

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 27th March 2024 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors J. Farnham, (Chair), M. Chambers, S. Dallimore, J. Goode, A. Jurs, T. Rouse, J. Stevenson (PCC Ward Cllr), S. Swan, B. Warne and Mrs A. Brown (Clerk).

Members: 13 Quorum: 5 Members of the public: 4 Other PCC Ward Councillor: 0

Public Question Time

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

Questions were taken from members of the public. This is not part of the formal meeting of the Council and only the subject matter raised has been noted below.

Residents addressed the Parish Council and asked if it could investigate the possibility of creating a footpath from Linden Gardens to the pedestrian crossing on Oundle Road as currently residents have to walk on the grass verge which is unsafe and very muddy at times. Agenda item 258/03-24.

247/03-24 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Hogg, Pickett, Rattan and Dr. D. Sridhar.

248/03-24 **Declaration of interests and dispensations**

None.

Cllr Farnham used her Chair's discretion and moved up agenda item 258/03-24 for discussion.

249/03-24 **Planning matters**

1. Resolved comments submitted on applications:

- 24/00022/FUL: Erection of 3 units with associated access, parking and landscaping at Culley Court, Orton Southgate, Peterborough PE2 6WA

RESOLVED: To make the following material observation:

There would appear to be a lack of information to enable a full evaluation of this application. Particular references are made to:

1. No drainage information
2. No arboricultural/landscape information
3. Height of proposed industrial units not specified

It is also noted that Cambridgeshire Constabulary consider the proposed location to be an area of medium risk to the vulnerability. No security details are provided.

The Parish Council reserves the right to comment further should additional information be provided.

- 24/0024/FUL: Change of use from a riding school and equestrian centre to a multi-use community offer. To include an enclosed dog walking field, forest school education including residential camping for schools and uniformed groups and events at Lynch Farm, Wistow Way, Orton Wistow, Peterborough PE2 6XA

RESOLVED: To make the following material observation:

Orton Waterville Parish Council objects to this planning application on the grounds of overlooking/loss of privacy, noise, effect on a listed building, layout, conservation, harm to wildlife, crime and disorder implications and the following material observations and only supports the Lynch Farm site being used in the future for educational facilities including forest schools subject to the appropriate controls and management systems being in place. These should be specified. Other than 6 number disabled parking places being proposed there is no mention if any new facility will cater for disabled children etc.

This site was originally intended to be used for equestrian activities to benefit the people of Peterborough in that respect. The original agreements/deeds/ leases etc. should be checked to ensure this planning application is not in breach of any of these. Clause 2 (i) of the lease agreement between Peterborough Development Corporation and Nene Park Trust states "Not to let or use the Park or any part or parts thereof or permit the same to be let or used for any noxious offensive dangerous trade or business pursuit or occupation nor for any purpose nor in any manner which may be a nuisance to the Corporation their successors or tenants of any adjoining property". The original agreements/deeds/ leases etc. should be checked to ensure the proposals identified with this planning application are not in breach of any of these

The proposal is inappropriate being adjacent to residential properties, the closest being The Rookery and Svenskaby. These areas border the site with the nearest properties only being a few metres from this red lined site. Particular concerns relate to noise levels potentially being way in excess of current levels and those when the site was used as a riding school.

The community events listed include artisan food fairs, a family Easter event, family theatre and hire for day-time event hire including weddings. These again will all create additional noise. The Noise Impact Assessment states "the MNL should not exceed 65dB (A) over a 15-minute period for events lasting 1-3 days with an Urban or rural venue, if the event is 4-12 days the MNL should not exceed the background noise level by more than 15dB (A) over a 15-minute period (Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts)." No current base noise levels in this area and local to the Rookery and Svenskaby have been submitted with the application. No operating hours have been mentioned for these events but some if not all are likely to carry on into the late hours. There is no mention of whether alcohol will be allowed or whether this will be subject to an application for a license. Regardless of the operating hours this is all unacceptable so close to residential properties.

The enclosed dog field borders housing in the Rookery. The Planning Statement states this will be operating until 7pm in the summer months, facilitate breed meet ups and events and will provide a positive shared space for all to protect wildlife. It will also allow for nervous, reactive or dogs with poor recall. A code of conduct is mentioned but how this will be rolled out and controlled with dogs that may be strange to each other cannot be guaranteed. For dogs of a nervous disposition etc. it is likely to be even worse. Barking dogs, or worse, will have a detrimental effect on wildlife not protect it. There is no mention if there will be any restriction regarding dog breeds. Will dog breeds designated as dangerous be allowed?

The biodiversity statement has been carried out by the applicant, The Nene Park Trust. This is inadequate and an Environmental Impact Assessment should have been carried out and provided for the application. This should have been undertaken by a professionally qualified independent Consultant with the appropriate surveys carried out, including but not limited to bats and amphibians.

Education - It is stated the tent village is located away from the tent village. Although it is further away from homes than the enclosed dog area it is close to Svenskaby and the Rookery. No noise levels or controls of are stated for this but a curfew is mentioned no later than 10pm. This has the potential of disturbance to residents in the nearby properties over a full 24 hour period Monday to Friday. The proposal also includes a space for schools and uniformed groups. No age limit is mentioned and "uniformed groups" can mean many things.

The application form states a total of 28 parking spaces will be provided, the planning statement suggest 24 parking spaces. This is almost certain to be inadequate to cater for the unspecified events and weddings proposed. The resulting outcome is almost certain to encourage parking along Wistow Way and the nearby residential roads and must be prevented. The nearest car park in Ferry Meadows is some distance away and has to be paid for. It also may not be open for the duration of the event/wedding.

There is no mention as to if or how the existing listed building will be used with these proposals.

Despite re assurances given by Nene Park Trust (the applicant) that communication and consultation would be undertaken with the Parish Council and local residents before submission of any planning application this has not happened.

- 24/00249/ADV: Non-illuminated company fascia sign to shop front at 23 - 25 Ortongate Shopping Centre, Bushfield, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough PE2 5TD
RESOLVED: No material observations.

2. Formation of a Planning working party

The formation of a planning working party was discussed. A working party would allow a number of councillors to analyse planning applications in more depth and then present their recommendations at Parish Council meetings where the final decision would be made. This would save time during meetings, however would still give all councillors the opportunity to give their comments on applications.

RESOLVED: To form a Planning Working Party to analyse planning applications and provide recommendations to councillors at Parish Council meetings for a final decision. The Planning Working party will consist of Cllrs Farnham, Jurs, Rattan, Swan and the Clerk. Cllr Stevenson to attend Working Party meetings when necessary in her capacity as a Ward councillor.

250/03-24

Local police matters

Cllr Stevenson stated that she is trying to organise for the police to attend every meeting. The police are currently dealing with anti-social behaviour on mopeds however they are limited by how much they can do. They have had a Problem Solving Plan (PSP) to try and deal with this issue and before it is closed, they want to speak with residents to give them an update. Cllr Stevenson will inform residents of this.

251/03-24

Ward Councillor reports

Cllr Stevenson gave the following report:

Lynchwood

For the 12th time in 12 months, bus shelters in Lynchwood have been vandalised. The neighbourhood police team has been informed and FI (the landowner) has been contacted with a request for CCTV.

Food bin liners

Most residences in the ward will have received a supply of two rolls of liners last week. However, the council has now run out and some households will only have received one or none at all. A fresh batch is on order. In the meantime, if anyone is desperate, please ask them to contact Cllr Stevenson for assistance.

Orton Northgate adoption

Residents continue to feel frustrated by the lack of progress on this, with many paying both the council and the management company money for essentially the same services. Cllr Stevenson is speaking to the council and while she has been told it will happen soon, she has been told this every year for the past 8 years. Cllr Stevenson is now planning a publicity campaign in the hope of generating more action on this issue.

Local elections

The city council elections are on 2nd May. There is one seat up for election (the seat currently held by Cllr Knight). Residents are reminded they will need photo ID to vote in person.

The Clerk had circulated Cllr Day's report to all councillors prior to the meeting.

252/03-24

Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Orton Waterville Parish Council meeting held on 28th February 2024 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

253/03-24

Clerk's update

None.

254/03-24

Correspondence to note if of relevance

None.

255/03-24

Bulky waste collections

Next collection is on 27th April 2024, 10 am – 12 pm, small car park at the back of the Orton Centre.

- 256/03-24 Parish Lengthsperson**
Cllr Farnham stated that she had recently spoken with the Lengthsperson and that he was going to speak with his line manager to change his route to address the problem areas in the parish.
- 257/03-24 Parish Council Elections 2nd May 2024**
The Clerk reminded councillors that the deadline for submitting their Parish Council election nomination forms to the Town Hall was 4pm on Friday 5th April 2024.
- 258/03-24 New footpath between Linden Gardens and pedestrian crossing on Oundle Road**
The request to consider installing a footpath between Linden Gardens and the pedestrian crossing on Oundle Road was discussed. It is not known why a footpath from this development along Oundle Road was not a requirement when the additional houses were built. It was noted that residents of all ages have to walk on a grass verge to reach the pedestrian crossing to safely cross Oundle Road. This is especially difficult with a pushchair or wheelchair when the grass is wet and muddy. Traffic on this stretch of Oundle Road will increase when the showground development begins.
RESOLVED: That the Parish Council will contact Highways and make enquiries for a footpath between Linden Gardens and the pedestrian crossing on Oundle Road.
- 259/03-24 Condition of Debdale Pond**
Concerns were expressed about the untidy condition of Debdale pond which is overgrown and needs some attention. The pond belongs to Peterborough City Council and in the past was maintained by Peterborough Conservation Volunteers however this appears not to have been done for several years.
RESOLVED: That Cllr Jurs will contact Peterborough Conservation Volunteers and make enquiries regarding maintenance works at Debdale pond.
- 260/03-24 CAPALC membership affiliation and Data Protection Officer Renewal invitation 2024-2025**
RESOLVED: To renew the CAPALC affiliation and Data Protection Officer Membership for 2024-2025 membership – cost £1430.45
- 261/03-24 Reports from outside bodies**
Village Hall Committee – Next meeting 17th April 2024.
- 262/03-24 Allotments**
The Clerk reported that there were several available allotment plots at Cherry Orton Road and that the waiting list had been exhausted.
RESOLVED: That Cllr Stevenson will put a message on social stating that the Parish Council has allotments available and to contact the Clerk.
- 263/03-24 Cemetery**
The Clerk stated that a decision needed to be made whether to purchase new sanctum units as there were only 9 empty units left. The Clerk quoted prices for the same below ground sanctums which are already installed at the cemetery and also for sanctums which sit on ground level. The Clerk will provide firm costings for the next meeting.

264/03-24 Finance & Administration

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

HSBC	February 2024 bank account charges	£8.00
Peterborough Limited	Lengthsperson service – March 2024	£2978.92
Columbaria	Inscribed Sanctum plaque	£117.90
Wave	Water charges – cemetery	£15.54
Maynard Trees	Crown raise willow at Cherry Orton Allotments	£120.00
Sharpe Pritchard LLP	Legal fees re: Allotments advice and assistance February 2024	£252.00
Sharpe Pritchard LLP	Out of court settlement payment re: Cherry Orton Road allotments	£15,000.00
Cartridgesave	Printers toners: black and coloured	£109.70
Mrs A Brown	Clerk's salary March 2024	£1836.61
Mrs A Brown	Clerk's expenses and reimbursements March 2024	£120.20
Cambridgeshire County Council	Superannuation March 2024 (employer/employee contributions)	£608.85
HM Revenue & Customs	Tax and NI March 2024	£601.14
Stephens Property	Fill in potholes on Cherry Orton Road allotments access road	£432.00

Maintenance		
R Harding & Son	Turn water back on at allotments	£75.00

2. Income received

Allotment rent	£49.00
Cemetery fees	£2240.00
HSBC interest	£60.02

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

265/03-24

Maintenance

- The gate at The Gannocks Play area is not working. The Clerk will arrange for the gate to be repaired.
- A concern was raised that Nene Park Trust are renovating the public toilets and that after 4pm when the café closes, there is no toilet provision for members of the public. It was agreed that the Parish Council should write to the Trust with these concerns.

266/03-24

Future agenda items and announcements

Announcements:

- Cllr Stevenson informed the meeting that members of the public are being sent to her by estate agents and asking for her help with their house sale. She asked councillors to let her know if they are ever approached for this reason.
- Cllr Dallimore gave his apologies for the next meeting.

Future agenda items:

Orton Northgate adoption by Peterborough City Council.

267/03-24

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 25th April 2024.

The meeting closed at 8:07 pm.