

## LITCHBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting at 7 pm in the Village Hall

TUESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024

1. **Councillors present - Chairman Cllr Sykes, Cllrs Aked-Walker, Drinkwater, Lowery, Brunning, Robinson, Lugar – Mawson, Cllr Manners, WNS**
2. **Apologies – none**
3. **Members of the public present - none**
4. **Public Forum** : Members of the public can raise any issue with prior notice to the Clerk – Cllr Manners gave his report:
  - WNS budget is out for consultation at present
  - Grey Friars site in Northampton consultation also on going
  - Market to open in 2025
  - DHL Planning application at Towcester is on going – see planning item on agenda
  - Local Plan 2025- 2039 is under discussion
5. **Declarations of Interest** – to receive any on agenda items – Cllrs Lugar-Mawson, Aked – Walker, Robinson and Lowery declared an interest in the budget where the St Martin's Fabric Fund was discussed.
6. **Minutes**: the minutes of the meetings held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 were confirmed and signed.
7. **Ongoing Issues**: To report progress on, and to decide on any appropriate action on the following items:
  - **Defibrillator** – update (Cllr Aked -Walker) – nothing to report
  - **Website** - (Cllr Brunning) - Clerk has received assistance in updating website who may receive further instruction.
  - **Footpaths and ROW** - (Cllrs Bruning and Drinkwater) – nothing to report
  - **Snow and Tree Warden** – ( Cllr Robinson) – nothing to report
  - **Youth Club** – (Cllr Aked-Walker) – nothing to report
8. **Council to consider request for assistance in running of Boxing Classes** by resident of the village.

The PC supported this in principle but needs more information. It was agreed that the **Clerk** invite the resident to the next meeting so that the Parish Council can decide if and how it can help.

Payee	Net	VAT	Total £	Chq No
1PCS –hosting of domain name & email November	20.00	4.00	24.00	DD
1PCS –hosting of domain name & email December	20.00	4.00	24.00	DD
V Hartley – Salary for Dec + Jan (+back pay - £96.00)	608.64		608.64	039
N Power Oct – Dec	297.92	14.90	312.82	040
D Aked -Walker – refund for Xmas tree	120.00		120.00	041

Signed-----

Date-----

9. The following payments above: (total of £1089.46) were agreed:

**10. Council to consider Annual Grant requests from village organisations:**

St Martins's Fabric Trust - £1200.00 – this is now not required- see budget discussion below

Gardening Club is not applying at this time

**11. To approve budget and set precept for year ending 31.3.25. Clerk and Cllr Robinson previously circulated draft budget.**

This was discussed. Cllr Robinson explained:

Under the Infrastructure heading Ground Maintenance Services totals £3221. This is divided - £1,728 for Churchyard Maintenance (consequently the Community Grant for the Church Fabric Trust has been reduced to £0) and £1,493.00 for Playing Field Maintenance (consequently the Community Grant for the Playing Field has been reduced by £1,493 from the agreed £3,000 to £1,507). The Playing Field will get the £3000 allocation, agreed at the September 2023 meeting - £1,493 will be VAT recoverable and paid by the PC, £1,507 will be given as a cheque to the Playing Field as usual. The PC agreed that the Churchyard is an asset to the village and should be maintained in part by the Parish Council.

**The Council agreed a figure of £12000. The Council then resolved to apply for a precept of £12000 to cover the budget.**

**Financial matters to note:**

**Bank balance at 31.12.23 – £22192.50, Bank balance at 16.1.24 - £21148.04**

**12. Internal Control Review – report from Cllr Lowery – Accounts are in order**

**13. - Planning Applications and updates – See items for consultation: WNS/2021/1819/EIA at Land North Of The Bell Plantation Watling Street Towcester.**

[https://wnc.planning-](https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display/WNS/2021/1819/EIA?cuuid=0C51DD1D-71EC-42C9-9EDF-AC84DC59859E)

[register.co.uk/Planning/Display/WNS/2021/1819/EIA?cuuid=0C51DD1D-71EC-42C9-9EDF-AC84DC59859E](https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display/WNS/2021/1819/EIA?cuuid=0C51DD1D-71EC-42C9-9EDF-AC84DC59859E) - It was agreed that **Cllr Robinson**

would again draft a response objecting to the application for **Clerk** to submit.

[WNS/2023/7509/FULL at Barnstones Farmhouse Grimscote Road Litchborough NN12 8JJ](#) – **Clerk** to submit no objections from Parish Council.

**14. Council noted correspondence where necessary.** Various updates circulated.

**15. Other matters for report only:** To discuss issues arising too late for the agenda. No decisions can be taken - none

**16. Items for the next Parish Council agenda**

- Discussion on the Boxing initiative

**17. Date next Full Council meeting Tuesday March 19<sup>th</sup> 2024 7.00pm.**