



**Minutes of the Meeting of BRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL  
held on Wednesday 21 February 2024, Reading Room, Great Brington**

[www.bringtons-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bringtons-pc.gov.uk) email:clerk@bringtons-pc.gov.uk

**Present:** Cllr White (Chair), and Cllr J Milne (Vice Chair), R Gardner, T Lane, M Roach and N Tompkins.

**Also Present:** Clerk, Ward Cllrs P Bignell (Late Arrival) C Morton and 3 members of public

Apologies: Cllr S Beusart

Meeting Started at 7.45pm

		Action
<b>91/2024</b>	The Chair welcomed all to the meeting	
<b>92/2024</b>	<b>To receive and approve apologies for absence</b> Apologies were received from Cllr Beusart and were approved by acclamation.	
<b>93/2024</b>	<b>Members are requested to make any declarations of personal or prejudicial interests relating to items on the agenda.</b> Cllr J Milne declared a personal interest in Item 8a Planning Application 2024/0272/PA Hazel Tree Farm as his wife had an interest in the land. Cllr N Tompkins declared a personal interest in Item 8a various Planning Applications for Kennings Farm as a friend was the property owner.	
<b>94/2024</b>	<b>Public Time</b> The Councillors heard from a resident who asked if the Parish Council knew who owned the gates at the top of Carriage Drive as there was a problem with them sticking; the Parish Council were of the view that they were owned by the Althorp Estate and the Estate should be contacted.	
<b>95/2024</b>	<b>To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2024</b> Cllr J Milne and T Lane seconded that the Minutes be signed as a true and correct record and these were agreed by acclamation.	
<b>96/2024</b> a)	<b>Reports</b> <b>Chair</b> Cllr White reported the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He had met with Stuart Colman the Althorp Estate and it had been agreed that the dog waste bins could be installed as discussed in their site meeting; the Chair advised he would advise the Clerk of the locations and the Clerk was asked to obtain quotes for the type that could take dog waste and general rubbish.</li> <li>• The Althorp stonemason and conservation officer have reviewed the Medieval Cross and agreed that the work required is cosmetic rather than structural and a schedule of works will be carried out in the Spring when the weather is better. The Chair suggested that the Parish Council may investigate installing railings around the structure after the work is carried out.</li> <li>• With reference to the annotated plan of Althorp owned properties and trees in the Parish, Stuart Coleman advised that a plan could be put on notice boards but not the Parish Council website.</li> </ul>	Chair Clerk  Althorp
b)	<b>Clerk</b> The Clerk's report was noted (see appendix).	

<p>96/2024 (Cont) c) d)</p>	<p><b>Ward Councillors' Report:</b> Cllr Bignell had submitted a report that had been circulated to Councillors which was noted. (see appendix).</p> <p><b>Police Report</b> No Police representative was present and a report had not been received. It was noted that a letter had been sent to some residents about a burglary in the village.</p>	
<p>97/2024</p>	<p><b>Reading Room Lease</b></p> <p>The Parish Council noted the update report from the Chair of the Reading Room Trustees and was disappointed that there were no representatives of the Trustees present.</p> <p>With regard to the comment about the future costs of running the Reading Rooms, it was noted that the current draft lease did not include a mechanism for the Parish Council to take responsibility for these or any income and this would need to be discussed with the Reading Room Trustees.</p> <p>Cllr Milne indicated that the current iteration of the lease had been sense checked <b>*by Cllr Milne.</b></p> <p>The Clerk was asked to invite the Reading Room Trustees to the next Parish Council Meeting to discuss the running of the Reading Rooms.</p> <p>Cllr White proposed that the Lease be signed and Cllr Tompkins seconded</p> <p>And it was unanimously agreed that the Lease for the Reading Room be signed, <b>*subject to review by the independent third-party legal review (*Change agreed at 20 March Meeting)</b></p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Chair/ Vice Chair</p>
<p>98/2024</p>	<p>To consider the following Planning Applications and Decisions and any additional application(s) presented after the publication of the agenda): (Planning Applications may be viewed at <a href="#">Planning application search - Planning register   Planning register   West Northamptonshire Council (planning-register.co.uk)</a>)</p> <p><b>Late Notified Planning Applications</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Planning Application No 2024/0857/FULL for removal of brick septic tanks and installation of new sewage treatment plant with capacity for 20 people at Moor Farm Whilton road Great Brington. Following a discussion, no comments were recorded.</li> <li>2. 2024/0834/FULL Erection of a muck store to reduce water pollution by preventing rainfall from getting into manure storage areas, supported by RP28 in the Countryside Stewardship Scheme 14/02/2024 at Kennings Farm for Mr Tom Lowick at 3 Folly Lane Little Brington NN7 4JR. Cllr Tompkins, having recorded an interest, took no part in the debate about the item. The Parish Council heard from the applicant who answered questions about the application. Following a discussion, no comments were recorded.</li> </ol> <p><b>Advised Planning Applications</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <a href="#">2024/0270/PA</a> Land to the north of Brington Road Hazel Tree Farm Great Brington Northampton NN7 4JL - Prior approval for change of use from an agricultural building to a C3 dwelling house. Cllr Milne having declared an interest took no part in the item apart from answering technical questions about the site. Following a discussion, it was requested that a condition be added to limit the lighting as laid out in the Village Design Plan.</li> </ol>	<p>Clerk</p>

<p><b>98/2024 (Cont.)</b></p>	<p>The Chair proposed and Cllr Gardner seconded that the planning application be allowed subject to a condition being added to limit the lighting as outlined in the Village Design Plan. This was agreed unanimously.</p> <p>Cllr Milne rejoined the meeting</p> <p>Cllr Tompkins having declared an interest took no part in the following applications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. <a href="#">2024/0203/PA</a> Kennings Farm 3 Folly Lane Little Brington NN7 4JR for Renewal/Creation of a concrete yard with inspection pits on existing hardcore base. Following a discussion, no comments were recorded</li> <li>3. <a href="#">2024/0303/COND</a> Kennings Farm 3 Folly Lane Little Brington NN7 4JR Condition 3 of WND/2023/0025 (Materials) Application for approval of details submitted pursuant to Condition 3 of Planning Permission WND/2023/0025 [Construction of agricultural workers dwelling, double garage and associated works. at Land Adj Kennings Farm Buildings] Following a discussion and questioning the applicant, no comments were recorded</li> <li>4. <a href="#">2024/0304/COND</a> Kennings Farm 3 Folly Lane Little Brington NN7 4JR Condition 5 of WND/2023/0025 (Landscaping) Application for approval of details submitted pursuant to Condition 5 of Planning Permission WND/2023/0025 [Construction of agricultural workers dwelling, double garage and associated works. at Land Adj Kennings Farm Buildings]. Following a discussion, no comments were recorded.</li> <li>5. <a href="#">2024/0306/COND</a> Kennings Farm 3 Folly Lane Little Brington NN7 4JR Condition 7 of WND/2023/0025 (Contamination) Application for approval of details submitted pursuant to Condition 7 of Planning Permission WND/2023/0025 [Construction of agricultural workers dwelling, double garage and associated works. at Land Adj Kennings Farm Buildings]. Following a discussion, no comments were recorded.</li> </ol> <p>Cllr Tompkins rejoined the meeting.</p>	
<p><b>c)</b></p>	<p><b>Other Planning Matters</b></p> <p>The Council voiced their dissatisfaction with West Northants Council Planning Dept., as many of the comments that the Parish Council agreed and asked WNC to note were often ignored, in particular comments with regard to access and highways issues on planning applications.</p> <p>Ward Cllr Morton indicated that WNC Highways had been instructed to carry out site visits with reference to Highways issues on planning applications.</p>	
<p><b>99/2024</b></p>	<p><b>Environment</b></p>	
	<p><b>a) To receive updates from the Althorp Estate</b></p> <p>The Clerk reported that the representative from Althorp had advised apologies, therefore Chair referred to his report at Minute <b>96/2024 (a)</b></p>	<p>Althorp</p>
	<p><b>b) Section 136 Grant</b></p> <p>In response to a request from WNC if the Parish Council wished to be considered for a Section 136 Grant from West Northamptonshire Council’s Highways department to town and parish councils for taking on responsibility for mowing grass in their parish which was currently being reviewed, the Clerk was asked to find out more details.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

<b>100/2024</b>	<p><b>Communications</b></p> <p>a) The West Northants Council Post 16 Transport Policy Statement 2024 and the Rising Sports Stars Application Scheme were noted.</p> <p>b) Third Avenue, the website provider, had been giving support and this would continue on an as and when basis at £52 per hour as agreed when the contract was let.</p>	
<b>101/2024</b>	<p><b>Parish Council Meeting Dates April 2024 – March 2025</b></p> <p>The Meeting dates for the next Council year were agreed as the third Wednesday of each month to start at 7.45pm.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr White  Seconded: Cllr J Milne  Agreed: Unanimous</p>	Clerk
<b>102/2024</b>	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>a) <b>To Note the Bank Balance at 31 January 2024</b></p> <p>It was noted that the Bank Balance of the Current Account was £1440.00 and the Savings Account was £36442.20</p> <p>b) <b>Compete 366 MS365 Costs</b></p> <p>The Councillors noted that £606.24 had been paid as a direct debit on 12 February 2024 and the account was up to date.</p> <p>c) <b>To Approve Payments made in February 2024 (See Appendix)</b></p> <p>Proposed: Cllr J Milne  Seconded: Cllr K White  Approved: Unanimous</p> <p>d) <b>Draft Budget</b></p> <p>Councillors noted the draft budget that was circulated at the meeting and following a discussion the Clerk was asked to re-circulate this to Councillors</p>	Clerk
<b>103/2024</b>	<p><b>Play Area Project</b></p> <p>Cllr R Gardner indicated he was still awaiting a final quote to meet the contract tendering requirement of the Standing Orders. When this was received, the quotes would be considered by the Parish Council and an order placed for the first phase of works on the Play Area at the next meeting of the Parish Council.</p> <p>Cllr Gardner also indicated that he had received a quote of £480 plus VAT to clear the site. Cllr White noted that once a contract had been let, a Communications strategy should be considered</p>	Cllr Gardner

Meeting closed: 9.20 pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council is Wednesday 20 March 2024

Please advise items for inclusion on the January Agenda to the Clerk by 5pm Friday 8 March 2024.

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

Signed: *Keith White*

Dated: 20 March 2024

Cllr K White (Chair)

1.	WNC Precept Form was returned the 18 January 2024 and confirmed received.
2.	<b>Fly Tipping</b> – following a successful prosecution, WNC would remind residents that anyone can report fly-tipping on the WNC website, along with details of any information which can help to pinpoint the offenders. To find out more <a href="#">visit the WNC cleaner communities page.</a>
3.	Helen Frampton of Althorp Estate was advised of the payment details from the Bank Statement for March 2023 for a payment they seemed to have not received.
4.	Work is ongoing for the Audit but the Clerk needs copies of all the Bank Statements for the years 2023-4
5.	<b>WNC App</b> West Northamptonshire Council has introduced enhanced <b>Report It</b> functionality in its Council app, enabling a seamless and efficient way to interact with the council, report issues and stay connected with the local community on the go. ‘The app is the go-to resource for West Northamptonshire residents, providing easy access to essential council services and timely local news. Now, with the addition of the Report It features, residents can report incidents ranging from fly tipping and graffiti to abandoned trolleys and street cleansing, all from the convenience of their mobile devices. ‘
6.	<b>Section 136 Grant</b> (Item 9b on the Agenda) WNC’s Highways department are reviewing the arrangements for the payment of Section 136 grant – grant paid to town and parish councils for taking on responsibility for mowing grass in their parish. This review will look at the cost per area unit, and updating the areas within each parish that requires cutting. Before they are able to offer a new rate they would like to understand if any of the parishes who do not take part in this would be willing/able to take on this responsibility and receive the grant with the right support. Alan Burns needs to know if we would wish to be considered within the new framework for the Section 136 grant? If we would not like to be considered, we need to let Alan Burns know why not, so that they can assess the barriers to being part of this. Response required by Friday 23rd February, if possible.
7.	<b>Microsoft Licence Invoices</b> The Clerk has received 3 invoices from Compete 366 for the Microsoft Licences. 2 for previous years. After checking it was found that previous years had been paid. Compete 366 have been asked to check their records and have now agreed there is no outstanding amount. INV-19362 was issued on 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 for the subscription period, 15/02/2024-14/02/2025 – for payment this month. (£606.24).
8.	<b>Website Support</b> The Clerk had met with Ben Tompkins of Third Avenue and discussed ongoing website support on an as and when basis, which was in the original Tender.

**Energy Efficiency Grant**

Households on lower incomes whose homes are not heated by mains gas could benefit from Government funding to boost energy efficiency.

The Homes Upgrade Grant can be used to fund a range of energy-saving improvements to help people reduce their energy bills as well as their carbon emissions.

**Fly Tipping**

Fly-tippers who treat West Northamptonshire as a dumping ground face higher fines thanks to new Government legislation.

The new rules mean the maximum fixed penalty fine for those who fly-tip has increased from £400 to £1,000. Those who breach the household waste duty of care - by for instance using for an unlicensed waste carrier to dispose of rubbish that is then dumped illegally - face fines of up to £600 compared to the previous £400. And the fine for those who litter or graffiti has increased from £150 to £500.

**School Transport**

People are being encouraged to share their views on proposed changes to our council's Home to School Transport services for Post 16 students.

The proposals aim to address the high demand and operating costs of the service while providing greater flexibility for parents and carers, supporting young people's independence and helping to promote sustainable travel.

The deadline for comments is 1 April 2024.

**Purple Flag**

Northampton is celebrating as it proudly receives the globally acclaimed Purple Flag accreditation, recognising its commitment to creating a dynamic, secure, and vibrant evening and nighttime economy.

This prestigious award highlights Northampton's blend of night time entertainment, dining, and culture, all while ensuring the safety and well-being of residents and visitors in the evening and night time economy.

The Purple Flag, similar to the Green Flag for our parks, aims to raise the standard and broaden the appeal of town and city centres between the hours of 5pm to 5am. There are 100 Purple Flag destinations around the world including world renowned tourist destinations to small market towns.

**Recycling Small Electrical items**

Residents are being encouraged to give old or broken electrical items a fresh lease of life by recycling them through our kerbside collection service.

From toasters to kettles, sandwich makers to hairdryers or irons, anything with a plug, battery or cable can be recycled and turned into something new via the service. Unwanted electricals are one of the fastest growing sources of waste in the UK.

Items which will fit inside a carrier bag should be placed on top of your black domestic waste bin in Daventry area. Larger items please take to recycle centre.

**West Northamptonshire Council Budget**

This was due to be agreed on 22 February 2024 however there were extreme pressure due to childcare issues.

Payments for Noting 21 February 2024

Payee	Detail	Amount	VAT
S Muir	Clerk February 2023	452.07	-
HMRC	Income Tax February	113.00	-
Yu Energy - Streetlighting Inv 01387775	Direct Debit	16.08	0.77
Yu Energy - Streetlighting Inv. 01387774	Direct Debit	132.53	6.31
Reading Room	Inv 231105 P C January Meeting	16.00	
Compete 366	Microsoft Licence INV-19362	606.24	101.04

RECEIPTS

Payee	Detail	Amount	VAT
R Bayman	Kimbles Field Deposit	100.00	-