

NETLEY MARSH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Netley Marsh Community Hall, on 19 March 2025

Present: Cllr Welbourn, (Chairman), Cllr Cook, Cllr Haysom, Cllr Johnstone, Cllr Merrill, Cllr Shaw and Cllr Smith.

In attendance: Cllr Tipp, one member of the public, the Parish Clerk and the RFO/Clerks Assistant:

203. **Welcome**

Cllr Welbourn welcomed Councillors and Members of the Public to the meeting

204. Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Penman (HCC), Cllr Reilly (NFDC)

205. **Public Participation**, the resident was looking for an update on the flooding issues.

206. **Declaration of Interests**, there were none.

207. **Approval of minutes of 19 February 2025**

The minutes of the ordinary and confidential (paras 201/202) meetings held on 19 February having been circulated were agreed and were signed by the Chairman.

208. **Planning**

208.i Planning and appeal decisions from NFNPA and NFDC were noted.

208.ii There were no planning applications requiring consideration. Tree work notifications were noted. Tree application 25/00302CONS was noted. There were concerns regarding the number of mature trees to be felled, it was agreed to accept the officers decision.

Clerk to notify NFNPA

208.ii Proposed road names for the access roads for developments in the north of the parish were noted. There were no objections.

Clerk to respond re road names to NFDC

209. **County, National Park & District Matters**

209.i Cllr Tipp advised the meeting that Local Government Reform and Devolution matters were a priority for NFDC at this time. A number of Hampshire Councils have prepared an interim report on matters they are agreed on. Work is progressing on matters that require further negotiation. Current timetable is:

Interim plan: 21 March 2025

Final plan: September 2025

HCC elections May 2026

Unitary Authorities elections May 2027

Following the Unitary Authority elections, those elected will shadow HCC Councillors for one year following which HCC will cease to exist.

210. **Matters Arising**

210.i **Ringwood Road** Concerns remain regarding the storm/road drains/soakaways. It is understood that some or all may not have been correctly installed, contributing to the ongoing problems. It is thought that HCC will make temporary improvements but a long term plan is required. The online report was unable to be completed by the rfo and HCC will not accept an enquiry by email. This matter is to be pursued. Where possible if a site can be identified on What 3 Words,, that will be used.

RFO/Clerk to follow up with HCC

211. **Members Report**

211.i **Woodlands Community Hall** Cllr Johnstone reported the Hall Committee request approval to replace failing guttering and fascia boards in white, agreed. The Ladies toilet light switch has been repaired. The no overnight parking sign should be treated as a priority. Cllr Johnstone will check the cctv recordings to try to establish who damaged the top bar on the roadside gate barrier. In terms of the Resilience plan, the Hall committee have agreed with its upgraded facilities the hall may be used as an Emergency Centre if needed. Martin Harvey will be co-opted to the Resilience working group. Cllr Johnstone will arrange a meeting date to progress this issue.

Clerk to notify Hall Committee re permission, agree to Mr Harvey joining the Resilience Working Group and thank them for the recent repair.

211.ii Update on play area, gym, recreation field, increase in mole activity: The mole contractor will visit the site and take action as necessary. The Groundsman will pressure wash the play area surrounds to remove moss and algae, agreed. The Interim play area report has identified only low risk problems. Noted.

Clerk to confirm with groundsman to carry out the work.

211 iii To review play area **interim inspection** report, The Interim play area report has identified only low risk problems. Noted.

211 iv To consider inspection of **trees** overhanging pre-school area, the Chairman will contact FutureArb and ask for a quote to deal with this.

211 v Consider quotes for **grass cutting** – Gardeners South quote, £140.00 per cut for 2025 was agreed to be accepted.

Clerk to contact Gardeners South

211 vi **Quadrant meeting** 3 April at Bramshaw, noted. Future meeting dates are: 17th July and 16 October 2025 and 15 January 2026. The Clerk will attend 17 July meeting with Councillors. Netley Marsh PC will offer to host the 16 October meeting and with the offer will suggest that the hall is booked through NMPC due to access problems on a previous occasion.

Clerk to contact Debbie Copping NFNPA – copy to Mrs M Davies.

212. **Footpaths and Bridleways** nothing to report

213. **Lengthsman** work to do and work completed. It was noted that the Lengthsman deals with grips the channels which direct water off the road into adjacent ditches, but he does not dig ditches. These are the responsibility of the riparian land owner. It was agreed that the summer Outlook will include the full Watercourses article with the addition of a panel explaining that if ditches are not kept clear and running then the owner may be liable if flooding occurs as a result and damages property. This will also be included on the website. The Lengthsman will be asked to do the usual weed killing in the car park during the main summer holiday period.

RFO/Clerk to prepare an article.

Clerk to contact Lengthsman in due course

214. Groundsman Work to do and update on work already agreed.

214.i Cleaning & treating **build up of moss and algae**, pressure washing agreed.

214.ii **Keys/lock on top of car park access** The groundsman will be asked to purchase a new lock. One key to go in the key box and one to the Clerk.

214.iii **Seats** The Groundsman will be asked to 1. Check whether the benches in the garage have ground fixings with them. If not these will need to be ordered. 2. Check where seats/benches have been removed. 3. Assemble the seats and fix in place of those removed, one near the top of the field and one near the play area.

Clerk to contact the Groundsman.

214.iv The Groundsman will deal with the small fence posts in the car park during the Easter holiday when there should be less cars parked. Noted.

215. **Resilience working group** future plans including review of the current flood plan. Cllr Johnstone will liaise and set up a meeting.

216. **Consultative Panel** Cllr Merrills report was noted. There was concern about the consequences of the proposed Forestry England car park charging.

217. **Clerk/RFOs Report –**

217.i **CIL/S106** report was noted and Councillors agreed to watch the recording of the meeting. Clerk will book the hall for 9 April 7 pm

Clerk to book the Hall.

217.ii **NFDC asset transfer**, the Council is not aware of any NFDC as sets within the parish. No assets would be accepted without full financial implications being clear.

217.iii **Outlook** the Spring issue is out for delivery, invoicing is done, all complete.

218. **Correspondence** a list of correspondence had been circulated. Matters requiring attention were

Resident	Hall gate colour	Agreed the Clerk to contact the resident , on reflection the Council would consider painting the uprights in an alternative colour but not the top bar or lower gate. If this is acceptable to the resident then work will be put in hand.
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219. **Financial matters** T219.i he following payments were agreed.

219.i Expenditure

Detail	Details	Net
TLC Inv web maint inv2631 March payment	Online	15.00
TLC Inv inv2632 Spring Outlook	Online	350.00
M Burt Groundsman	Online	220.00
H Lawrence	Online	441.50
J Twining	Online	1,109.34
R Cooper	Online	504.41
Lloyds Bank Monthly Ac charge 22 March	auto online	4.25
HMRC PAYE HL £360.40+19.68 NI		
JT£175 + 16.22 NI RC £417.40		988.70
	Total uncleared above	
Jan and Feb interest	Lloyds Deposit Account	23.62
	High Interest Ac inc to 3	41.17
Reconciliation Current Account		
Per Bank	21-Feb	591.19

	unpresented chqs above	3,703.90
	Earlier Unpresented payments	152.00
	unpresented credits	
	Current a/c reconciled balance	-3,264.71
	Savings ac br forward	12,176.46
	Savings ac income	23.62
	Savings Ac withdrawn	4,000.00
	Savings Ac Bal	8,200.08
	High Interest Ac	15,539.90
	Total cash at bank	20,475.27

219.ii Future projects list the following were agreed for further consideration:

Community cafe-maybe morning coffee breakfast club a Saturday morning perhaps with a local Business Hub and or drop in sessions with Councillors.

Plans for the field above the recreation ground

For land adjacent to recreation ground, wildlife and biodiversity etc

Possible grants Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier (CSHT) grant scheme

further grant if you have it open for school educational trips. Needs research re implications etc

Dog waste bins

Safe walking/ Pathway between Woodlands Road The Gamekeeper to Ashurst Station - so would have to be project with Ashurst & Colbury PC.

Multi-purpose sports facility (type to be determined) with floodlit playing area. This could be for all ages, e.g. including bowls, tennis and team sports. Solar could be easily included on any buildings. Plus make more use of existing field.

In due course a consultation will be established to find residents views of these ideas.

Continue to pursue a crossing on the A336 near the school and church.

It was noted that all Councillors and all members of the Hall Committee – the Hall being a not for profit charity - are volunteers who give their time and receive no recompense for all they do for the Parish and its residents. An article will be prepared for the website and Outlook

Outlook – residents to be offered the opportunity to have this online

Clerk/RFO to prepare article

219.iii Three-year plan, the above items will be considered with other items to form a priority for the next three years.

219.iv Review of field rent it was agreed no change to the rent of the field would be made this year. However it was agreed to approach the farmer and try to change the lease to one year renewable in case land is required for items on the three year plan.

RFO to contact the farmer.

220. **Parish Matters**

- 220.i **APM Friday 25 April** John Curtis confirmed as speaker. Chairman and RFO gave apologies.
Draft Annual report agreed, final copy at the April meeting.
Draft Agenda will be circulated prior to the April meeting.

220.ii **Councillors' items**

220.ii.a **Cllr Welbourn** asked if someone would stand in for him at the **Civic Service** on 23 March at New Milton, 3pm. Cllr Johnstone and his wife will represent NMPC.

220.ii.b **Cllr Shaw** reported some problems with **Outlook delivery**, particularly in the Bourne Road area. And for the current issue in one area of Woodlands Road. Cllr Merrill suggested we consider inviting residents to sign up for Outlook online, using a QR code in the next issue for people to sign up. This will be added to the future plans list.

220.ii.c There appear to be developments at Tatchbury Manor Farm, Tatchbury Lane, it was agreed to ask NFNPA if there had been an application we had somehow missed.

Clerk to contact NFNPA Planning

220.ii.d Fletchwood Lane Solar Farm visit will be on Wednesday 26 March at 10 am. Noted.

221. **Confidential**

Resolved 'That in view of the special/Confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded in accordance with the 'The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960', and they were instructed to withdraw'

222.

222.i Confidential Planning matters

222.ii Admin matters re. new clerk

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40 pm.

Clerk to the Council to: All Members of the Council

Next meeting Wednesday 16 April 2025 at 7.00 pm Woodlands Community Hall
Annual Parish Meeting 25 April 2025

Signed:

date: 16 April 2025