

# The Bringtons Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of BRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 20 September 2023, Reading Room, Great Brington [www.bringtons-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bringtons-pc.gov.uk) email:clerk@bringtons-pc.gov.uk

**Present:** Chairman Cllr K White, Cllrs R Gardner, T Lane and N Tompkins

**Also Present:** Clerk, 4 members of public

**Meeting Start:** 7.45pm

- |                |  | Action           |
|----------------|--|------------------|
| <b>43/2023</b> | <b>To receive and approve apologies for absence</b><br>Apologies were received from Cllr J Milne (Vice-Chair), Cllr S Beeusaert and Ward Cllr P Bignell  |                  |
| <b>44/2023</b> | <b>Members are requested to make any declarations of personal or prejudicial interests relating to items on the agenda.</b><br>None declared   | Clerk            |
| <b>45/2023</b> | <b>Public Time</b><br>A Member of the Public advised that the road behind the Church (top of Station Road) has subsided near the junction. The Clerk indicated that this would be reported to WNC Highways but also indicated that residents could also report issues direct to the WNC Report It site using the What 3 Words location.<br><a href="https://fixmystreet.northamptonshire.gov.uk/report/5024668">https://fixmystreet.northamptonshire.gov.uk/report/5024668</a> refers. | Clerk            |
| <b>46/2023</b> | <b>To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held 20 September 2023 and any matters arising</b><br>It was unanimously agreed that the minutes be signed as a true and correct   | Chair/Clerk      |
| <b>47/2023</b> | <b>Reports</b>   |                  |
| <b>a)</b>      | <b>Chair</b><br>Cllr White indicated that he would ask Cllr P Bignell to investigate the ownership of the Medieval Cross site. There was a short discussion about who would repair it if there was an emergency and the Clerk indicated that WNC should be contacted first.<br>Cllr White advised that he had received a Thank You from Marie Oakley for the Parish Council support with the recent Fete.  |                  |
| <b>b)</b>      | <b>Clerk</b><br>The Clerk's report was noted with the following comments:<br><br>Item 3 - <b>Highways representative</b> , Cllr N Tompkins indicated she would cover this role.  | Cllr<br>Tompkins |
|                | Item 5 – <b>Miskin House</b> , it was reported that some work had been done but it was understood there was an underpinning issue. The Parish Council noted that Cllr Milne had offered to contact the homeowner and would ask for an update at the next meeting.  | Cllr Milne       |
|                | Item 8 – <b>Fallen trees</b> , Althorp advised they have a 10 year management plan for their trees. Cllr White asked Councillors to record details and locations (using What3 Words) of fallen or damaged trees so it could be established which ones were the responsibility of Althorp and which ones were the responsibility of WNC; a list could then be submitted to WNC of those requiring maintenance.  | All              |
| <b>c)</b>      | <b>Ward Councillors' Report</b> - No report received.  |                  |
| <b>d)</b>      | <b>Police</b> – No report received.  |                  |

## 48/2023 Planning

- a) No new planning applications had been received.
- b) The Councillors noted the status of the current Planning Applications:
- i) [2023/5983/LDP](#) At Homefield Nobottle Road Little Brington West Northamptonshire NN7 4HL Long Buckby Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed development for Pool House, to include Pump Room, Store, Changing Rom & WC. & under cover seating area. **Approved 18/07/2023**
  - ii) [2023/5569/LBC](#) – At Bumblebee Cottage 26 Main Street Little Brington West Northamptonshire NN7 4HS Long Buckby Listed building consent to extend chimney stack to 1.6m above ridge, new clay pot to provide 1.8m from ridge to top of chimney. Removal of internal flue liner and replace with insulated flue liner (chimwrap) **REFUSED 06/09/23**
  - iii) [2023/6136/FULL](#) At The Grain Barn Steeple Lane Proposal Detached Annex and garage, ancillary to The Grain Barn. This was a consultation on the above proposal. Deadline for comments - 18 August 2023 **Approved 12/09/23**
  - iv) [2023/6271/PA](#) - At Church House Farm Steeple Lane Little Brington NN7 4HN – Determination as to whether prior approval is required (under Class Q of Part 3 of the above Order) for the change of use of an agricultural building to one dwellinghouse (Use Class C3.) Deadline for comments 5 September 2023 **Pending**
  - v) [2023/6126/TCA](#) Cornaway Main Street Great Brington NN7 4J Proposal Cherry tree – Fell deadline for comments 31 August 2023 **After Meeting Note – Approved 19/09/23**
  - v) [2023/6608/TCA](#) Wardles Close Great Brington NN7 4HU1 -Several Self Set Sycamore Trees Deadline for comments 6 September 2023 **Pending**
  - vi) [2023/6584/FULL](#) at Homefield Nobottle Road Little Brington NN7 4HL to remove existing conservatory and replace with extension to kitchen and new front entrance. Deadline for comments 19 September 2023. **Pending**
- c) Other Planning Matters
- Cllr White indicated that he and possible Cllr Milnes would attend and speak at the re-scheduled WNC Planning Meeting on 4 October 2023 re Planning Application No [WND/2022/0930](#) Workshop and Premises, East Haddon Road, Great Brington Northamptonshire .

Cllr White  
& Cllr  
Milne

It was noted that a covenant to not build on the Orchard at the site had been mentioned and this should be confirmed, and that the Councillors who attended would have up to 5 Minutes to speak.

## 49/2023 Kimbells Field

### Amended Hire Agreement

Subject to a paragraph being included to ensure that dog waste bins were the responsibility of the hirer to remove, the amended Hire Agreement was unanimously agreed. A copy would be included on the Council's website.

Clerk

## 50/2023 Environment

### a) Althorp Footpaths

In response to the residents' concerns about the footpaths, S Coleman (Althorp Rep.) explained the cattle had been moved and signs would be put up accordingly. The Althorp Newsletter would include updates of the fields affected as the cattle are regularly moved around the estate. These could also be incorporated onto the Parish Council Website.

SC  
Althorp

- b) **Dog Waste Bins** Cllr White confirmed that the Parish Council would be responsible for emptying dogbins put on Estate footpaths and would need a list of locations to provide to the contractor.

SC  
Althorp  
/Clerk

50/2023

(Cont) **Footpath at Bodfish** SC explained that the intention was to join the footpath with the  
c) bridlepath however it was quite complicated process as approval by WNC Footpaths was required. SC  
Althorp

Cllr White asked SC if a register of Althorp areas of responsibility could be provided to the  
Parish Council and SC agreed to pass on an annotated plan. SC  
d) **Lease** – Cllr White indicated that the Heads of Terms had been signed but the new lease had  
Althorp not been received. SC agreed to chase this.

51/2023 **Communication**

**To receive update on website**

Training via Zoom had been carried out in July, however, the Clerk indicated that she had  
Clerk spent a lot of time trying to update the new website with Minutes and Agendas but was  
encountering problems with this and had asked the Website company to provide 1:1 training.

52/2023 **Play Area Equipment**

Cllr R Gardner indicated he had received prices for various types of equipment that had been  
Cllr RG requested in the consultation with the school, however, he felt that some parts of the existing  
play equipment could be refurbished and reused to save costs.

He was unclear as to the total budget because to include all the items on the consultation  
Wishlist and the Wicksteed Inspection report issues would increase the amount spent very  
quickly.

He had checked through the Wicksteed Inspection report and whilst some issues were able to  
be fixed quite easily there were a few, such as the access gate and overgrown trees that were  
more complicated to fix and should be included in the landscaping part of project.

It was suggested he obtain prices but use a budget of £35k as a guideline with a basic climbing  
frame, swings and landscaping (new surfaces etc) and not to refurbish existing. Other items of  
equipment could be added in later phases. He had not been able to find any third party  
funding.

53/2023 **Community**

a) The Re-Nomination of Karen Bright and John Lawrence to the Chantry was proposed by Cllr  
White, and was agreed unanimously.

54/2023 **Finance**

a) **Parish Council Grants**

i) A grant of £200 to the Gardening Club was proposed by the Chair and approved  
Clerk unanimously. The Clerk indicated she would contact the Gardening Club.

ii) A grant of £350 to the Village Newsletter was proposed by the Chair and approved  
Chair unanimously. The Chair indicated he would contact the ~~Gardening Club~~ Village  
Newsletter.

b) **Payments Made August and September (see appendix)**

These were noted with the exception of EON Brington Playing Field Invoices which is in  
Clerk/ dispute. Cllr JM

The Clerk indicated that a Credit Note had been received from EON but there were still some  
payment issues to sort out with them.

c) **Bank Balance**

The Bank Balances at 31 August 2023 were not currently available.

54/2023

(Cont) d) **Updates for Information** Cllrs  
White &  
Milne

The process of including the Clerk on the Bank Mandate was being progressed.

Meeting closed: 9.10 pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council is **Wednesday 18 October 2023**.

Items for the agenda to be received by Friday 6 October 2023.

Meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of the month except in August and December when there is no scheduled meeting.

Signed: Cllr K White (Chair) .....*K White*.....

Dated: 18 October 2023

**1. West Northants Council Community Funding****WNC Discretionary Community Funding Grants 2023/24 – Round 1**

This is due to open on 23 August 2023, for grants up to the value of £5,000., subject to budget availability.

Town and Parish Councils, like individuals, are not eligible to apply for this grant but local groups can:

**2. WNC Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) Statement**

Cllr Jonathan Nunn, Leader of West Northamptonshire Council, said: “We have been assessing our buildings for the potential presence of reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) since 12 July, as concerns about the material increased. Since the Government’s announcement last week about the heightened dangers of this material in buildings, we have accelerated that process.

David Whilst liaising with the Department for Education (DfE), we have been made aware that Northampton International Academy could be impacted, and we will be supporting the school to ensure it does all it can to continue providing education in a safe and effective way.

“We have also become aware that Royal & Derngate is affected and, as the building’s landlord, we are investigating the extent of this. In the meantime, Please Contact **West Northamptonshire Council Communications Team** [communications@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:communications@westnorthants.gov.uk) for more information.

**3. David Brine – has contacted the Council twice -**

“Re: Highways. Does Brington P C have a highways representative who I can discuss pothole and water issues with. My name is David Brine and whilst living in East Haddon fulfilled that role for their PC.’ Is telephone no is 074848753763. And he wished to make personal contact with the Parish Council’s Highways representative as the information he is seeking covers the last two years and not recently.”

**4. Medieval Cross - Update**

The Clerk has been enquiring with Historic England about the ownership of the Cross and she has been referred to the Land Registry which Cllr James Milne has previously contact with no result, or to WNC. It seems we are going round in circles and should ask WNC to fence it off

Cllr White indicated he would ask to Phil Bignall our WNH councillor as a starting point.

**5. Misikin House - Update**

WNC Planning Enforcement have advised that we can report a breach of planning control and they will investigate. Breaches include:

- Protected trees being removed or lopped without the necessary permission
- The carrying out of works to a listed building, both internal and external, without the necessary permission
- Unauthorised demolition of certain buildings within a conservation area
- Where land is in a condition which adversely affects the amenity of the area

**6. Draft Order for Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog control and prohibition of smoking in public places)**

The Draft Order will be taken to the next WNC Cabinet meeting, 19th September 2023 where it is recommended that Members approve the Draft Order and it is implemented across the former administrative area of Northampton Borough to form a West Northamptonshire Order.

Further information about the Draft Order, can be found on the West Northamptonshire Council website, please visit <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/community-safety-and-emergencies/public-spaces-protection-orders-pspos>

**7. Reading Room EPC received from Energy Smart.****8. Fallen trees - Cllr Rupert Gardner kindly took remedial action on a Horse Chestnut Tree on the Green however, this highlights that a Tree Survey should be undertaken before the Autumn / Winter weather sets in. Before**

this can be done, the actual responsibilities for trees in the Parish needs to be confirmed (Bringtons PC, WNC, or Althorp Estate) and also which companies can be contacted for quotes to enable the Clerk to do this. WNC Highways have since advised that the Parish Council need to report any concerns with specific trees through to their fault reporting system on the WNC website. This will generate an inspection which will determine whether or not the trees are a highways responsibility (as opposed to a thirdparty responsibility). Assuming the tree/s in question are a highways responsibility, any works or more in-depth survey if required will be programmed accordingly. WNC Highways have since advised that the Parish Council need to report any concerns with specific trees through to their fault reporting system on the WNC website. This will generate an inspection which will determine whether or not the trees are a highways responsibility (as opposed to a thirdparty responsibility). Assuming the tree/s in question are a highways responsibility, any works or more in-depth survey if required will be programmed accordingly.

9. **80th anniversary of D-Day commemoration will take place on 6 June 2024**All parish and town councils are encouraged to take part. The King's Pageantmaster, Bruno Peek, has sent a letter to parish and town councils in Northamptonshire to encourage participation and provide guidance, at <https://www.northantscalc.com/d-day-80-6-june-2024>
10. **Alan Burns** – The WNC Parish Liaison Officer has been invited to an Autumn Parish Council Meeting (October or November) and has confirmed 18 October. I have also asked him to advise who is responsible for emptying the dogbins.
11. **Precept** – We have been notified that the second tranche of the 23/24 parish precept will arrive in our account on Friday 29 September.
12. **Councillor Vacancies**  
There are 2 vacant seats on the Parish Council. Anyone interested in joining the Parish Council should contact the Clerk.

## Item 13 Finance Report

To Note the following payments made in August and September 2023

### Payments September 2023

Payee	Detail	Amount	VAT
S Muir	Clerk September	424.40	-
		106.20	
HMRC	Income Tax September		-
S Muir	Clerk Expenses	77.65	5.58
	Inv 120066		
R&G Landscape Serv.		529.20	441.00
Yu Energy -Streetlighting Inv 01259559	Direct Debit	15.99	0.76
Yu Energy -Streetlighting Inv. 01259558	Direct Debit	101.99	4.78
		158.00	
Wicksteed Play Area Inspection	Statement		
EON Inv Sept	KI-EA4D0588	£1416.45	1416.45
EON Credit Note	KCR-AE4D0588	-2162.01	284.67

### Payments August 2023

Payee	Detail	Amount	VAT
PKF Littlejohn	AGAR Audit Fee	252.00	45.00
S Muir	Clerk August	424.40	-
		106.20	
HMRC	Income Tax August		-
Reading Room Hire	230702	16.00	-
Yu Energy -Streetlighting Inv 01221056	Direct Debit	15.99	0.76
Yu Energy -Streetlighting Inv. 01221055	Direct Debit	101.99	4.86
		225.60	37.60
R&G Landscape Maintenance	Inv 12003		
EON Inv KI-EA4D0588-0018	Club House Playing Field	455.88	69.31

### Income

Anne Richley Kimbells Field Hire	1-4 September 2023	175.00
Rob Bayman Kimbells Field Hire Vintage Motorcycle & Event Parking	4 June 2023	50.00