**HANNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 7 JULY 2025 AT 7.15PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL, SCHOOL LANE, HANNINGTON

1. **Attendance and Acceptance of Apologies. Approval of Reasons for Absence.**

Present: Chairman J Middleton, Vice Chairman L Wood, Councillor D Basford.

Apologies: Councillors N Jenks, C Middleton & I Wilson. The Parish Council approved the reasons for absence.

In Attendance: the Clerk, WNC C Irving-Swift and 1 member of the public (Mr G Martin).

The meeting started at 7.35pm due to the Vice Chairman running late from work.

1. **Parish Councillor – to sign/complete:**

**Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form and for any not received, determine when they shall be received.**

**Undertaking of Compliance with the Code of Conduct for Members**

**Electronic Service of Summons Consent Form**

**GDPR Security Compliance Checklist**

**Registrable Interests Form.**

As mentioned at the previous meeting Councillor D Basford had completed all his paperwork and the Clerk had submitted the Registrable Interests Form to WNC.

1. **Dispensations received and granted.**

There were no dispensations received and granted.

1. **Members Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda.**

There were no Members Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda.

1. **Public Forum - 15 minutes - with a maximum of 5 minutes per question.**

There were no requests to speak.

1. **West Northants Councillor.**

The Chairman welcomed WNC C Irving-Swift to the meeting. She is here to serve for the next four years, working together with the parishes she represents, hoping to visit 2-3 times a year, plus for a specific issue that has arisen and is always at the end of an email if required. She will be producing a quarterly letter keeping everyone up to date and highlighting positive actions being taken. She is a great advocate of Neighbourhood Plans, especially in light of the Central Government’s directive to delivery more housing. A Neighbourhood Plan – needs the whole village to participate and can, for example identify areas for housing growth. Unfortunately, the grants available for this have now been withdrawn but she did mention using CIL monies, however this would need to be checkout first. She is also in the Shadow Cabinet, responsible for Finance. The Reform party are currently delivering the agenda set by the previous Conservative administration – their only change being the protocol on which flags could be flown – down to 4.

Any issues arising – if the Clerk can email her 1-2 weeks prior to the meeting and in addition to copy her in on emails.

Councillor D Basford expressed his frustration at being ignored by Highways and the Planning Department – Highways for just approving any application stating they have no issues and don’t think there is a problem with the A43/Red House Lane junction and the time taken to receive answers from planning – a FOI on what was happening to the fulfilment of the conditions on WND/2022/1066 had still not been received after the 20 working day period – nor a follow up email, to then be informed that because this came under another Act they therefore did not need to supply the information. Councillor D Basford is now in a dialogue with Mr A Kite – Enforcement & Monitoring Officer.

WNC C Irving-Swift noted that following the change to the Unitary Authority planning has been a “nightmare” trying to bring together different systems. In addition, there are insufficient qualified people to deal with planning and the Reform Candidates require training.

The Clerk will update the WN Councillor following the meeting with Highways on 8 July.

WNC C Irving-Swift left the meeting and was thanked for her attendance.

1. **Approve and Sign Minutes of the Meeting dated 2 June 2025.**

The minutes for the meeting having previously been circulated were proposed by Vice Chair L Wood and seconded by the Chair and signed by the Chairman.

1. **To review action taken on matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting (for information only).**

The Chair to contact the Trees Surgeons and speak to Mr L Austin will be discussed under item 3223.

The new posts will be discussed under item 3223.

The Clerk’s new email address to be discussed under item 3232.

The Clerk had sent the completed Grass Mowing 2025 form to Kier.

1. **Correspondence:**
   * + - 1. **None.**
2. **Review of Parish Assets:** 
   * + - 1. **Pocket Park** – OK. The Chair to chase the tree surgeons again.
         2. **Allotments - to include update on purchase of posts –** the Chair to speak to Mr L Austin.
         3. **Bus Shelter/BT kiosk** – OK. Mr G Martin had cleared the ivy/bushes around the bus shelter and before the next meeting was intending to remove the moss from the roof & then ascertain its’ condition. Councillor D Basford offered to assist.
         4. **Mallards Wood – to include update on purchase of post** -OK. However, Councillor D Basford noted that several of the posts/rails were rotten in addition to the gate post. It was agreed to inspect on the village walkabout.

The installation of the posts remains outstanding.

1. **Report from Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.**

There had been nothing locally reported nor on the village WhatsApp Group.

1. **Arrangements for the “August village Walkabout”.**

The Councillors will walk around the village prior to 1 September and provide un update of any problems – the exception being the several “blocked” drains in the village as the response from “FixMyStreet” – they will only attend if the road floods, otherwise they will have to wait for the “annual inspection”.

1. **Parish Council casual vacancy – to be filled by co-option.**

There was currently one vacancy on the Parish Council which is being advertised in Hannington Life.

1. **Green Hill Solar Project update (IW).**

In the absence of Councillor I Wilson, this was deferred to the next meeting. Notification had been received from Green Hill that the Secretary of State had accepted the application on 19 June 2025 – the application is now at the pre-examining stage. It was also noted that the local MP had sent out letters requesting the views of individuals rather that the parishes on this development.

1. **Update on the meeting with H Howard (Highways) – A43/Red House Lane junction.**

This has been arranged for 8 July at 1.30pm – the Chairman, Councillor D Basford and the Clerk to attend.

1. **To ascertain what actions West Northants Council will/are implementing to satisfy the conditions of the Showman’s approved application WND/2022/1066.**

Progressing and in part covered in item 3219.

1. **WNC response issues (DB).**

Progressing and in part covered in item 3219.

1. **Planning Application Update – S119 Diversion Order public bridleway CT8 (part) & 2025/0006/FULL – 2 bedroom dwelling. Updates on other Planning issues – lorry park, Mere Farm Business Park, Ash Tree (TPO) School Lane & re-alignment of footpath CT2 close to Red Lion House, School Lane.**

2025/0006/FULL was approved by WNC on 5 June. It was agreed to remove the lorry park breach from the agenda.

CT2 – both Councillors D Basford & I Wilson had reported on “FixMyStreet” & emailed the Definitive Map team regarding the works being carried out on the fencing – which had been suspended and that the footpath is being diverted without the necessary Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) being in place. Kier had been out, stated that it was still with WNC to resolve any issues and if we were worried about the route to email the Definitive Map team. They were also under the impression no DMMO had been applied for. Councillor D Basford had received a response from the Definitive Map team – they are aware of the issue & awaiting further communication from the planning & enforcement team to establish whether any application for a diversion has been submitted, but that that seems likely not to have happened.

1. **NCALC – switch to gov.uk email address – update.**

The Clerk had signed up to Parish Online “core” package. Hanningtonparishcouncil.gov.uk was not available – there are two other Hannington’s – Hampshire & Wiltshire. In order to help prevent getting emails for the other two, the address of hannington-northants-parishcouncil.gov.uk was chosen from the available options and went live on 30 June.

1. **To agree to instruct E.on to carry out the electrical testing of the streetlights.**

The street lights were last tested in 2019 when they were upgraded to LEDS – this should be carried out every 6 years therefore it was agreed for the Clerk to instruct E.on to carry this out - £27 plus vat per light.

1. **CIL money projects – purchase of new notice board/Pocket Park fencing etc.**

This was deferred until the next meeting due to the latest of the hour.

1. **Finance:** 
   * + - 1. **Approve expenditure items received.**

It was agreed to pay the following invoices:

Lloyds Bank plc – bank charges D/D £5.75

Mrs JP Friell – salary & expenses (Apr – June) Chq 928 £959.87

HMR&C – Apr-June PAYE Chq 929 £219.20

Spanglefish – Web site Gold status Chq 930 £39.95

TJ Whittaker – grass cutting Chq 931 £310.00

The reconciled bank balance was £25,352.82 being General £14,928.91 Allotment deposits & Defibrillator replacement £600.00 and CIL £9,843.91 (£67.02 from 28 Oct 2021 & £9,776.89 from 28 April 2022 monies).

* + - * 1. **Approve income received.**

The Clerk had banked the two allotment cheques totalling £140 and five BACS payments have been received totalling £130.00.

* + - * 1. **Agree to move £200 from the General Fund to the Defibrillator replacement fund.**

It was agreed to transfer the £200.

* + - * 1. **Apr – June 2025 quarterly budget v actual and bank reconciliation at 30 June 2025.**

The Clerk had previously circulated the figures which showed the actual expenditure for the three months to 30 June was £4,012 against a budget of £3,902. The Clerk had also circulated details of the bank reconciliation/statement/payments/receipts, which was signed as accurate by the Vice Chairman and the Clerk.

1. **Hannington Life - items for inclusion in the next edition and any New Residents requiring Welcome Pack.**

Councillor C Middleton had produced a draft copy for July, which was agreed by the Parish Council for publication subject to inclusion of the July Tote winner.

1. **Councillors’ comments for consideration at next meeting.**

There were no Councillors comments for consideration at the next meeting, other than providing any updates following the Village “walkabout”.

1. **Date of next meeting: 1 September 2025.**