

Northborough Parish Council

www.northborough-pc.gov.uk
Northborough & Deeping Gate Village Hall,
Cromwell Close, Northborough, PE6 9DP
clerk@northborough-pc.gov.uk 07713 194173

Minutes of a Meeting of Northborough Parish Council held on Wednesday 12th March 2025 starting at 7.00pm, at Northborough Village Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Tracy Thomas (Vice-Chair),  Graham Fowkes, Steve Parker-Brown, Robert Chiva, Patricia Pearce and Mark Malcolm.

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk Elinor Beesley.

PUBLIC FORUM: None present.

25.29 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Dadge (personal).

25.30 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**, held on Wednesday 12th February 2025: it was **resolved** to approve the minutes as a true record, and they were signed by the Chair for the meeting, Cllr Thomas.

25.31 **REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS or OTHER INVITED SPEAKERS:** None.

25.32 **COUNCILLOR VACANCIES:** No applications received; however an informal enquiry had been received. Member noted the resignation of former Cllr Malcolm Spinks and members acknowledged the Council's appreciation for his many years of service.

25.33 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** No declarations of interest were received and no written requests for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interests were granted.

25.34 **GOVERNANCE:**

34.1 *To note purchases made under delegated powers:* None.

25.35 **PLANNING:**

35.1 Members considered Application 25/00277/CTR: T1 – Conifer – Fell, 1 Church Street and it was agreed that NPC has no objections.

35.2 To note applications and decisions received after the publication of the Agenda:

a) Application 25/00283/FUL: Proposed conversion of Dovecote, offices, outbuildings and workshop into 3no. Dwellings, 24A Church Street.

25.36 **VILLAGE AMENITIES AND MAINTENANCE:**

36.1 Members reviewed outstanding maintenance and Councillors' actions:

a) Cllr Thomas updated Members on the Council's Hedgehog campaign: Rachel Thomas of Prickle Back Urchin Rescue has agreed to act as liaison and provide advice; she has provided a website for recording sights and the National Hedgehog Preservation Society will provide leaflets to promote the campaign. Rachel Thomas has been invited the Annual Parish Meeting but is unable to attend however has offered to attend another meeting for residents and will send a video to be shown at the Annual Parish Meeting.

b) The issue of dangerous parking on roads about Northborough Primary School was discussed and it was agreed to revisit the issue when Church Street opens after the Anglian Water works have been completed.

36.2 Members noted additional incidences of fly posting in Northborough have been reported to PCC who have reported that the Environmental Enforcement team will attend and investigate.

36.3 Members noted the defibrillator pads for the cabinets at Northborough Primary School and East Road have been ordered however they are currently out of stock and expected delivery is mid-late March.

36.4 Members received an update on new signage in the Cemetery: Cllr Parker-Brown reported that the

dog sign has been installed; the Green Burial are signs is yet to be installed.

- 36.5 Members noted the Defibrillator cabinet on the wall of the Village Hall has condensation inside it and considered necessary action: It was agreed to instruct an electrician to determine if there is a fault with the heater. **ACTION – Clerk.**
- 36.6 Members noted that the Clerk has contacted a company with a view to providing a quotation for resurfacing the Village Hall overflow car park and will supply the requested information. **ACTION – Cllr Malcolm and/or Cllr Paker-Brown** to take measurements and photographs of the over-flow carpark.

25.37 BIODIVERSITY, NATURE AND CLIMATE:

- 37.1 Members discussed correspondence received from Langdyke Countryside Trust regarding a potential nature reserve or community orchard near Peakirk. Councillors expressed reservations for NPC involvement due to the distance of the site from Northborough and would like more information in order to be able to arrive at a decision. **ACTION – Clerk** to request more information from Langdyke Countryside Trust.
- 37.2 *To receive an update on the new wildflower areas on the Playing Field:* This item was postponed due to Cllr Dadge being absent.
- 37.3 Members noted the response from Northborough Primary School regarding NPC's request to consider tree planting along the boundary which reported the decision to not replant trees along the boundary and discussed a request from Northborough Primary School for volunteers to help with the current and future tree planting on the school site.; there was no further update to receive.

25.38 COMMUNITY AND EVENTS:

- 38.1 Members considered hosting a second Defibrillator and CPR training event hosted by East Anglian Air Ambulance and it was agreed to request a date from the end of April onwards. **ACTION – Clerk** to book.

25.39 FINANCE:

- 39.1 Members **resolved** to approve the attached Schedule of Receipts and Payments.
- 39.2 Members **resolved** to approve the financial reports for one month to 28th February 2025.
- 39.3 Members considered membership of Good Neighbours Rural Peterborough for year 2025/26 and it was **resolved** to take out the membership and to reconsider at the time of renewal. **ACTION – Clerk.**
- 39.4 Members **resolved** to approve payment to GD Services for invoice dated 22nd February 2025 for grave digging in the sum of £200.00.
- 39.5 Members noted that NPC has submitted the bid for a grant to fund for solar panels and batteries, and solar lampposts at Northborough Village Hall.
- 39.6 Members considered a request from Save Our St Andrews for NPC to purchase and install two flower bed plaques in St Andrews Churchyard and one flower bed plaque in the Cemetery to explain the significance of the roses that will be planted. **ACTION – Clerk** to ask SOS to suggest some plaques.
- 39.7 Members considered payment of the CAPALC affiliation fee for 2025/26 in the sum of £498.90 and it was **resolved** to take out the membership. **ACTION – Clerk.**
- 39.8 Members considered payment of the CAPALC Data Protection Officer Membership Scheme for 2025/26 in the sum of £50.00 and it was **resolved** to take out the membership.

25.40 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS AND CLERK.

- 40.1 *To receive reports from Councillors:* None.
- 40.2 Members received reports from the Clerk on items not covered elsewhere on the agenda:
- SOS asked for permission from NPC to display posters of John Clare versus for a two to three week period before the Posies for Patty event in May; the Clerk responded to clarify that only PCC would be able to give permission. NPC supported the idea in principle. **ACTION – Clerk** to respond.
 - A resident has contact NPC to ask when the VAS on Church Street will be installed. **ACTION – Clerk** to contact PCC regarding installation of the VAS.
- 40.3 External meetings, conferences, and training: To agree any Council representation, note upcoming dates and receive reports:

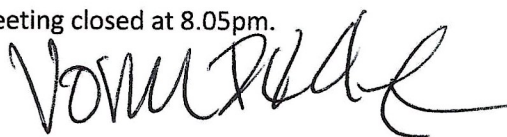
- a) Northborough Northern Cluster Nature Recovery Group Meeting to be held on Thursday 13th February 2025 at 2.00pm to 4.00pm in Maxey Village Hall: Cllr Chiva reported that the Chair, Richard Astle updated attendees on the group's current projects, and new projects such as planting 2500 trees along Maxey Cut. Attendees were informed about the Woodland Trust's initiative of 'Free trees for schools and communities' and two areas of hedgerow that required infilling were identified in Northborough. There will be another meeting in five to six weeks
ACTION – Cllr Dadge to contact the landowner regarding the hedgerows.
- b) NPC Working Group, to be held on Monday 24th February 2025 in Northborough & Deeping Gate Village Hall.
- c) *Burials Committee meeting, to be held on Monday 24th February 2025 at 6.30pm in Northborough & Deeping Gate Village Hall:* this meeting was postponed due to the committee not being quorate. **ACTION** – Cllr Thomas to attend the next Committee meeting with a view to being co-opted/
- d) Northborough Community Association meeting held on Wednesday 19th March 2025 at 7.00pm in The Cromwell Suite, Northborough Village Hall.
- e) NPC Working Group meeting, to be held on Monday 24th March 2025 at 7.00pm in The Cromwell Suite, Northborough Village Hall.
- f) PECT Workshop on Net Zero Barriers and Opportunities: Thursday 25th March 2025 at 5.30pm to 7.30pm in the Cromwell Suite, Northborough & Deeping Gate Village Hall.
- g) Health & Wellness Event: Saturday 17th May 2025 at 10.00am to 3.00pm at The Deepings Practice, Market Deeping.

25.41 CORRESPONDANCE RECEIVED:

- 41.1 Members noted correspondence from PCC Waste and Recycling Manager reporting that from Monday 24th February 2025 Peterborough Household Recycling Centre will be operating a permit scheme to limit access to Peterborough residents only; the permit can be applied for online.
- 41.2 Members noted correspondence from the Environment Agency regarding maintenance of Maxey Cut stating that the Cut is maintained once a year in August and regular maintenance of the banks is carried out.
- 41.3 Members noted correspondence from Deeping Community Leisure Centre (CIC) reporting that the plan to re-open Deepings Leisure Centre will not be going ahead due to a lack of funding; all members agreed that this is disappointing news and recognised the efforts of Deeping Community Leisure Centre (CIC)
- 41.4 Members noted thanks from Save Our St Andrews for NPC's agreement to plant roses in the Cemetery.

25.42 **THE NEXT MEETINGS:** Members confirmed the date of the next Council meeting as Wednesday 9th April 2025.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 8.05pm.



Approved as a true record of the meeting: Chair, 9th April 2025

Abbreviations used in these Minutes:

PCC – Peterborough City Council

NPC – Northborough Parish Council

CAPALC – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils

SOS – Save Our St Andrews

PECT – Peterborough Environment City Trust

NCA – Northborough Community Association

Schedule of Receipts and Payments (25.39.1)

Items marked * were paid prior to the meeting as per the agreed regular payments list (Minute 22.69.1), as a

statutory obligation, or under delegated powers with the relevant Minute shown against the item. No VAT is charged against receipts. Any VAT included in payments is reclaimed annually at year end. Where no VAT indicated, it was not charged by the supplier.

Receipts: None.

Payments:

- a) G Fowkes: Christmas 2024 expenses, £35.92 (Minute 25.26.6.b)*
- b) J Dadge: Chair's Allowance, £66.00 (Minute 25.26.4)*
- c) J Dadge: Christmas 2024 expenses, £127.49 (Minute 25.26.6.a)*
- d) Lloyds Bank Plc: Monthly debit card fee (February 2025), £3.00 (autocard)*
- e) HP Instant Ink: Ink subscription (21st January 2025), £11.99*
- f) Amazon Marketplace: Cemetery dog signs, £5.59 (Minute 25.25.6)*
- g) Defib Store: Adult and Paediatric defibrillator pads, £255.60 (Minute 25.26.8 and Minute 25.26.9)*
- h) Staff Salary: Basic (February 2025), £1344.46*
- i) Unity Trust: Service charge (February 2025), £6.00*
- j) Biffa Waste: Cemetery Waste Collection (31st January 2025), £101.09 incl VAT (direct debit)*
- k) NCA: Contribution to skip hire, £110.00 (Minute 25.25.4)*
- l) Nest Pensions: 2025, £77.21 (direct debit)*
- m) Staff Salary: Adjustment (February 2025), £45.37
- n) HMRC: PAYE (February 2025), £92.83
- o) Beebys: Contracted Grounds Maintenance (28th February 2025), £1967.07
- p) Information Commissioners Office: Data Protection fee, £47.00 (direct debit)