting that the award could be put towards the outlay on winter flowers and spring bulbs, which would be much appreciated. It was agreed that £100 should be donated towards this (Garden Club), as well as the £100 agreed last month towards the playing field equipment (M.P. Village Hall). **GD**

9.3 Northamptonshire Highways has offered £250.84 to the Parish Council for 2016 (section 136 provision), towards the cost of cutting the grass within the village highway. Cllrs accepted this proposal. The Clerk must apply for the same grant money for the current year 2015 by 31 December 2015. **GD**

9.4 The following invoices were initialled and cheques signed on behalf of the Parish Council by Cllrs. Collett and Tucker:-

CHEQUE NO.	DESCRIPTION/POWER	AMOUNT	VAT	TOTAL
100914	Scott's Landscapes maintenance for October 2015.	£200.00	£40.00	£240.00
100915	N-CALC Training of Parish Clerk 22 October on Agendas and Minutes	£34.00		£34.00
100916	British Legion donation for Poppy Appeal Wreath	£20.00		£20.00
100917	Clerk remuneration (6 weeks), use of home office (£38.60 PAYE o/s)	£184.75		£184.75
100917	Clerk expenses (training travel to/from Raunds)	£33.75		£33.75

9.5 Cllrs Collett and Tuckers signed the Barclays Bank Change of Address form, necessary to re-direct statement to the current Clerk.

9.6 Cllr Collett reviewed the current bank statements and signed-off the Clerk's financial spreadsheet to 31 Dec 2015, including receipt of the second part of the Precept (£3,090 on 28 Sept 2015).

10 Councillors' Comments - AOB

10.1 Grass is encroaching the tarmac edges of the path, on The Green across from Cherry Cottage. Cllr. Tucker last cut it back five years ago using a spade.

10.2 Cllr. Collett reported numerous potholes along the length of Leicester Lane.

10.3 There being no further business the meeting closed at 08:50 pm.

11 Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wed 13th January 2016 at 7.30pm.

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A Jalland – Chairman

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Date