



**Minutes of the Parish Meeting of BRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
held on Wednesday 20 November 2024, Reading Room, Great Brington**

www.bringtons-pc.gov.uk email:clerk@bringtons-pc.gov.uk

Present: J Milne (Vice Chair), R Gardner, M Roach and N Tompkins.

Also Present: Clerk, Ward Cllrs Bignell and Morton. Althorp Rep. and 3 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs K White (Chair) and S Beeusaert and Ward Cllr D Lister.

Meeting Started at 7.45pm

89/2024	Welcome and Announcements	Action
	The Vice Chair welcomed all to the meeting.	
90/2024	To receive and approve apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllrs K White (Chair), S Beeusaert and Ward Cllr Lister and were approved by acclamation.	Clerk
91/2024	Declarations of Interest Cllr Rupert Gardner declared a pecuniary interest in Item8a Planning Application No: 2024/4921/FULL as the Applicant and Owner of an associated business and indicated he would take no part in the debate apart from answer councillors' questions and would leave the room.	Clerk
92/2024	Public Participation	
	<p>i.) A resident thanked the Parish Council for its quick action in reporting the Speeding issues at the school (Minute 78/2024 refers) to Northamptonshire Police and the resulting Traffic Monitoring exercise.</p> <p>ii.) A resident indicated that she had contacted the Northamptonshire Police Street Watch team for more details and stated that should there be sufficient interest from residents who were interested in joining her, Northamptonshire Police would take this further. She was advised to forward the information to residents on the Village Email and can also be contacted direct at bfa.energy@btconnect.com</p> <p>iii.) A resident stated that whilst the Speed Survey results were interesting with regard to the speed limits, there were still issues of speeding in the village especially at the school and asked if the Parish Council could take any further action. The Vice Chair stated that this was included in the Clerk's Report at Item 6.</p> <p>iv.) A resident thanked the Parish Councillors for supplying the extra dog bins which were popular.</p>	
93/2024	To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 16 October 2024 The Minutes of the 16 October 2024 approved and signed as a true and correct record; this was agreed by acclamation.	Clerk
94/2024	To Note Reports The Councillors noted Reports from: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Vice Chair advised he had nothing to report.2. West Northamptonshire Council Long Buckby Ward – Cllr P Bignell (at annex).3. The Parish Clerk (at annex).4. Northamptonshire Police – No report had been received.	

<p>95/2024</p>	<p>Reading Room Lease Update</p> <p>1. To receive an update regarding the request for a capital contribution from Althorp Estate. It was noted that the Reading Room Trustees had confirmed acceptance of the offer from Althorp Estates to carry out an Electrical inspection of the Reading Room building as reported in Minute 67/2024 of 18/09/2024 and that Althorp Estates had been advised accordingly. This was subject to the new Lease being signed.</p> <p>2. To Consider paying the Insurance Premium on behalf of the Reading Room Trustees Following a discussion Councillors noted, with reference to including Indemnity and Liability Insurance in the Insurance Premium, that it was compulsory under the Charities Act 2011 for a Charity to purchase this insurance. The Councillors repeated their concerns about the security of the Reading Rooms and how this would affect any Insurance claim. Cllr Milne proposed that there was a principle that the Parish Council pays the Building Insurance and that Contents Insurance and any other required Insurances are running costs which are Reading Room Trustees responsibility. This was seconded by Cllr Tompkins agreed unanimously.</p> <p>3. It was noted that before the new Lease could be signed, it was required to be updated with the Insurance and Rent responsibilities and the Althorp Representative offered to progress this. Cllr Milne proposed that subject to these amendments being made satisfactorily, the Parish Council agreed to sign the new lease. Seconded by Cllr Roach and agreed by all.</p>	<p>Chair/Vice Chair/ S W - Althorp</p>
<p>96/2024 a.</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 Planning application search - Planning register Planning register West Northamptonshire Council (planning-register.co.uk))</p> <p>i. Planning Application 2024/4921/FULL for a new rural worker’s dwelling at Land to East side of East Haddon Road Great Brington Northamptonshire. Deadline for comments extended to 27 November 2024. Having declared an interest, Cllr Gardner explained the rationale for the application, answered questions and left the room during consideration of the item. Following a discussion by the Councillors, the Vice Chair proposed and Cllr Tompkins seconded that in principle the Council had no objections to the planning application subject to the following condition being added: That any changes to the development be subject to separate planning permissions being obtained – to ensure that the associated dwelling be linked /tied to the activity that the dwelling is being used for and cannot be separated at a later date. Agreed Unanimously. Cllr Gardner rejoined the meeting</p> <p>ii. Planning Application No. 2024/2883/FULL Proposal Demolition of former agricultural buildings ‘The Lambing Barn’ and the ‘Cart Shed’ and construction of new self- build dwelling with link to playroom / garage building. Modifications to the turning head in access road. Location Church Farm Barns Steeple Lane Little Brington NN7 4HN Amendment Details: Amended description of development to reflect the demolition of both the 'Lambing Shed' and the 'Cart Shed' and the construction of a new self-build dwelling. Amended drawings also received with additional landscaping, biodiversity and materials information. Deadline for comments 21 November 2024 No objection or comments were advised.</p> <p>iii. Planning Application No. 2024/4998/Cond at Workshop and Premises Easte Haddon Road Great Brington NN74JF for discharge of Condition 9 (District Licence) of Planning Permission WND/2022/0930 Demolition of existing commercial buildings and construction of single dwelling at workshop and premises, was noted.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

<p>b.</p> <p>c.</p>	<p>The Previous Planning Application Decisions were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. 2024/4041/FULL The Dutch Barn, 3 Folly Lane, Little Brington, NN7 4JR for Construction of detached double garage. Approved 21/10/24 ii. 2024/4044/LDP 3 & 4 The Green, Great Brington, NN7 4JD to Replace rotten timber windows to the front of the property with UPVC casement windows to the same look and finish. Refused 24/10/24 <p>2024/4153/FULL The Green Nobottle Road Little Brington for Replacement of all windows in the existing garage. Removal of the existing conservatory and replacement with a single-storey flat roof extension on the annex Approved 31/10/24</p> <p>Planning Related Issues Planning Application 2024/1431/LBC Planning Appeal Opened 1 November 2024 – Bumble Bee Cottage 26 Main Street Little Brington NN7 4HS Reference No APP/W2845/Y/24/3352533 Comments, or modification/withdrawal of previous representations, can be done on the Appeal Casework Portal website at https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk. Councillors indicated that they had not objected when the Planning Application was originally considered and their views had not changed.</p>	
<p>97/2024</p>	<p>Environment</p> <p>The following updates from Althorp Estate were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All cattle have now been sold. <p>The following updates from the Parish Council were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Medieval Cross – the Clerk indicated that she had contacted WNC to confirm who was responsible for the maintenance of the Cross and also to confirm the responsibilities under the Village Green Registration (Commons Registration Act 1965 and The Growth and Infrastructure Act 2013) ii. Traffic Issues, Clerks report at appendix refers. iii. Dog Waste Bins – It was noted that the new Dog Bins are installed by Cllr Roach at What 3 Words locations: Hamilton Lane topical.tempting.comply Carriage Drive crows.passing.brimmedtables.liquid.mere, Churchyard Car Park presses.upsetting.shrub iv. It was noted that the new Noticeboard had been installed by Cllr Gardner. 	
<p>98/2024</p>	<p>Consultations</p> <p>The following consultations were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. To Consider a response to NCalc re All Parishes in Northamptonshire Parish Council Survey https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1zbb1iNFuLWprNQ. Deadline 5pm 9 December 2024 ii. To Note the SNH Neighbourhood Beat Bus and Community Surgeries Our Neighbourhood police officers will be out and about with the Neighbourhood Beat Bus 6th November 2024 – Towcester 	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>99/2024</p>	<p>Parish Council Asset Register November 2024</p> <p>The Parish Council Asset Register at 20 November 2024 was approved unanimously.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>100/2024</p>	<p>Village Volunteer Award Nomination Form</p> <p>Comments on the draft Nomination Form included that the Post office be asked to display a Postbox for entries. Clerk was asked to circulate the final version to Councillors prior to the January 2025 meeting. A deadline date of end of Mid March 2025 for submission of nominations was also noted.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

101/2024	Staff Annual increment NALC for 2024-25 The 0.63pence/hour increase for Parish Clerks on NALC contracts backdated to 01 April 2024 was noted.	Clerk
102/2024	Finance	
(a)	Councillors noted the Bank Balance at 17 November 2024 of the Current Account at £1,804.94 and Reserve Account at £42,363.15.	
(b)	To Note the Bank Reconciliation and Approve Payments made due in November 2024 (See Annex) The Payments for November 2024 were approved and the Bank Reconciliation was noted. Proposed: Cllr Roach Seconded: Cllr Milne Approved: Unanimous	
(c)	To consider changing the Electricity Energy Supplier from Yu Energy Councillors noted that the contract for the Electricity Supplier for Streetlighting was due to be renewed in January 2025 and that NCALC had carried out an analysis of alternative suppliers and costs. Following a discussion the Clerk was asked to check the pricing scale of a 1-year contract with the recommended supplier, Tomato.	Clerk
102/2024	Budget and Precept requirement for 2025-26 Councillors noted the draft proposed budget Precept requirement for 2025/26 and following a discussion, asked the Clerk to recirculate a revised version of the document with revised costs before the next meeting.	
103/2024	To consider excluding members of the public from Item 17 – “2. To consider Quotes for supply and installation of Play Equipment” by virtue of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that there may likely be a disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (Information referring to the financial or business affairs of the Council). It was unanimously agreed that that that Item 17 be discussed without excluding members of the public.	
104/2024	Play Area Equipment Project Update i. Cllr Gardner indicated that the clearance work had not yet been completed and the work carried out to date had not yet been invoiced by the contractor. ii. Cllr Gardner advised he had received confirmation from Company B that they would match the guarantee of Company A by extending the included warranty to 20 years This would be without the need for their yearly maintenance inspection. They advised that damage to the timber from strimming would need to be significant to affect this as normal wear and tear was acceptable. The warranty would be 12 months for both labour and materials with the remaining 19 years being materials only. It would be possible to change individual components if the need should ever arise. iii. Cllr Gardner stated he would request confirmation of payment terms, lead times, and clarification of ongoing maintenance costs. In view of the additional information that was requested, it was unanimously resolved that the Item be finalised at the next meeting. iv. The Clerk confirmed that the criteria for inclusion under the Procurement Act 2023 requirement to publish information about opportunities, contracts and awards on Contracts Finder, was for contracts of above £30,000 inclusive of VAT.	

Signed: *James Milne*

Dated: 15 January 2025

Cllr J Milne (Vice Chair)

Meeting closed: 21.45pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council is at 7.45 pm on Wednesday 15 January 2025

Please advise items for inclusion on the January Agenda to the Clerk by 5pm Friday 3 January 2025.

Annexes

Minute 94/2024 (2) refers

WARD COUNCILLORS REPORT

November 2024

1.	Planning Application 2020/0479 – Brington Road I was appalled and dismayed by the recent High Court decision for this application. WNC and Flore PC did all they could to reject this speculative application but all to no avail. The Village spent a long time developing an excellent Local Plan that was adopted but sadly the High Court Judge just dismissed all that good work and suggested that it did not apply to the size of this development – baffling! I am concerned that under a new Government this type of rejection could become all too common? I am sorry this happened but ultimately it was taken out of our hands.
2.	Budget – the setting of the West Northants Council budget for 25/26 is going well and we are optimistic on delivering a balanced budget with minimal impact on services.
3.	5-Year Plan – WNC are embarking on formulating new strategic plan in consultation with the various agencies.
4.	Peer review – the LGA are returning to assess progress of West Northants Council against various targets set back in March when they last visited the Council.
5.	Market Square – the relaunch of the Market Square a couple of weeks ago was a big success despite the weather and attracted some 10,000 visitors to the areas over the two days and it was great to see the area so vibrant and alive.
6.	Flore Hotel - The hotel in Flore was being used by HM Government to house asylum seekers.

Clerks Report

Minute 94/2024 (3 refers)

1.	Defibrillator - Resident question about access code and user instructions To clarify, the Parish Council are only responsible for the Defibrillator at the Reading Rooms; the second defibrillator at the school is not owned by the Parish Council. A request has been made for the code to be made clearer. Basic instructions from the St John's Ambulance website will be included in the next Newsletter, although the machine talks users through how to operate it.
2.	The Return of Remote Meetings NCALC have advised re the government's consultation on the detail and practical implications of allowing remote and hybrid attendance at local authority meetings. From our sector, the government wants to hear from parish and town councils, individual councillors, CALCs and NALC, and even members of the public. Go to https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-standards-and-conduct/remote-attendance-and-proxy-voting/ to submit your response. The deadline is 19 December 2024.
3.	New Notice Board The P/O was issued to James Bord, and Cllr Rupert Gardner collected and installed it.
4.	Medieval Cross

	The Clerk has asked WNC for a copy of the Village Green registration documents done by the Parish Council and which stated the Landowner as Althorp Estate when registered and also asked WNC to confirm who is responsible for maintaining the Cross under this document.
5.	Reported Speeding at Brington School Northants Police carried out the required traffic survey for a Police Speed Van and reported that the speeds recorded do not warrant a speed van placement (as below). With regard to getting a VAS (Smiley/sad face) the Parish Council can apply to WNC Road Safety Community fund to assist in purchasing our own device; West Northants Highways looks after the VAS scheme and can talk to the parish about options and costs etc.
6.	Compliments Book Broken Drive Slowly Sign at Little Brington – reported 13/10/24 to WNC and according to a resident has been fixed – big thanks to the Parish Council. “I just wanted to say a big thank you to the person, presumably local, who fixed our wonky village sign at the top of Steeple Lane. I had looked at this but it was quite clearly 'beyond my skill set'! Many thanks for a good job done”.
7.	Gallagher Insurance Promotion £500 for a Building Project Competition The Clerk entered the Parish Council Play Area Project to this competition, winner to be announced on 24/12/2025.
8.	Dog Waste bins 2 have been installed at Carriage Drive and Hamilton Lane and dual general / dog waste bin at the church carpark; West Northants Norse have been instructed to empty them.
9.	Procurement Training The Clerk attended this online and the Powerpoint Information Slides have been circulated to Councillors.
10.	Website Development Tompkins Creative Group (Website producers) is working on creating a Notice Board / Blog Page and further pages including one for Speed Monitoring Reports.

Item 5 - Traffic Survey Results

“Good afternoon,

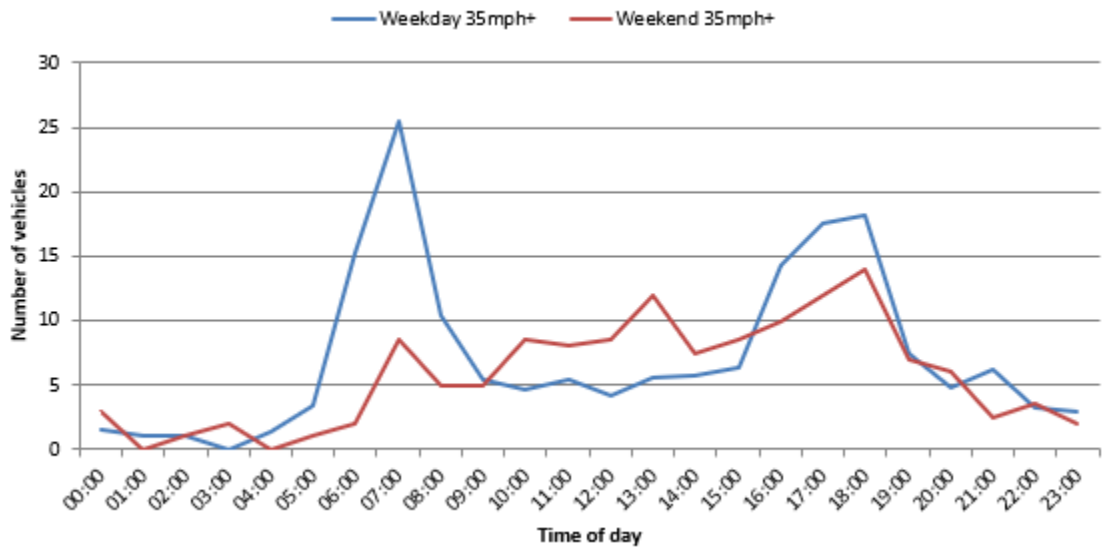
I have now received the results of the speed data survey, which my team conducted following your request. Unfortunately, the data at this time doesn't support speed enforcement at this location.

We look for an 85th percentile speed above the NPCC (National Police Chiefs Council) guidance of 10%+2mph (35mph). In this case it doesn't meet this particular criteria. The 85th percentile is a nationally used figure to identify the speed at which most careful and competent motorists are travelling at or below. This figure gives an understanding of the speed most drivers consider suitable for the look and feel of the environment.

The chart below gives you an idea/average of the volume of vehicles exceeding 35mph, the daily average amount of vehicles using this road is a little under 2000 in both directions which when you compare with other villages is low.

Matthew Mumford | C1591

Safer Roads Team Enforcement Supervisor
Northamptonshire Police”



FINANCE REPORT

Minute /2024 c Refers

1. (a) Payments for Approval 20 November 2024

Supplier	Code	Detail	Invoice No	Invoice Total	VAT
S Muir	BT	Salary November		452.07	0
S Muir	BT	HMRC November		113.00	0
R&G Landscape	BT	Grass cutting	12142	360.00	60.00
Yu Energy	DD	Street Lighting	02083255	118.09	5.62
Yu Energy	DD	Street Lighting	02083256	15.95	0.76
Compete 366	DD	365 Data Back Up	21979	2.16	
HCI Data	BT	Parish Council Domain Name – 2 years	WEV17387	114.00	19.00
West Northants Norse Ltd	BT	Emptying 2 new Dogbins 2024-25	52IN-001104	805.92	134.32
J Bord	BT	New Noticeboard		1050.00	
NCALC	BT	Procurement Act Training	4062	42.00	7.00
DM Payroll	BT	Payroll Admin Charge	3966	60.00	
EON Energy Credit Note	DD	Kimbles Pavilion Electricity Invoice	KI-EA4D0588-0036	17.37	

2. (b) Receipts to Note

Date	Detail	Invoice Total
		Nil

3. Bank Balances & Reconciliation November 2024

(a) Bank Reconciliation at 31 October 2024

Net balances as at 31/10/24 Bank Reconciliation	Bank Balance	Cash Book	
Brought Forward Balance in Current Account YTD	35837.59	Opening Balance	35,837.59
Value of payments yet to clear	1938.98	Expenditure to date	-16,328.10
Reserve Account Bank Balance YTD	0	Income to date	24,792.66
Total	£ 44,302.15		£ 44,302.15

b. Bank Balance 17 November 2024

Current Account £1,804.94

Business Account £42,363.15.