



NORTHCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Usha Kilich

Northchurch Parish Council

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## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTHCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL**

**17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.00 pm at Social Centre, Bell Lane, Northchurch, HP4 3 RD**

### **Members Present:**

Cllr M Somervail      Vice Chair  
Cllr N Pocock  
Cllr C Syers

### **ALSO PRESENT:**

County Cllr T Douris  
Parish Clerk Mrs U Kilich  
Members of the public: There were five members of the public.

### **95/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for absence

Resolved, proposed by Cllr Somervail, seconded by Cllr Pocock to accept the apologies of absence from Cllr Capozzi, Cllr Dix, Cllr Pringle, and Cllr Hughes. Unanimously agreed.

### **96/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest to record.

### **97/24 Public Participation is allowed 15 minutes**

- a. A member inquired whether any Councillors were aware of activities occurring near the Bulbourne River. As no members had prior knowledge of such activities, the Clerk will conduct an investigation.
- b. A member inquired whether Croudace Homes had made arrangements to meet with NPC. Cllr. Somervail reported that they have been invited to attend the planning meeting on 10th March 2025; however, their confirmation is still pending.

### **98/24 MINUTES**

- a. To approve the minutes of the meeting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024 Full Council, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025, and EOM from 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025.  
Resolved, proposed by Cllr Somervail, seconded by Cllr Syers to accept the full council minutes of the meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024, full council minutes of the meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025, and EOM minutes of the meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> January. Unanimously agreed.
- b. Matters arising from the previous meeting(s) that are not included as an agenda item below.

Nothing to report.

#### **99/24 REPORT FROM BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Councillor Douris in his capacity as a County Councillor provided the following updates:

- a. Agenda Item 100/24c – Dangerous Parking on New Road: Cllr. Douris conducted a site visit to New Road and observed no apparent issues related to dangerous parking.
- b. Agenda item 100/24g Local Government Reform: As of February 2025, Hertfordshire County Council, along with the ten district and borough councils, is actively engaged in discussions regarding the government's proposed local government reforms. The White Paper on English devolution proposes replacing the current two-tier system of county and district councils with single-tier unitary authorities, each serving a minimum of 500,000 residents.  
The initial proposal is due by 21 March 2025, with the full proposal submission deadline set for 28 November 2025. Additionally, the proposed reforms advocate for mayoral leadership in areas with a minimum population of 1.5M residents.
- c. The double yellow lines outside Tesco are scheduled for refreshing, and the disabled bays have yet to be remarked. Line marking work requires good weather and is expected to take place between April and May.
- d. The installation of double yellow lines at the junction of Mandelyns will be considered in the 2025/26 budget.

#### **100/24 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- a. Hemel Hempstead - Fraud & Cyber awareness talks, more details [click here](#)
- b. Croudace Homes pre app meeting arranged for 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025 from 7.15 pm
- c. Dangerous Parking on New Road (email to Cllr Douris)
- d. Cllr Capozzi proposes to discuss the wooden bollard outside Tesco's and the steps to take. This has been reported to HCC fault reporting.
- e. Dacorum Environmental Forum Minutes and Agenda. Please [click here](#) for more information.
- f. Public Consultation on the Dacorum Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) - Deadline 23 March 2025. Please [click here](#) for more information.
- g. Dacorum Borough Council Leader Statement on Local Government Reform (Council Members only).
- h. Upper Bulbourne Report January 2025.
- i. Northchurch Social Centre Newsletter: an invitation for NPC to update parishioners on latest developments around the village. The Clerk will submit a report.

#### **101/24 CLERKS REPORT**

- a. DBC weekly Newsletter (Councillors only)

#### **102/24 ROAD SAFETY**

Nothing to report.

#### **103/24 OPEN SPACE**

- a. Cllr Somervail proposes to approve up to £400 for mole treatment at the recreational ground.  
Resolved, proposed by Cllr Somervail, seconded by Cllr Pocock to approve £400 for the treatment of mole on recreational ground. Unanimously agreed.

#### **104/24 ALLOTMENT**

Nothing to report.

#### **105/24 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES**

- a. Cllr Somervail proposes to accept the YTD Summary for January 2025  
Resolved, proposed by Cllr Somervail, seconded by Cllr Syers to approve the YTD Summary for 2025. Unanimously agreed.
- b. Cllr Somervail proposes to accept the bank reconciliation and payments summary for January 2025  
Resolved proposed by Cllr Somervail, seconded by Cllr Pocock to approve the bank reconciliation and payments summary for January 2025. Unanimously agreed.
- c. Cllr Somervail proposes to add Cllr Dix and Cllr Hughes on the Unity Trust Bank mandate  
Resolved, proposed by Cllr Somervail, seconded by Cllr Syers to add Cllr Dix and Cllr Hughes on the Unity Trust bank mandate. Unanimously agreed.
- d. Cllr Somervail proposes to approve up to £1000 to order and install dog waste bin around the parish  
Resolved, proposed by Cllr Somervail, seconded by Cllr Pocock to approve £1000 for the purchase and installation of two dog waste bins. Unanimously agreed.
- e. Cllr Somervail proposes to approve up to £12k for the Senior Seating path area.  
Resolved, proposed by Cllr Somervail, seconded by Cllr Pocock to approve up to £12k for the Senior Seating area within the recreational ground. Unanimously agreed.
- f. Cllr Somervail proposes to approve up to £520 to chair cover on the cable wire.  
(includes installation).  
Resolved, proposed by Cllr Somervail, seconded by Cllr Syers to approve up to £520 for the chair cover and installation. Unanimously agreed.
- g. Cllr Somervail proposes to appoint Audit Solutions for internal audit 2024/25  
Resolved, proposed by Cllr Somervail, seconded by Cllr Pocock to appoint Audit Solutions to carry out the Internal Audit for 2024/25. Unanimously agreed.

**106/24 Exclusion of Press and Public: To Resolve** that under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 the public and press excluded for the remainder of the meeting, because it is likely that publicity would prejudice the public interest because of the confidential business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution, arising from the nature of the business proceedings.

Nothing to report.

#### **107/24 Future Agenda Items**

- a. To approve works maintenance with SRT
- b. To approve the lease agreement with SRT
- c. To approve the opening and closing time for the recreational ground.
- d. To approve the EMR

#### **108/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on 21 April 2025 at 7.00 pm Social Centre Bell Lane Northchurch HP4 3 RD

The meeting concluded at 19.30.