



Chairman: John Hunt

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## Minutes of the Meeting of Spratton Parish Council

held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018 in Spratton Village Hall, Spratton at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Cllrs John Hunt (Chair), Jay Tindale (Vice Chair), Lydia Crawford, Colin Donnelly Paul Vellam, Barry Ward and Sally Wilkes.

**In attendance:** Emma Gibson, Clerk, and 5 members of the public.

**Apologies:** None.

**145.18 PUBLIC FORUM:** Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council at its Open Forum. 15 minutes. Speakers have up to 3 minutes each.

- The light on Willow Close is still not working.
- Littering in the village – public queried whether extra litter bins on Welford Road and Holdenby Road could help with littering in the village. Noted that this issue is referred to later in the agenda.
- A pending planning application DA/2018/0799 was brought to the Council's attention applicants gave Councillors an opportunity to ask any questions. Council confirmed this would be discussed at the next planning meeting to be held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

**146.18 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE-** No apologies received – however Cllr Louise Smith resigned prior to the meeting. Council accepted the resignation, thanked former Cllr Smith for all her work whilst on the Council and wished her the best for the future.

**147.18 RESOLUTION TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUES 18<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018.** Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

**148.18 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (if any) – For Information only.**

Cllr Wilkes raise the issue of inappropriate behaviour at meetings. At the previous meeting Cllr Wilkes stated that she was unhappy with some Cllr's behaviour. Cllr Wilkes proposed that in future incidents of unacceptable behaviour should be formerly minuted and warning given to individual's about their behaviour minuted. At **19.40 Cllr Vellam left the meeting stating that he resigned.** Cllr Wilkes went on to describe that she had felt during the last meeting tables being banged with fists and the aggressive tone of voice used was unacceptable. Council agreed. Cllr Hunt concurred that he had felt such behaviour brings the Council into disrepute. The Council expressed their regret at Cllr Vellam's resignation, extended their thanks to him for all his work whilst on the Council and wished him well.

**149.18 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATION REQUESTS FOR RELEVANT ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: To receive**

1. **Non-pecuniary** – Cllr Hunt declared an interest in item 156.18 (b), as he was previously a trustee on the Town and Land Charity until last year.
2. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** – None.

**150.18 GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE (GPOC):** The GPOC gives councils the power to do anything that individuals generally may do, as long as it does not break the law. In order to use this power certain eligibility criteria and conditions apply. The eligibility conditions are set out in The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012. To become eligible a council must:

- 1) Resolve at a full council meeting that it meets the criteria for eligibility, and a further resolution must be passed at every subsequent annual meeting.
- 2) At the time that the resolution is passed at least two thirds of the Council must hold office as a result of being declared elected.
- 3) At the time of the resolution being passed the Clerk must hold a relevant qualification, such as the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CILCA).

**Due to resignation of two Councillors since the agenda was published Spratton Parish Council no longer fulfils the criteria and the General Power of Competence was therefore not adopted.**

**151.18 RESOURCES (STAFFING AND STRATEGY) COMMITTEE**

- a) **Income received -**  
DDC Precept second payment - £20,500.00
- b) **Payment of outstanding invoices.** Parish Council resolution to approve those listed plus additional received between 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018 (if any)

DATE	PAYEE	DETAILS	CHQ NO.	AMOUNT EX vat	VAT	TOTAL CHQ AMOUNT
16/10/18	PKF Littlejohn	External audit	3277	£200.00	£40.00	£240.00
08/10/18	O2	Office phone	Direct debit	£31.20	£6.24	£37.44
16/10/18	Merland copy and print	Newsletter printing	3278	£389.40	£0.88	£390.28
08/10/18	Came and Co	Annual insurance renewal	Bank transfer			£798.42
16/10/18	R & G	September mowing	3281	£854.52	£170.90	£1025.42
16/10/18	J Hunt	Newsletter delivery	3279			£30.00
16/10/18	E.ON	October streetlighting	3280	£171.82	£34.32	£205.94
16/10/18	Information Commissioner	Data Protection Fee	3282			£40.00
16/10/18	PCC for Northamptonshire	PCSO Sept-Oct 2018	3283			£625.78
16/10/18	J Pye	September greenworks	3284			£523.00
25/10/18	E Gibson	Oct Salary	Bank transfer			£752.56
25/10/18	NEST	Pension contributions	DD			£34.36
16/10/18	Peacocks	Streetlighting repairs	3285	£230.79	£46.16	£276.95
16/10/18	Peacocks	Streetlighting repairs	3286	£48.10	£9.62	£57.72
16/10/18	PCC for Northamptonshire	PCSO Oct-March 18/19	3287			£3,754.68

- c) **Bank balances, Bank Reconciliations and Receipts and Payments report to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018:** Parish Council **RESOLVED** to approve.
- d) **Insurance renewal:** Up-date to council. RFO informed Council insurance renewal was in place, after considering three quotes. The decision had been taken to renew for three years to benefit from the discount available.
- e) **Resources meeting:** Date arranged for a Resources meeting to complete budget review and Precept planning for 2019/20, date agreed as Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 7.30pm. Venue to be confirmed.

**152.18 PLANNING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- a) **Planning Applications to consider and make resolution - None**


- b) **Planning application decisions to report (if any)- None.**
- c) **Planning appeals for information: None.**
- d) **Future Development and planning in Spratton:** Council to consider the future of development and housing, in particular social housing within Spratton. Council discussed that DDC had previously completed two surveys to assess the need for social housing within the village. DDC had identified approximately nine units as being required. The Council referred to the Neighbourhood Plan's

reference to and consideration of affordable housing, and the protection the Neighbourhood Plan gives the village concerning development. The Council acknowledged that when the new Council authority is established the Parish Council will need to be alert to the possibility of new developments in the locality.

#### **153.18 CHURCHYARD CEMETERIES AND OPEN SPACES (CCOS) ADVISORY GROUP**

- a) **Village Handyman:** Additional work (if any) –
  - 1) Reported that wooden fence leading to churchyard is unsafe as rails and picket rails are broken. Council discussed and **RESOLVED** that a quote for repair should be obtained from the village handyman. It has also been raised by the public the need for a handrail at the churchyard at the Brixworth Road, east entrance, a quote for this to also be obtained from the handyman. The PCC are aware of this work to install a handrail and would be financing it.
- b) **East View Cemetery Issues** (if any) to discuss and make resolution. None.
- c) **Mowing/Maintenance Issues (if any) –**
  - 1) **Ash tree at the Pound** – Council feel that the responsibility for this lay with NCC from the records that the Council holds. Clerk to report to NCC.

#### **154.18 NATURAL SPRATTON (including Spratton Pocket Park Advisory Group)**

Parish Council to receive and consider update reports and Advisory Group recommendations in respect of the following: -

- a) **Jubilee Wood** – Up-date received. Some work needs to be arranged on the wood to attend to the smaller saplings.
- b) **Spratton Pocket Park** – Up-date received. The Wildlife Trust Churchyard Conservation Award Scheme is having its annual presentation in Spratton. The presentation will be taking place at Café Doris, St Andrews Church, Spratton on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018 at 9.30am.

#### **155.18 HIGHWAYS ADVISORY GROUP (including Street Lighting Advisory Group and Northampton Northern Orbital Consultation Sub-Committee)**

- a) **Streetlighting:** Up-date regarding repairs that have been reported. Council noted that there appears to always be problems with the lighting and repairs, and it must be insured that the contractors are always chased.
- b) **Buses:** Cllr Hunt up-dated the Council on the current situation regarding the buses. It is still an ongoing process finding the solution.
- c) **Grit Bins:** Up-date, Clerk has informed NCC that the Council are willing to take ownership of the grit bin on Smith Street. Clerk is awaiting paperwork from NCC. This is to become a standing agenda item whilst issues of filling the bin and health and safety are resolved.
- d) **Spratton Sands Bridge repairs:** Work now completed.
- e) **Speeding Brixworth Road:** Council discussed the speeding on Brixworth road, Cllr asked what the current situation with the village speed sign. Clerk to make enquiries. Cllr Wilkes advised Council she had been making enquiries into new speed signs for the village that show the driver the actual speed they are doing. To get such a sign would be in the region of £2,408 plus VAT for a mobile sign. Council agreed that Cllr Wilkes should continue to gain quotes for a new sign and CIL money could be used for such a purpose. Cllr Crawford suggested that a traffic survey was needed to properly assess where the sign would be needed to ensure fair distribution of the sign throughout the village. Cllr Crawford will get more information on arranging a traffic survey.

#### **156.18 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ADVISORY GROUP:** Parish Council to receive and consider any updated reports and Advisory Group recommendations.

- a) **Youth Club-** A quote of £150 has been received from Gemma Johnstone-Smith from Clubs for Young People Northampton (CYPN) to carry out a survey of the young people in the area. This survey is to ascertain the need and type of a youth club going forward in Spratton. CYPN have contacted Brixworth to try to share the survey with them as the young people will be attending the same Secondary School for example. If shared this will then reduce the cost of the survey for Spratton. Council considered and **RESOLVED** to undertake the survey.
- b) **Town and land charity (T&LC)-** Clerk has contacted NCALC for advice regarding the concerns raised about the management of the T&LC, and the Council's responsibilities and powers in relation to this. The Clerk was strongly advised that the Parish Council should not take any further action as this could be deemed as interfering with the Charity Commission's investigation. NCALC confirmed that if concerns had been reported to the Charity Commission the Council will have fulfilled any obligations. Clerk also asked for advice regarding individual members of the Council acting as individuals (such as leafleting or arranging meeting etc) NCALC again advised against this. NCALC advised it would be difficult to show that a Cllr was acting as an individual outside of the Parish Council. No further update regarding this. Clerk to ask former Cllr Smith for any up-date she may have, and the Charity Commission and T&LC will be contacted for up-dates.
- c) **PCSO** – Cllr discussed any priorities for the PCSO that can be passed on to the SPOC Mr Peter Hunt. Council discussed Mr Hunt's role as SPOC and the responsibilities and decisions he can make on behalf of the Council and village. Council **RESOLVED** that Mr Hunt best placed to fulfil this role and he should be given the power to liaise with the PCSO, have access to his diary and attend meetings. Council **RESOLVED** that CIL money currently held by the Council will be used to settle the current PCSO invoices.
- d) **SPECIAL MOTION in accordance with SPC standing orders s7 and 9 a, adopted on May 2018.** The following Special Motion has been proposed by Councillors Wilkes and Donnelly. Spratton Parish Council should reconsider their decision regarding the location of the Memorial Bench

Commemorating 100 years since the end of the First World War. Council to consider this motion and make a resolution regarding this decision. **This motion was no longer needed by the time of the meeting, motion withdrawn. The bench is now being sited within the Churchyard and the PCC have given permission for this.**

- e) **SUBJECT TO A RESOLUTION BEING MADE UNDER ITEM 155.18 e** – Council to reconsider the previous decision regarding the location of the Memorial Bench Commemorating 100 years since the end of the First World War and make a resolution as necessary. **As above, agenda item no longer necessary.**
- f) **Phone-box** : Up-date the application make to Tesco’s for funding for the telephone box restoration has been shortlisted for the store vote. So, it is hoped that at least £1000.00 will be secured for the project. The outcome will be known in January 2019. Council therefore agreed to hold the restoration until the outcome of the vote is known as the money must be spent on the project and cannot be spent retrospectively.
- g) **Litter**: Litter around the village. Councillors discussed and **RESOLVED** to write to Broomhill to request a meeting to engage better with the staff and residents. Arrange the date for the annual litter-pick and make this a bi-annual event.

**157.18 CONSULTATIONS REQUIRING A RESPONSE:**

- a) **Proposed relocation of Daventry Library** – It is proposed to relocate the current library to the Abbey Advice and Resource Centre (The Abbey Centre). Daventry Library currently occupies a former school building in the town centre which is owned by Daventry District Council (DDC). The current site is in a poor condition and is no longer an ideal venue for Library Services. DDC would like to develop the site, which has led to the need for NCC to look for alternative premises for the library. DDC has offered NCC the use of most of the ground floor of the Abbey Centre which is less than half a mile away from the current library building. The Abbey Centre is a purpose-built facility which is shared by voluntary sector partners who provide services that could be complimented by the services offered in the library. Although the floor space at the Abbey Centre is slightly smaller than the current site the layout will be planned by a professional library designer to maximise usage of the space. DDC believe the relocation to the Abbey Centre will be beneficial and will be better than the current location. The public library area will be in one open, brighter space which will be more easily accessed. DDC have offered to pay for the refit and refurbishment of the propose new library space within the Abbey Centre. Moving to an alternative location would mean that NCC would have to fund any refit or refurbishment to make it fit for purpose to be used as a library. Views on this consultation can be given via Northamptonshire County Council’s website or by their online questionnaire. Closing date at **p.m. on 11 November 2018**. Council considered and had no objections and did not want to make any comments.
- b) **Community Governance Review** - Daventry District Council is carrying out a Community Governance Review. This is the process that allows the Council to make changes to parishes, such as boundaries and the numbers of Parish Councilors. The Council has invited Daventry Town Council, together with parish councils in the Daventry District, to submit proposals for change and people living in the parishes concerned are now invited to comment on those proposals during a nine-week public consultation. Closing date **16 November 2018**. Council discussed and **RESOLVED** that they wanted to boundary to remain as is. The current boundary follows the river and field ownership. Clerk to respond to the consultation.

**158.18 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR DISCUSSION AND TO AGREE ACTION (IF ANY) (previously circulated)-**  
None.

**159.18 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED-** None.

**160.18 URGENT MATTERS FOR REPORT ONLY (Notified to the Chairman before the meeting)-**  
**Settlements and Countryside Local Plan Part 2 consultation** – Concerns regarding this consultation and the removal of the special landscape area. Concerns raised that this could be to make way for future development of the area. Cllr Hunt to make further enquiries into this.

**161.18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018, 7.30 pm**, Spratton Village Hall, School Road, Spratton.

MEETING CLOSED 9.30PM.

Signed.....  
John Hunt, Chair to Spratton Parish Council

Date:

**2018/19 ORDINARY MEETINGS**

November	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	March	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
December (T.B.C)	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	April	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2019
January	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	May	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2019
February	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2019		(Annual Meeting of Parish Council)

**Annual Parish Meeting** (NOT a Parish Council meeting): T.B.C

