

# ORTON WATERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish Council: Mrs A Brown  
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## Minutes of the Orton Waterville Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall, Glebe Avenue, Orton Waterville on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7.00 pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillors J. Farnham, (Chair), M. Chambers, S. Dallimore, J. Goode, C. Hogg, A. Jurs, R. Pickett, J. Piercy, T. Rouse, Dr. D. Sridhar, J. Stevenson (PCC Ward Cllr), S. Swan, B. Warne and Mrs A. Brown (Clerk).

Members: 13    Quorum: 5    Members of the public: 25    Other PCC Ward Councillor: 0

The meeting was recorded by Paul Poll, member of the public. A reporter from Peterborough Telegraph was present.

### Public Question Time

#### **Public Bodies (admissions to meetings) Act 1960 s1 extended by the LGA 1972 s100.**

This section (at the Chair's discretion may last up to 15 minutes) is not part of the formal meeting of the Council and minutes will not be produced.

1. Peterborough Panthers addressed the meeting and gave an update on their situation since the last meeting. Agenda item 161/11-23.

2. Residents from Gannocks Close/ Wyman Way stated that they are constantly receiving packages and deliveries for residents living in Waterville Garden as the road signage is confusing and asked if the Parish Council could help in any way to solve this issue. Agenda item 163/11-23.

3. A resident from Arena Drive stated that his family was being affected by transporter lorries driving very close past his property since planning application 23/00251/FUL had been refused by Peterborough City Council. It is disrupting their sleep and there is an invasion of privacy when drivers are going past and looking into their property all day from as early as 5.30 am. The resident asked the Parish Council for help with this matter. Agenda item 152/11-23.

**150/11-23    Apologies for absence**  
None.

**151/11-23    Declaration of interests and dispensations**  
Cllr Hogg – agenda item 152/11-23.  
Cllr Piercy – agenda item 162/11-23 and 164/11-23.

**152/11-23    Planning matters**

1. Resolved comments to be submitted on applications:

**RESOLVED:** No material observations on the following applications:

- 23/01420/HHFUL - Single storey rear extension to replace existing glass roofed gazebo, new windows and render to the existing cottage at 10 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville, Peterborough PE2 5EF
- 23/01421/LBC - Single storey rear extension to replace existing glass roofed gazebo, new windows and render to the existing cottage at 10 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville, Peterborough PE2 5EF
- 23/01500/HHFUL - Change of roof finishes and insert PV Solar panels at 21 Cherryfields, Orton Waterville, Peterborough PE2 5XD
- 23/01516/HHFUL - First floor front extension at 36 Farleigh Fields, Orton Wistow, Peterborough PE2 6YB.
- 23/01569/CTR - Reduce overhanging conifer tree and reduce branches on sycamore tree at 45 Cherry Orton Road Orton, Waterville, Peterborough PE2 5EH
- 23/01586/CTR - Fell 2no. Cherry trees (T1 & T2) and replant 1no. replacement cherry tree at 72 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville, Peterborough PE2 5EH

- 23/00251/FUL -Proposal: Temporary change of use from Sui Generis Showground and F1 exhibition hall to B8 car storage and distribution with ancillary car preparation and maintenance, and installation of hardstanding (part retrospective) at Exhibition Hall, East Of England Showground, Oundle Road, Alwalton Peterborough

**RESOLVED:** To object to the application and submit the following material observations:

1. Working hours are specified to be from 6am to 6pm Monday to Friday for delivery vehicles with staff arrival times being 30 minutes either side of this making the full working window to be 5-30am to 6-30pm. This is a long working window particularly in the morning. What guarantee can be given these hours would be strictly adhered to, what would happen in an emergency (e.g. a delivery was delayed due to traffic problems and arrived outside the normal working day hours. Also what guarantee can be given there will no weekend working/deliveries.
2. The traffic survey carried between 10th and 21st November records traffic volumes in and out of the site. It doesn't list the times when the delivery arrived and departed. This information would be useful.
3. Consideration should be given to moving the position of gate 5 (further into the Showground land) in order to prevent a tailback of vehicles congesting Joseph Odam Way.
4. The marquee, paint spray booths, ovens and mobile offices have been removed from the amended planning application (see planning statement 27/11/23). The drawings associated etc. have not been withdrawn from the planning application.
5. Peterborough City Council, LLFA & Drainage Team has objected to the amended planning application. Their required amendment/information must be provided.

## 2. Pre consultation planning applications:

**RESOLVED:** No material observations on the following:

- Proposed base station installation upgrade at cornerstone 11877626, Paxton Road – VF, near the shell petrol station, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough, PE2 5LD.
- Proposed base station installation upgrade at cornerstone 11414925, Gateway House, Newcombe Way, Peterborough, PE2 6TH.

## 3. Construction work at Lynch Wood

Following concerns raised about what was happening on the waste ground next to the fenced-off car park in Lynch Wood, at Cllr Stevenson's request, Peterborough City Council investigated and found that the works that Financial Investments (FI (the landowner) had embarked upon (to turn the derelict area into a temporary car park) will require planning permission. As a result, FI have been advised to halt these works and apply for the necessary permission. It is noted that there is a considerable amount of mud on the highway as a result of this activity. The landowner has been asked to clear this up. It was suggested that the Parish Council should write to FI stating that it has received numerous complaints from local residents with regard to unacceptable noise levels at unsociable hours and mud/residue being left on the public highway from construction traffic leaving the site. Concern at the lack of communication with the Parish Council and residents should also be expressed.

**RESOLVED:** That the Parish Council will write to FI regarding the complaints that it has received regarding the development and the lack of communication between them and FI. Cllr Swan will prepare a draft for the Clerk to send.

153/11-23

### Local police matters

Peterborough Neighbourhood South Police Officer Gareth Price attended the meeting and gave a report on the types and numbers of crimes dealt with by the police in September. He stated that police officers in plain clothes is one of the ways being used to tackle motorbike thefts. Three prolific shoplifting offenders have recently been sent to prison. On release, some of them may be placed on a criminal behaviour order for 5 years. The police are working with the Orton Centre Management team to deal with the anti-social behaviour that is occurring there and have increased their presence there. The arsons have appeared to stop as those involved have been arrested.

154/11-23

### Ward Councillor reports

Cllr Stevenson gave the following report:

#### Toilets in Town Centre

At Cllr Stevenson's suggestion, fully accessible toilets will be installed in the Cathedral Precincts for public use, work commencing in 2024. This is being paid for through a Government grant for accessible 'Changing Places' toilets. Hopefully, this will encourage more people from Orton to shop in the city centre.

## **Peterborough City Council**

Following a vote of no confidence in the council leader and Conservative administration on 1<sup>st</sup> November, the city council is now run by the Peterborough First group.

## **Save Peterborough Speedway**

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November a rally was held in Cathedral Square to make the public aware that the city's speedway team, which is based at the Showground site, is at risk. This was well-attended (approximately 350 people). Cllr Stevenson has tabled a motion asking the new council administration to do what it can to save the speedway. This will be debated at the next meeting of the full council on 6<sup>th</sup> December.

## **AEPG/DHL**

Although DHL stopped using the Dunblane Drive entrance to enter the showground site, by using the Gate 1 entrance in Orton Northgate its lorries are now causing significant disturbance at antisocial hours to residents of Arena Drive. It is now proposed that DHL traffic will enter the site via gate 5. A planning application that reflects this proposal is open for comments until 12<sup>th</sup> December.

## **FI/Lynchwood**

Landowner FI (Financial Investments) has been working to convert waste land next to Ascot House in Lynchwood into a storage compound. However, the city council argues that it has been undertaking these works without the necessary planning permission. At time of writing, the council is to issue FI with a Planning Contravention Notice. Residents of Orton Wistow have complained of mud on the roads and noise from the works on the site.

It was noted that the Clerk had circulated Ward Councillor Nicola Day's report to councillors prior to the meeting.

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**155/11-23**

### **Minutes of previous meeting**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Orton Waterville Parish Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

It was noted that 'Matters arising' is not an agenda item as it is not permitted for a parish council to reopen discussion on a decision recorded in the minutes, unless there is a specific item on the agenda relating to that decision, and, subject to standing orders, specifying that it will be reconsidered.

**156/11-23**

### **Clerk's update**

None.

**157/11-23**

### **Correspondence to note if of relevance**

None.

**158/11-23**

### **The Gannocks**

1. To resolve to accept quotation from Aragon Ltd and return to their grass cutting contract  
The Clerk reported that Aragon Direct Limited had agreed to allow the Parish Council back into their grass cutting contract. Aragon would visit The Gannocks 8 times between March and October 2024, for £976.00 for the year (£122.00 per visit). The previous contractor was paid £3149.00.

Eight cuts per year is the standard number of cuts across the city for recreation field. This price includes cutting the main area, including the play area and paths through the wild flower area. Arisings will not be collected. A few other Parish Councils have returned to Aragon.

Aragon will be carrying out the annual meadow and taking the arisings away within the next few days at a cost of £508.62.

If there is a need for the play area inside the fenced area to be cut in between Aragon's visits, Matthew Kerrison who has been cutting the cemetery, can cut this area at a cost of £70. These costs can be recovered through the precept.

The hedge line only needs cutting back once a year and quotations for this can be obtained separately.

Tree works are only normally carried out after a tree survey has been carried out every two years and this is a one off cost.

**RESOLVED:** To accept the quotation from Aragon Direct Limited and return to their grass cutting contract for The Gannocks recreation field.

2. The Clerk stated that as the Parish Council no longer has a permanent contractor, and that it is a matter of health and safety, Aragon Direct Ltd will be removing the pigeon spikes on the swing frames and replacing them with cable ties.

159/11-23

#### **Parish Lengthsperson**

1. To discuss and resolve sharing the Lengthsperson with Orton Longueville Parish Council  
The Clerk reported that Orton Longueville Parish Council had agreed to share the Lengthsperson. Cllr Stevenson stated that there appeared to be a litter issue in a certain part of the parish as the Lengthsperson collects 11-12 bags of rubbish at a time when there and was concerned that it could make the problem worse if they were not in the parish every week. She also stated that the Lengthsperson was good at reporting issues. It was suggested that the litter issue should be monitored for the next few months and the idea of sharing the Lengthsperson discussed again in March 2024.

**RESOLVED:** To continue with the Lengthsperson full-time in Orton Waterville and discuss sharing the Lengthsperson with Orton Longueville Parish Council in March 2024.

2. No other updates.

160/11-23

#### **Dog mess in Orton Southgate**

Cllr Stevenson informed the meeting that there was a spike in dog mess not being cleared up in Dunblane Drive and surrounding streets even though there are plenty of bins. She asked if the Parish Council could put up dog signs up to educate dog owners to clear up after their dogs as they had previously done a few years ago near The Gannocks. It was noted that Peterborough City Council is able to stencil spray 'Clear up after your dog' signs onto pavements – these are not permanent and eventually wash away. Cllr Hogg stated that being a Ward Councillor, he had a stencil which could be used.

**RESOLVED:** That the Parish Council will purchase 8 'Clear up after your dog' signs to put up in the parish around the Dunblane Drive area.

161/11-23

#### **Registering Speedway track as an Asset of Community Value**

The Clerk reported that Head of Planning Officer at Peterborough City Council (PCC) had suggested that the speedway track could be registered as an Asset of Community Value. If successful, it could give the club some extra time to find a new venue.

It was also noted that a comment had been placed on Facebook by an employee of PCC stating that registering the speedway track as an Asset of Community Value was not a viable option and would not work. As this is a contradiction of the advice given to the Parish Council by the Head of Planning Officer, it was suggested that the Parish Council writes to the Head of Planning with concerns that someone has made such a comment and that they should not deal with the application when it is submitted.

**RESOLVED:** To submit an application to Peterborough City Council to register the speedway track at the East of England Showground as an Asset of Community Value. A speedway club member will prepare the application as they have knowledge of the club and will send it to the Clerk to submit on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Parish Council will also write to the Head of Planning Officer and bring to their attention the comments made on Facebook and request that this employee does not deal with the Asset of Community Value application when it is submitted.

162/11- 23

#### **Future of Matley and Wistow Community Halls**

Cllr Piercy reported that she had attended a stakeholders meeting with PCC Officers regarding the disposal of Wistow Community hall as it had been placed on their list for disposal. She stated that Officers at the meeting were not in a position to provide any information as to when this was likely to happen or any other information relating to the disposal. She stated that the Trustees of Orton Wistow Community Centre would like as much support as possible from the Parish Council to keep the building as a community hall and is organising a petition to send to PCC as this will trigger a debate at a Full Council meeting. Matley hall is also on the disposal list.

Cllr Hogg stated that he had lobbied for any asset transfer to come before the PCC cabinet for discussions on disposal rather than an Officer making the decision. A document relating to asset disposals is due to be issued in January 2024 as it is awaiting cabinet approval.

163/11-23

### **Street signs Wyman Way**

Ambiguous street signage has led to residents of Wyman Way being disturbed late at night and during the day by delivery drivers looking for addresses in Waterville Gardens. Cllr Stevenson asked the Parish Council for recommendations on how to remedy this.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Stevenson and Cllr Swan will go and look at the current signage to see if it can be improved. Cllr Hogg will investigate if the locations of the properties in question are located correctly on Google maps and GPS and if not; will contact the relevant parties to ask for them to be updated.

164/11-23

### **Orton Counselling Service for Young People**

The grant request for £2000.00 towards helping the local charity provide much needed counselling for children attending Ormiston Bushfield Academy was discussed. The young people self-refer themselves and are seen by volunteer counsellors who are trained at their own expense. They are only given expenses for travel and clinical supervision.

**RESOLVED:** To award the full grant amount of £2000.00 to allow the charity to continue providing the counselling service. Payment will be made in April 2024.

165/11-23

### **Addressing Climate and Nature emergency**

Cllr Warne stated that PCC are looking to install bars for locking up bicycles and asked if councillors could let him know of any suitable locations in the parish. Cllr Jurs suggested contacting Cross Keys Homes.

He also stated that to discourage drivers sitting in their cars with motors idling, signage could be put up in car parks; however this could only be done in public car parks.

166/11-23

### **Reports from outside bodies**

- Parish Council Liaison – Cllr Pickett gave a verbal report from the recent meeting which he attended. Items discussed were defibrillators and a presentation from Hannah Swinburne, PCC Climate Change Officer.

Cllr Chambers left the meeting (8:50 pm).

- Village Hall Committee – Cllr Rouse reported that there is a new committee secretary and that the purchase of new chairs for the hall is progressing as is the purchase of an external defibrillator.
- Orton Waterville United Charities – Cllr Farnham reported that the charity is giving 120 £70.00 gift cards to families in need as a Christmas gift to spend in Iceland. The families have been nominated by the schools within the church parish. The charity has an extra 10 spare gift cards for any other additional people needing help.

167/11-23

### **Allotments**

1. The Clerk provided 2 further quotations for the various outstanding maintenance works at Cherry Orton allotments both which were more than the first received quotation.

**RESOLVED:** To accept the quotation of £4403.00 + VAT from Stephens Property Maintenance to carry out the various maintenance works at Cherry Orton Road – clearance of 2 allotments, fencing off 3 gates, repairing the fence line on the southern boundary and clearing the shed area adjacent to Don's Walk.

2. Allotment rents are due on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

168/11-23

### **Cemetery**

1. Cllr Goode reported that she, Cllr Farnham and the Clerk had carried out the health and safety inspection and that the report was to follow. She stated that there were no major issue other than moss clearance from footpaths was required and the rose garden needed some maintenance.

2. No other matters of concern.

Cllr Dallimore left the meeting (9:00 pm).

169/11-23

### **St Mary's churchyard boundary wall repairs**

The Clerk reported that the updated quotation for the works had not yet been received as the stonemason was dealing with an urgent family matter and would send it as soon as he is able to.

170/11-23

### **Finance & Administration**

1. **RESOLVED:** To approve the following payments of expenditure:

HSBC	October 2023 bank account charges	£10.00
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Peterborough Limited	Lengthsman November 2023	£2820.54
Peterborough Limited	Bulky waste: Orton Centre 30/09/2023 & Allotments 07/10/2023	£1825.83
Columbaria	Memorial sanctum plaque	£117.60
Wave	Water charges Cherry Orton Road allotments	£33.53
Sharpe Pritchard LLP	Legal fees re: Allotments advice and assistance October 2023	£2818.80
Kerrison Gardens	War memorial tidy, Cemetery maintenance, The Gannocks play area (fenced area)	£310.00
Stephens Property Maintenance	Cut back hedge at Village Hall	£888.00
Stephens Property Maintenance	Install gate at Cherry Orton Road allotments	£1152.00
RJM Maintenance	Ditch clearance Cherry Orton Road allotments	£1985.00
Mrs A Brown	Clerk's salary November 2023	£1706.00
Mrs A Brown	Clerk's expenses and reimbursements November 2023 (includes £55.30 key cutting at Timpson)	£139.20
Cambridgeshire County Council	Superannuation November 2023 (employer/employee contributions) includes October adjustment	£737.59
HM Revenue & Customs	Tax and NI November 2023	£571.10

2. Income received:

Cemetery fees	£1788.00
HSBC Bank interest	£63.74

3. **RESOLVED:** The end of month accounts and bank reconciliations were approved.

4. **RESOLVED:** That the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) national salary award 2023 be implemented and backdated as from 1st April 2023.

5. Budget proposals and precept for 2024/25 were presented by the Clerk and discussed.

**RESOLVED:** Precept 2024/25 to be increased by 29.89% to £74,600.00 - £20.34 per band D household. This is an annual increase of £4.68 per band D household which is necessary to support the general increases in the running costs of the Parish Council.

171/11-23

**Bulky waste collections**

**REOSLVED:** To book a bulky waste collection for Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 10 am to 12 pm in the Orton Centre small car park.

172/11-23

**Maintenance**

A drain on Cherry Orton Road opposite the Windmill Pub is not draining and has been reported to PCC. Cllr Stevenson offered to follow this up with PCC.

Three street lights in Chisenhale are not working. These have been reported to PCC.

173/11-23

**Future agenda items and announcements**

Cllr Warne has emailed Orton Longueville Parish Council asking if they are interested in resurrecting the annual inter-parish cricket match. He is waiting for their response.

174/11-23

**Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Exclusion of the Press and the Public**

**RESOLVED:** That in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the meeting.

175/11-23

**Allotments legal correspondence relating to Rights of Way onto the site**

No update.

176/11-23

**Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Re-Admittance of the Press and the Public**

**RESOLVED:** That the confidential business having been concluded, the Press and Public be readmitted to the meeting

177/11-23

**Date of next meeting** – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 brought forward due to Christmas. Only essential agenda items will be discussed as was previously agreed under agenda item 231/02-18.2.

The meeting closed at 21:17 pm.