

FLORE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH SCHOOLROOM ON
21st JANUARY 2025 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillors: Mr Andy Anderson, Miss Freya Davies, Mr Geoff Fellows, Mr Geoff Holden, Mr Simon Levell, Mrs Chris Littlewood, Mr John Thomason
Unitary Cllrs: Mr Phil Bignell, Mr Charles Morton
Police: PCSO and PC. Both left after public forum
Public: 4 Members of the public present

Acceptance of Apologies for absence: Councillors: Mrs Kathryn Baines, Mr Tom Higginson,

Chair: Mrs Christine Littlewood

- 2008.0** **Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct, regarding business tabled for discussion.** Mr Simon Levell declared an interest in item 2011.0 Flooding
- 2009.0** **Public Forum:** for parishioners and reports by Unitary Councillors
- Resident: Flore Hill flooding, cannot get to shops when flooded. Flood Warden advised that the gully at the bottom had been blocked and was now clear. Manhole cover was a trip hazard, advised that this was also repaired and could traffic calming ideas have priorities the opposite way?
 - Resident: Do we know anything about the house being built at Stowe Hill, opposite the garage on the A5. Yes all in hand with enforcement who are currently being chased, Orders have been served.
 - Resident: Just came to listen to meeting.
 - Resident: Advised that he has sent through photos of the flooding issues caused to properties at John Campbell Close in the November floods. Flood warden advised that the balancing ponds need looking into as one fills and the other doesn't so they don't do their job. The Grips had recently been dug out (assumed by residents). The significant amount of rain that fell that day was just phenomenal and probably would still have caused issues in this area.
 - PCSO: Advised that she has been to look at the parking issues on Spring Lane/Russell Rise and placed advisory parking notices on three vehicles who were parked on the footpath. This issue has been decriminalised and is not in the Police's remit, it now comes under Highways.
 - U/Cllr Bignell. White Paper for regeneration, having areas with mayoral control, has recently gone through West Northants Council. WNC has no partners yet so would need to rely on the Government to allocate counties to join in a larger area. WNC budget has been agreed and it is a 5% rise on Council Tax. Interesting fact that Northamptonshire is in the bottom three counties for pot holes!
 - U/Cllr Morton: Bypass – work is being carried out on the vegetation on the bypass.. The potholes reported on Brington Road should have been completed just after Christmas although he would chase as it doesn't look like this has been carried out.
- 2010.0** **To approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12th November 2024 and the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 10th December 2024.** The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 2011.0** **Outstanding items - updates** (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)
- Flood Warden: Cllr Thomason had sent around a report which was noted. He advised that he would put a bit in the Messenger about block paving (if size over 5 metre squared, drainage should be inserted).
 - Highways issues: Footpath at bottom of Flore Hill. Highways confirmed that they would not be able to do anything, the Crossroads are owned by Highways England and it is unlikely they would install a footpath across the carriageway. Dropped kerbs – Bricketts Lane: Highways advised that this would be a scheme they could implement. They would assess it in the new year. White line painting: Has been carried out in Spring Lane and Kings Lane.
 - Tree planting on bypass. Confirmation that Kier has started to cut the grass and remove failed vegetation, replacement planting will happen before the end of March (weather permitting).

2012.0 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- 2012.1 Parking Issues Russell Rise: Advisory tickets have been issued re bad parking. If Council wants to take this further ie yellow lines, then we need to get in contact with Highways. Council agreed that they would not particularly like this in the village.
- 2012.2 High Street: Council has previously agreed to 2 further chicanes and the gateway feature on Flore Hill. They would also pursue the HGV amenity weight limit and if match funding available then they previously agreed to have earmarked money for this. In answer to the resident's request for different priorities, Cllr Levell advised that definitely one could be that way, the other could be a possibility or one of the existing chicanes could be changed.
- 2012.3 Consultations
Code of Conduct. Clerk to complete this on behalf of the Council.
One West Northamptonshire Plan. No comments.

Clerk

2013.0 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 2013.1 Finance update. It was reported that as at 31st December the Council had £52,210 in the bank account. No income received. There were no matters arising. Reserves: approx. £24,000. Figures accepted. Cllr Levell asked which budget the bus shelter was paid in, confirmed as CIL income used.
- 2013.2 Internal Control. Cllr Holden had looked through the paperwork, including bank statements, and confirmed all present and correct.

2014.0 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Accumulated invoice for year to date – new contract		
SSE	Street light electricity (Nov) (December payment)	196.92
Agreed at meeting		
Halkett	Salary £769.70/office £17	786.70
HMRC	PAYE	220.34
D Brown	Removal branches closed churchyard/Digging culvert	480.00
S Drinkwater	Repairs to war memorial	144.00
Unity Trust	Bank charges	6.00
Monthly Total		1637.04

2015.0 PLANNING

- 2015.1 WNC/22/00035/MINFUL – land off A45 roundabout (Junc 16) Extraction of sand and gravel – has gone to Appeal – Noted. Upper Heyford Parish Meeting and Nether Heyford Parish Council emailed the Chair just before the meeting, to ask whether Flore would contribute towards a barrister to act on their behalf. A representative would go to the meeting being held on Monday 27th and advise back to Cllrs but unlikely to look to contribute to the estimated £8,000 cost.
- 2015.2 2024/4104/OUT. Land adjacent to 20 The Green, Outline application for the erection of 1 self-build dwelling – has gone to Appeal – Noted
- 2015.3 Appeal for 1 High Street, single dwelling with garaging was dismissed- Noted
- 2015.4 Reserved Matters for Brington Road. This has gone back to Appeal and nothing has been received yet although it if is granted, it is presumed detailed plans will be submitted which should include the 40% affordable housing.

Chair

2016.0 REPORTS FROM VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

- 2016.1 Brodie Lodge. All well
- 2016.2 Millennium Hall. Nothing to report
- 2016.3 Commonwealth Flags and Disaster Relief Fund: Nothing to report
- 2016.4 Charities: Next meeting May.

2017.0 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- a. WNC Highways update. 2011
- b. WNC Tree planting on bypass. 2011
- c. Resident Parking issues Russell Rise. 2012.2
- d. NCALC Code of conduct consultation. 2012.4
- e. WNC Appeals x 3. 2015 1/2/3

NCALC Updates and Training
WNC Town & Parish Briefing
WNC Media Updates
WNC weekly planning register
ACRE newsletter

2018.0 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AFTER AGENDA PUBLISHED

Keir confirmation of bypass work. Noted
Information and photos of flooding at John Campbell Close. Noted
Email to Chair about meeting re sand and gravel application. Noted

Date of next meetings: 11th February, 11th March, 8th April. 13th May, 10th June, 8th July,
9 September, 14th October, 11th November

Items for inclusion on next meeting's agenda.

Flood Warden and High Street work updates
Climate Group (only if something to report)
Handrail extension on Ram Bank - February if anything received
Field behind layby enforcement update
Solar Farm update
Removal of tree in closed churchyard

The meeting closed at 2020 hrs

Chair 21st January 2025