



**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of BRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL  
held on Wednesday 15 May 2024, Reading Room, Great Brington**

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

**Present:** Cllr K White (Vice Chair), S Beeusaert, R Gardner, and M Roach.

**Also Present:** Clerk, Ward Cllrs P Bignell (Late Arrival) and C Morton and 8 members of public

Apologies: Cllrs J Milne (Vice-Chair), T Lane and Cllr N Tompkins

Meeting Started at 7.45pm

<b>16/2024</b>	<b>Welcome and Announcements</b>	Action
	Cllr White (Chair) chaired the meeting and welcomed all. Cllr White announced that Cllr T Lane had resigned from the Parish Council for personal reasons and thanked her for her valuable contributions as a Parish Councillor.	Clerk
<b>17/2024</b>	<b>To Elect a Chair for the year 2024-25</b>	
	A nomination had been received to elect Cllr White as Chair for the year 2024-25 Proposed: Cllr Beeusaert Seconded: Cllr Roach Carried Unanimously	
<b>18/2024</b>	<b>Declaration of Acceptance</b>	
	Cllr White signed the Declaration of Acceptance as Chair for the year 2024-25	Accepted
<b>19/2024</b>	<b>To Elect a Vice- Chair for the year 2024-25</b>	
	A nomination had been received to elect Cllr Milne as Vice-Chair for the year 2024-25, however as Cllr Milne was not present, this item was deferred to the next meeting of the Parish Council. Proposed: Cllr White Seconded: Cllr Roach Carried Unanimously	
<b>20/2024</b>	<b>To receive and approve apologies for absence</b>	
	Apologies were received from Cllrs J Milne (Vice Chair) and N Tompkins and were approved by acclamation.	Clerk
<b>21/2024</b>	<b>Declaration of Interest</b>	
	Members to make any disclosable pecuniary interests declarations or personal interests they may have in the business to be transacted and officers to disclose any interests they may have in any contract to be considered.	None Declared
<b>22/2024</b>	<b>Public Time</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A resident advised that a traffic monitor had been installed in the village recently and asked if the Parish Council was aware. Ward Cllr Bignell advised it was installed as part of a Safer Roads Initiative by Northants Police.</li><li>• Residents raised concerns about the increase in large lorries using the village as a shortcut and Ward Cllr Bignell indicated that Sandy Lane which was currently closed would partly open in June 2024 and this should alleviate the issue.</li></ul>	

<b>22/2024 Cont.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In response to request from a resident for the data produced by the traffic monitor, Cllr Gardner indicated he would ask Northants Police for this.</li> </ul>	Cllr Gardner
<b>23/2024</b>	<p><b>Reports and Presentations</b></p> <p>The Councillors noted Reports and Presentations from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading Room Trustees – S Heyworth</li> <li>Brington Chantry Estate – D Bull</li> <li>Brington &amp; Nobottle News – S Sheehan</li> </ol> <p>The Chair thanked all the Trustees for their work.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>West Northamptonshire Council Long Buckby Ward – Cllr P Bignell (at annex</li> <li>The Parish Clerk’s report (at Annex).</li> </ol>	
<b>24/2024</b>	<p><b>To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2024</b></p> <p>Cllr White (Chair) indicated that he had been absent at that meeting and this item be deferred to the June meeting of the Council, this was agreed by acclamation.</p>	Clerk
<b>25/2024</b>	<p><b>Reading Room Update</b></p> <p>Cllr White indicated with reference to the draft Lease, that as Cllr Milne had not been able to attend the meeting there was no update for the Councillors of the Legal check that had been requested.</p> <p>Councillors indicated that issues with the Lease could not be resolved without the Interim Chair of the Reading Room Trustees being present at a Parish Council meeting and asked the Clerk to investigate moving the July 2024 meeting to a Thursday date to accommodate this.</p>	Clerk
<b>26/2024</b>	<p><b>Traffic Issues in the Parish</b></p> <p>The Councillors noted the update from the Clerk that had been circulated advising the procedure for investigating traffic calming measures from Kier (On behalf of the West Northants Highways Dept.)</p> <p>Councillors indicated that they could not proceed with this issue until they had received up to date data from the traffic monitoring device.</p>	
<b>27/2024</b>	<p><b>Christmas Event</b></p> <p>It was resolved to defer this item to the next meeting and was agreed by acclamation.</p>	Clerk
<b>28/2024 (a)</b>	<p>To consider the following Planning Applications and Decisions and any additional application(s) presented after the publication of the agenda):</p> <p>(Planning Applications may be viewed at <a href="#">Planning application search - Planning register   Planning register   West Northamptonshire Council (planning-register.co.uk)</a>)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">2024/2096/COND</a>– The Councillors noted the Conditions Discharge at Orchard House 2 Fermoy Court Little Brington NN7 4JP for Discharge of Conditions 3 (Materials), 5, (Landscaping), 7 (External Lighting) and 8 (Biodiversity Enhancement Plan) of Planning Permission 2023/7678/FULL (Construction of 8-car garage, gym, sauna, steam room, storage and associated works ancillary to No.2 Fermoy Court), Target Date for Decision 12/06/24.</li> <li><a href="#">2024/2324/LBC</a> Accommodation Althorp House Althorp NN7 4HQ for Retrospective listed building consent for alterations to attic rooms in Althorp House to create ensuite bathrooms, including changes to door openings, replacement boxings for services, new partitions and extension to existing services installations. Deadline for Comments 7 June 2024. It was resolved not to object to this Planning Application.</li> </ol>	

<b>28/2024</b> <b>Cont.</b> (b)	<b>Other Planning Matters</b> Application No. 2024/0672/MAO Proposal Hybrid planning application comprising: Outline planning application (all matters reserved except for internal access) for the erection of 350 dwellings, public open space, pedestrian and cycle links, play area, drainage, landscaping, and all other associated works. Location Land North West Of, Upper High Street, Harpole. WNC have advised that WNC Highways will review the TA and provide advice on this which can be viewed at <a href="https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display/2024/0672/MAO#undefined">https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display/2024/0672/MAO#undefined</a>	
<b>29/2024</b>	<b>Environment</b>	
(a)	Councillors noted the update from Althorp Estates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Higher Level Stewardship agreement had been signed for a flood alleviation scheme in Brampton;</li> <li>• The Shorthorn cattle had 27 calves which would be turned out in to the park;</li> <li>• Barn Owls and birds being checked with more bird boxes being installed;</li> <li>• Althorp House would be open from 1 July - 29 August 2024;</li> <li>• 200 tons of fly tipping had been moved from Tallington and residents were asked to report any sightings of fly tipping to the Estates Office; and</li> <li>• Homemade manure which was chemical free would be sprayed on some areas.</li> </ul>	
(b)	Cricket Pavilion Roof – Despite various enquiries, the Clerk had only been able to obtain one quote from R & G Landscape Services to repair the Roof at a cost of £825.00. This was met with unanimous approval. <b>Minute 10/2024 (e) refers</b>	Clerk
(c)	Parking at Back Lane will continue to be monitored. Althorp Estates are still investigated ownership of this.	Cllrs./ Althorp
<b>30/2024</b>	Councillors noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Consultation at <a href="https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/send-funding-recommendations">https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/send-funding-recommendations</a> and how to have your say, closing on Sunday 2 June 2024, and</li> <li>• the <b>Communities across West Northamptonshire</b> events and celebrations of the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings this June. <a href="#">West Northamptonshire Council website</a>.</li> </ul>	
<b>31/2024</b>	<b>Finance</b>	
(a)	Councillors noted the Bank Balance at 15 May 2024 of the Current Account at £3229.01 and Reserve Account at £40725.61. This included receipt of the first payment of the WNC Precept of £11605.00.	
(b)	<b>To Note the Bank Reconciliation and Approve Payments due in April 2024 (See Annex)</b>	
	The Payments were approved and the reconciliation was noted.. Proposed: Cllr K White Seconded: Cllr Gardner Approved: Unanimous	
(b)	Annual Audit The Councillors noted the Audit form had been submitted to the Internal Auditor and that the closing Bank Reconciliation at 31 March 2024 was included in the Finance Annex.	

<b>31/2024</b>	<p><b>Play Area Equipment Project</b></p> <p>Cllr R Gardner confirmed the purchase order had been raised and clearance work was due to start the following week to prepare the Play Area.</p> <p>The Clerk advised that the School and their contractor's had been informed of areas to be worked on so they could be omitted from landscape maintenance.</p> <p>With reference to the next phase of choosing equipment, it was anticipated a package of designs would be put together to present to students and the Parish Council</p>	Cllr Gardner / Clerk
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Meeting closed: 9.10 pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council is at 7.45 pm on Wednesday 19 June 2024

Please advise items for inclusion on the June Agenda to the Clerk by 5pm Friday 7 June 2024.

Signed: Cllr J Milne (Chair of Meeting) *James Milne*

Dated 19 June 2024

## Clerks Report and Correspondence List

Minute 23/2024 refers

1.	<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p>During the Council year 2023-24, 31 Planning Applications have been considered and comments forward to West Northamptonshire Council when required.</p>
2.	<p><u>Vice Lord-Lieutenant Morcea Walker announces retirement</u></p> <p>After seven years of dedicated service and unwavering commitment to the Lieutenancy of Northamptonshire, Mrs. Morcea Walker, Vice Lord- Lieutenant, has announced her decision to retire, due to reaching the mandatory retirement age of 75 for Deputy Lieutenants (DL).</p>
4.	<p>Pavilion Roof- 3 Quotes requested – R&amp;G Grounds Maintenance, Play Repairs, Maintenance and Inspections and West Northants Norse (who don't do this work but are recommended PFL, were unable to quote.)</p>
5.	<p>Rose of Northamptonshire</p> <p>Nominations for the Rose of Northamptonshire Awards 2024 are now open! This awards initiative was first launched in 2020 by the High Sheriff's Office, the Lord Lieutenancy, and what was at the time Northamptonshire County Council, as part of the Unsung Heroes Initiative. The Rose of Northamptonshire Awards were relaunched in 2023 to recognise the county's community heroes. If you know an individual or Organisation in Northamptonshire who deserves recognition for their good work and support of their local community, please nominate them for a Rose of Northamptonshire Award. Please see <a href="https://www.ncf.uk.com/rose-of-northamptonshire-criteria">https://www.ncf.uk.com/rose-of-northamptonshire-criteria</a> for details. The closing date for nominations is 20 June 2024.</p>
6.	<p>Policies due for review during the new Council Year: the Standing Orders, Asset register, Risk Register and Financial Regulations.</p>

#### West Northants Unitary Report for Long Buckby Ward

It has been a pleasure for the three of us to continue working as Ward Councillors for the Long Buckby Ward in the new West Northamptonshire Council. During this civic year we have had numerous successes in solving issues from our residents. Planning which seems to generate most problems but inevitably potholes, which is a national problem, has overtaken all others.  
Budget.

This year we worked hard to set a balanced budget for 2024/25, despite facing financial pressures like other councils due in the current economic climate, with high inflation rates driving up running costs and an increase in demand for services, particularly around supporting children in care and vulnerable adults. In fact, 62p in every Pound of Council Tax is spent on Adult and Child care, something we have no control over since it is a statutory duty. The increase of 4.99% for 24/25 remains below current inflation, with 2% going towards Adult care and represents an increase of £1.63 a week on a Band D property. remains well below current inflation levels but crucially generating an extra £12m to protect essential frontline services – with 2% of the increase going towards adult social care. This represents an average increase of £1.63 a week on a Band D property.

#### Long Buckby Ward

This year the Boundary Commission decided that the revision of Wards in SNC was for 76 new Wards made up of one, two and three Member Wards. As far as the Long Buckby Ward is concerned the Ward would lose essentially West Haddon and Flore but gain some to the East and become a two-member ward from May 2025 when elections take place.

#### Highways

Potholes have been a burning issue over the last few months with a wetter than average winter playing havoc with our Roads. We are not alone as the issue is Nationwide with pressure being placed on funding locally. At WNC we have acquired new machinery to address the problem including the JCB Pothole Pro which has completed over 12,500 m<sup>2</sup> worth of road since its roll out in August 2023. It carries out an improved repair service allowing them to cut the defect, crop the edges and clean the area with one machine before it is filled and is four times faster than conventional repair. We realise the significance of road conditions and Kier have put forward a plan for coming year and extra funding is available from HS2 fund.

#### Local Plan

The spatial strategy Plan which was consulted on and received over 11,000 responses and was not well received with the large number of houses proposed, particularly in our Ward. The three of us fought hard to thwart such development in which we were successful and the new Local Plan has been written in which us Members had a significant input. This plan is now out for consultation and we would encourage you all to comment on it online. There will also be Public exhibitions which you will be able to visit and have your say. The finalised Plan will be sent to the Inspectors in Dec 2024 having taken onboard public comments.

#### Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)

This order is now in force and notices have been placed in all our villages advising residents of its powers. It gives Council the ability to ensure that the public can use and enjoy our public spaces and aims to help to make West Northamptonshire a better and safer place to live and work. It covers dog control, ban on smoking in certain areas and can result in a fine of up to £150 for non-compliance and breaches can be reported on the WNC website.

### Green and Clean Places

Over the past 12 months we have prioritised the environment and considered the carbon cost of our decision-making, working hard towards our sustainability goals – from improving energy efficiency, reducing waste and achieving net zero emissions by 2030, to making our streets, parks and open spaces cleaner and greener. As an example, we retained international Green Flag Award status for the high quality of Daventry Country Park.

We coordinated and supported a range of Community Spring

Clean activities, as part of the Great British Spring Clean campaign organised by Keep Britain Tidy. We had litter picking equipment available to borrow, and supported groups and individuals with guidance on how to safely organise a community litter pick. We also supplied sacks and collected any rubbish that had been litter-picked afterwards.

Finally, we would all like to thank all Parish Council members and other community volunteers for their ongoing commitment to our wonderful villages. Without this support our job would be immeasurably more difficult. As already said, we are open to any input and as elected representatives we will strive to deliver solutions when possible.

Cllr Phil Bignell                    07969 919779

Cllr Daniel Lister                07878 798726

Cllr Charles Morton              07774 419028

**FINANCE REPORT**

**Minute 31/2024 refers**

**1. To Note Audit Bank Reconciliation End of Year 31/03/24**

Bank Reconciliation 31/03/24		Cash Book	
Bank Balance			
Balance in Current Account YTD	716.98	Opening Balance	25230.57
Value of payments yet to clear	0	Expenditure to date	-15689.94
Reserve Account Bank Balance YTD	35120.61	Income to date	26296.96
<b>Total</b>	<b>£35837.59</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£35837.59</b>

**2. Payments to Note 15 May 2024**

Supplier	code	Detail	Invoice No	Invoice Total	VAT
Parish Online	BT	Parish Online - Mapping Software (per Year)	34UC008-0006	£50.00	0
Dact	BT	Community Bus Registration	20039	£30.00	0
Reading Room	BT	Hall Hire April 2024-March 2025	24041	£160.00	0
HMRC	BT	PAYE to 2 June		113.00	0
S Muir Payslip	BT	Clerk 31 May		452.07	0
R&G Groundworks	BT	Grass Cutting	120739	612.82	46.40
Yu Energy	DD	Street Light Power	01668344	£117.44	5.59
Yu Energy	DD	Street Light Power	01668345	£15.69	0.75
Compete 366	DD	<b>Azure NCE Plan Consumption for previous Calendar Month</b>	20476	£1.84	0.31
Eon	Credit Note		KI-EA4D0588-0030	(£9.13)	(0.31)

**3. Bank Balances Reconciliation at 15 May 2024 – to be advised at Meeting**

**Current Account £3229.01    Reserve A/C £40725.61**

Bank Reconciliation		15-May-24		
		£	£	
<b>Bank Balance</b>			<b>Opening Balance</b>	35837.59
Current Account		3229.21	Expenditure to Date:	-3487.77
Chqs to Clear		0	Income: WNC Precept	11605.00
Reserve A/C YTD		40725.61		
		<b>£ 43954.82</b>	<b>£ 43954.82</b>	