

Great Oxendon Parish Council

Village Hall, Main Street, Great Oxendon

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 8th November 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Patel-Brown (Vice-Chair), Cllr Barker, Cllr Rumsey, Cllr Hogarth

Also Present: Cllr Harris

44. **Apologies for Absence were received:** Cllr Parker, Cllr Irving-Swift, Cllr Steedman, Cllr Lindsay-Smith
45. **Declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests** under the Councils Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda – None received.
46. **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11 Oct 2021.** Approved. Prop: Cllr Barker, Sec: Cllr Hogarth
47. **Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meetings held on 11 Oct 2021** – Deferred to December meeting once Chair present
48. **Open Forum** – No members of the public in attendance.
49. **Budget/Precept 2022/23 - Version 2**

Version 2 of the budget was circulated prior to the meeting and a printed copy provided to all Councillors.

Updates were made after discussions at the October meeting. Cllr Rumsey agreed to contact the current grass mowing contractor to get a quote for next year. A short discussion was held around the number of bins the Council should be paying Norse to empty. Clerk to query the latest invoice received and confirm that only x4 bins should be paid for.

The precept must be resolved at the General meeting scheduled for 10th January 2022 at the latest as submission to West Northants is expected mid-January.

The Clerk will revise the budget proposal and present at the next meeting in December for further discussion.

Aside from the Budget discussion, the CIL money expected this year was discussed. The Clerk confirmed that payments are made twice a year from West Northants Council in April and October, and nothing had been received yet for the known development on Braybrooke Road. The current amount held in reserve related to a property that went into planning in 2017. Clerk will ask WNC the question and report back at the next meeting.

50. **Internal Control** – Cllr Barker kindly agreed to audit a selection of payments. Clerk to collate information to be checked before the December meeting by Cllr Barker which will complete the Internal Control checks for 2021.

51. Finance:

- i. Resolution to approve the monthly payments (listed below)

Query on Norse Invoice – Annual Charge x2 Bins – Clerk to contact Norse to confirm bin locations.
Defer payment approval to December meeting.

Approved. Prop: Cllr Barker, Sec: Cllr Rumsey

Date of Meeting: 8 Nov 2021

Payments to be Approved not yet Paid

DATE	PAID TO	DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	TOTAL
01/10/2021	S. Hogarth	Neighbourhood Plan Expenses	18.00	0.00	18.00
01/11/2021	S. Hogarth	Neighbourhood Plan Expenses	50.00	0.00	50.00
01/10/2021	Leicestershire Gardens	Inv 21/163 - Mowing for Sept21	460.00	0.00	460.00
10/09/2021	Eon Energy Solutions Ltd	Credit on Account (due to installation of new lights)			-8.31
02/10/2021	Eon Energy Solutions Ltd	Street Lighting Electricity - Jul-Sept21	64.41	3.22	67.63
01/10/2021	Mrs Sarah Smith	Parish Clerk Salary - Nov21	293.80	0.00	293.80
27/10/2021	West Northants Norse Ltd	Annual Charge x2 Bins - Clipston Lane Oct21-22	577.60	115.52	693.12

Payments to be Approved - Paid via Direct Debit

DATE	PAID TO	DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	TOTAL
25/10/2021	BT Group PLC	Broadband & Telephone - Direct Debit	29.95	5.99	35.94

- ii. Receive the accounts to 31st Oct 2021
 - a. Receipts
 - b. Expenditure
 - c. Bank Reconciliation
 - d. Statement of Reserves
 - e. Neighbourhood Plan Grants Expenditure
 - f. Spend v Budget
 - g. Copy of Payments to be Approved
 - h. HSBC Bank Statement – Community Account
 - i. HSBC Bank Statement – Reserve Money Manager Account

All Accounts were signed and approved. Prop: Cllr Barker, Sec: Cllr Hogarth

52. Planning and Licensing Consultations:

- i. West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan – Spatial Options Consultation

WNC is preparing a new Strategic Plan for the area which will review and replace strategic policies in the existing West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and covers period up to 2050. This is the second stage in preparing the new plan and follows an issues consultation held in 2019. At this stage WNC are seeking views on a proposed vision, spatial objectives, housing and economic needs, and potential opens for development – **Consultation closes midnight Monday 6 December 2021**

Cllr Harris gave an update to the Parish Council on the WNC Strategic Plan. He urged all Councils to comment on the proposals either by completing the 35-question document found on the website or send comments via email. This can be done individually and/or as a Council.

The primary document identifies land for residential and commercial development. The main area of concern, particularly for Great Oxendon, is the area of land that borders East Farndon Parish. West Northamptonshire Council confirmed that this area of land was not part of the consultation but was mentioned as they have a duty to work with neighbouring councils on possible future developments. Market Harborough are yet to open their strategic planning consultation.

The Clerk agreed to draft a response objecting to the development on behalf of Gt Oxendon Parish Council and circulate for comment before sending on before the 6 December deadline.

- ii. **Noted** - Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Plan – views submitted via survey by **Sunday 7th November 2021**. Survey can be found here: <https://www.northantspfcc.org.uk/police-fire-crime-plan-2021/>

53. Update from Councillors with regards to Areas of Responsibility

- i. **Neighbourhood Plan** – Councillor Hogarth

Cllr Hogarth updated the Council on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Open Event at the Village Hall was held on Saturday 16th October 2021. It was well received and over 40 people attended. At the follow up meeting on the 21st of October 2021, the timetable was revised. From now to the end of March 2022, the document will be populated with local information. It is hoped that the referendum/consultation will take place late Summer 2022 with the result announced sometime in 2023. Further to this, another 5 people came forward to volunteer their help with the project.

The project is expected to apply for another grant in the New Year once all existing funds have been exhausted.

It was also noted that the Clipston and Braybrooke Neighbourhood Plans are now at the consultation stage and can be viewed on West Northants website. Cllr Barker advised the Council on the objection received from a resident in Clipston regarding their plan and advised it would be worth taking note to assist with the project in Gt Oxendon.

- ii. **Highways** – Councillor Rumsey

Cllr Rumsey confirmed she had obtained the contact details for the grass mowing contractor and Highways from a former Councillor.

- iii. **Public Rights of Way** – Councillor Barker and Councillor Lindsay-Smith

Nothing to report

- iv. **Police & Community Safety** – Councillor Barker

Cllr Barker provided an update on the Police and Community Safety numbers.

In the former Daventry District, in Sept 2021 461 crimes were reported vs 600+ in 2020.

An update was given on the crime statistics of the surrounding villages and confirmed Great Oxendon had two reported crimes both on Harborough Road. All crime figures are available to view on the Northants Police crime map which can be found online.

A recent report of fish being stolen from a back garden was also discussed and noted.

- v. **Environment**

Nothing to report

- vi. **Community engagement and communication** – Councillor Patel-Brown

Cllr Patel-Brown advised that a new photograph would be needed in the New Year for the village welcome packs after several members of the Council had left this year.

A discussion was had on whether anybody knew whether the parish newsletter was due to restart after a break during the Covid pandemic. Cllr Hogarth agreed to find out.

vii. **Lighting** - Councillor Patel-Brown

The Clerk had recently received a letter from Eon advising on price increases in December 2021. Clerk agreed to investigate the possibility of reducing this via a fixed price contract and collect other quotes for resolution at the December or January meeting.

viii. **Audit and Compliance** – rota basis

The internal audit of a selection of payments was discussed previously in the meeting (item 50)

54. Urgent Matters for report only (Notified to the Chairman before the meeting)

Cllr Harris gave an update to the Council.

The WNC Bus Improvement Plan had been submitted to the Government to ask for funding towards previous routes that had been lost. Gt Oxendon is well served with bus routes due to its location on the A508, however more locally some villages have been completely cut off from any services at all.

Cllr Harris also mentioned that West Northants Council had launched its Community Funding Grant for this financial year and are available to support local community and voluntary groups (not Parish Council or Individuals) Full information can be found here <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/community-funding-grants> Closing date for round one is 7 Dec 2021. Round 2 with cap of 5k , 13th Feb 2022.

Each West Northants Councillor has also been allocated 2.5k, a fund to help support local communities recover from COVID. The minimum amount available is £200 and the funds are only available to community and voluntary groups. For more information contact Cllr Harris or alternatively email the Clerk (details at the bottom of the page)

Lastly, Cllr Rumsey confirmed that former Councillor C Jones used to attend the Cross Borders meeting and that she would still be happy to attend on behalf of the village if the Council so wishes. The Clerk advised that both the Chairman and Clerk had been in contact with the Cross Borders team to attend meetings in the future but thanks both for the kind offer and would be in touch if required.

55. Date and Time of Next Meeting – The next meeting will be held on Monday 13th December 2021, 7:30pm at the Village Hall, Great Oxendon.

For Note - Dates of Future Meetings

Monday 13th December 2021
Monday 10th January 2022
Monday 14th February 2022
Monday 14th March 2022
Monday 11th April 2022

56. The meeting was closed at 8:26 pm.



Mrs Sarah Smith, Parish Clerk
Great Oxendon Parish Council

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12.11.21

Date & Signature of Chairman

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