



NORTHCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Usha Kilich

Northchurch Parish Council

PO Box 2603

Kings Langley

WD4 4EJ

Tel.07543493002

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTHCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

2nd December 2024 at 7.00 pm at Social Centre, Bell Lane, Northchurch, HP4 3 RD

Members Present:

Cllr M Capozzi Chair
Cllr M Somervail Vice Chair
Cllr N Pocock
Cllr P Dix
Cllr C Syers
Cllr L Pringle Arrived at 7.05 pm
Cllr S Hughes

ALSO PRESENT:

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

66/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence
There were no apologies for absence to record.

67/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To declare an interest linked to any item on the agenda
No declaration of interest to report.

68/24 Public Participation is allowed 15 minutes

A member of the public raised the following questions:

- The pathway near the benches at the recreation ground has not received adequate maintenance since its opening. Cllr Capozzi informed members that, while there are currently no plans for immediate action, this project is earmarked for future consideration with an appropriate budget. It was noted that the matter requires special attention as it falls outside the remit of SRT.
- Antisocial behaviour exhibited by footballers using the recreation ground is unacceptable. Cllr Syers Antisocial behaviour exhibited by footballers using the

recreation ground is unacceptable. Cllr Syers acknowledged the concern and noted that this issue has not been with the football club before.

- The planting area does not meet the same high standards as the landscaping outside the shops. It was agreed to propose this matter to the allotment holders to determine if they would be willing to maintain the area. The Clerk has been tasked with coordinating with the allotment holders to explore this possibility.

69/24 MINUTES

- a. To approve the minutes of the meeting of the 11th November 2024 Full Council Meeting and the EOM Minutes of 6th November 2024.
Resolved, proposed by Cllr Capozzi, seconded by Cllr Somervail that these Minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.
- b. Matters arising from previous meetings that are not included as agenda items below
Nothing to report

70/24 REPORT FROM BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS

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

- Bell Lane has been resurfaced

Councillor Pringle in her capacity as a Borough Councillor provided the following updates:

- The Reg 19 consultation on the Draft local plan remains open until 17 December.
- The local plan differs significantly from the Reg 18 consultation which met with relative approval during the public consultation.
- The main difference is the inclusion of the Marsh Croft Development in Tring. There is also planned development on sites along Shootersway.
- The residents of Northchurch will be affected by the loss of green space in Tring which will impact the rural surroundings. Cllr Pringle spoke and voted against this. It should be noted that Borough Councillors from Aldbury Wigginton and Tring Central were informed that they could not speak or vote on the adoption of the Local Plan, this ruling was questioned. A response as to the reasoning behind this and the legal basis for it is awaited from the DBC monitoring officer.
- There is a consultation on the Draft Interim Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). You can have your say any time between now and midnight on Monday 6 January 2025.
- Bell Lane resurfacing has recently been completed. Cllr Pringle raised the quality of the road surface as part of the LCWIP consultation which was a joint consultation between Borough and County, as it was dangerous for cyclists and walkers.
- There was some damage to the wall on Bell Lane but it is not known how this was caused.

71/24 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a. Dacorums Reg 19 Local Plan Consultation [click here](#)
- b. Consultation on making Station Road one-way and Chapel Street 'no entry' from Castle Street [click here](#)
- c. New Consultation on the Dacorum DRAFT Interim Affordable Housing SPD

- d. Green Community Grant Application (Councils only)
- e. Dacorum's Draft Interim Affordable Housing SPD Consultation Launch [click here](#)
- f. Dacorum Borough Council sets out its plan for the future [click here](#)

72/24 CLERKS REPORT

- a. DBC weekly Newsletter (Councillors only)

73/24 ROAD SAFETY

- a. Mirror on New Road – Councillors Capozzi and Douris will coordinate to determine the next steps to have a mirror installed on New Road.

74/24 OPEN SPACE

- a. Discuss the option of installing an NPC dog waste bin where the DBC bin was – It was unanimously agreed that NPC will replace the removed dog waste bin. The total approved cost for purchase and installation will not exceed £1,500, with all members in favour.
- b. Discuss the option of a bin at Herons Elm – It was agreed that SRT will monitor the area to assess the volume of waste being left behind and consider the possibility of relocating bins to better accommodate the rubbish.
- c. Cllr Dix to update on the land at Park Rise and the Green Community Grant – The Clerk, Cllr Dix and Cllr Pringle will coordinate to complete the relevant form to submit to Dacorum Borough Council.
- d. Cllr Capozzi to update on the playground upgrade works – soft opening on 5th December 2024 with the nursery and Proludic.

75/24 ALLOTMENT

- a. Cllr Capozzi to report on the Upper Site – Cllr Capozzi reported that, following a recent visit to the upper allotment site, she was pleased to note that the allotment is well maintained. Northchurch Parish Council extends its appreciation to those responsible for their hard work and dedication in ensuring the site remains neat.

76/24 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES

- a. Cllr Capozzi proposes to accept the YTD Summary for November 2024/25
Resolved proposed by Cllr Capozzi, seconded by Cllr Pocock to approve the YTD Summary report for November 2024. Unanimously agreed.
- b. Cllr Capozzi proposes to update on Budget 2025/26
Cllr Capozzi informed members that the Budget Report for 2025/26 will be finalised in January 2025, following a review by Cllr Somervail. Additionally, Dacorum Borough Council has announced a freeze on the Concurrent and Warden Services budgets for 2025/26.
- c. Cllr Capozzi proposes discussing Financial Regulations
it was unanimously agreed that, as the Financial Regulations had not been circulated to all members, it would be appropriate to defer this item until January 2025.
- d. Cllr Capozzi proposes to update the small grants and donation application process from 2025/26
Resolved, proposed by Cllr Capozzi, seconded by Cllr Dix to review and update the Grants and Donation policy to include a specific application closing date, which will be essential for setting a future budget.
- e. Cllr Capozzi proposes to discuss and agree on the grant application for NAA

Resolved, proposed by Cllr Capozzi, seconded by Cllr Somervail to award NAA a sum of £950 (of the application value), contingent upon NAA successfully raising the necessary funds. Unanimously agreed.

- f. Cllr Capozzi proposes to discuss and agree on the grant application from Northchurch St Marys School Association.
Resolved proposed by Cllr Capozzi, seconded by Cllr Pringle to award Northchurch St Marys School Association the sum of £1590. Unanimously agreed.

77/24 Northchurch Parish Council does not qualify to exercise the General Power of Competence as it does not have a sufficient number of elected councillors.

78/24 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.

79/24 Future Agenda Items

- a. To review SRT Lease
- b. To review SRT schedule contract
- c. 2025/26 Budget
- d. 2025/26 Precept
- e. To review and adopt Financial Regulation
- f. To add Cllr Hughes and Cllr Dix to the bank mandate
- g. Finalise Grants and Donations policy with closing date

80/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 6th January 2025 at 7.00 pm Social Centre Bell Lane Northchurch HP4 3 RD

The meeting concluded at 20.12