

LITCHBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

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

TUESDAY 16th 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 21st 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 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 budget 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 19th 2024 7.00pm.