

# Mawsley Parish Council

c/o 32 Holdenby Road, Spratton, Northampton  
07746138218 clerk@mawsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk



Minutes of the **Ordinary meeting of Mawsley Parish Council** held on Monday April 15th 2024, at 7.00pm. The meeting took place at TCAM.

## **Present**

In person – Councillors R Barnwell (Chairman), A Moore, W Bontoft, N Clode, K White and Scott Kennedy ( 7.45pm)

F Young - Clerk

NNC Cllrs Jim Hakewill and Joseph Smyth

Absent – Cllr Juliet Bullock

**24/40 Apologies** It was **Resolved** to approve apologies received from NNC Cllr Cedwein Brown.

**24/41 Public Session.** The council will receive and process comments and questions from members of the public/press in accordance with the Standing Orders. Any comments are restricted to a maximum of 3 minutes per person and 15 minutes in total.

No public comments.

**24/42 Declaration of Interests** and requests for dispensations for agenda items—members to declare any pecuniary or prejudicial interests in relation to items on the agenda, Clerk to consider dispensation requests.

Nothing received.

## **24/43 Minutes of the Ordinary parish council meeting March 18<sup>th</sup> 2024**

It was **Resolved** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, they were signed as a true record.

## **24/44 Matters arising from previous meetings, no decisions made.**

None

## **24/45 North Northants Councillor update (for information)**

NNC Cllr Joseph Smyth explained that both he and Cllr Cedwein Brown are now Independent Cllrs as opposed to being Conservative Cllrs. Cllr Smyth also reported that the Montsaye Academy in Rothwell has an Ofsted inspection tomorrow.

Cllr Hakewill reported that fines have been issued at the traveller's site between Cransley and Loddington and NNC are going through the legal process at the moment.

**24/46 To receive brief reports from Councillors attending meetings or training on behalf of Mawsley PC.** The Chairman attended the Northants Acre meeting.

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## 24/47 Planning

**1.New applications.** To discuss and resolve comments on the following applications, Councillors please view these applications online before the meeting.

## 24/48 Finance

1. To approve the following payments to be made in April plus any additional invoices received prior to the meeting.
- 2.

Payee	Detail	Amount £
F Young	Clerks' salary	826.64
Ncalc	Annual membership plus audit	1214.30
Tcam	Room hire	25.50
Blossom and Bloom	Gardening services	67.00

It was **Resolved** to approve the above payments. Cllr White and Cllr Clode to approve the payments online.

2. To note receipt of the bank reconciliation statement for 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 ( Financial year end)

Opening balance at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 £153,351.13

Plus Receipts £95,606.91  
Less Payments £65,282.39  
= **£183,675.65**

Bank Balances at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024  
£39,123.64 Current account  
£67,679.95 Reserve account  
£76,872.06 NW Savings, Tcam Fund  
= **£183,675.65**

It was **Resolved** to approve the bank reconciliation statement for the year end.

3. Confirmation that checks by the internal controls councillor have been completed. Cllr Moore confirmed that the internal controls checks have been completed and that he had no concerns.

## 24/49 Year End processes and the Annual Return

1. Resolution to approve and sign Section 1 (Accounting Statement) of the Annual Return. The Clerk read out the statements and the council responded. It was **Resolved** to approve and sign Section 1.

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2. Resolution to approve and sign Section 2 (Annual Governance Statement) of the Annual Return. It was **Resolved** to approve and sign Section 2.

3. Resolution to approve the Internal Audit Report. The Clerk had circulated the Internal Audit Report, there were no actions. It was **Resolved** to approve it.

4. Resolution to set the dates for the Exercise of Electors Rights as June 3<sup>rd</sup> – July 12<sup>th</sup> 2024  
The dates for Electors Rights was approved.

## 24/50 PC Admin

1. Resolution to change the regular meeting start time to 7.15pm to accommodate room changeover at TCAM.

After a brief discussion it was **Resolved** to move the regularly monthly meeting start time to 7.15pm to allow for the room changeover.

2. Confirmation of arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish council.

The Clerk is not available for the current date of both the annual meetings. It was agreed that the Clerk would send some alternative dates round and try and find an alternative solution.

3. PC Website – Resolution to sign up to Cuttlefish and take advantage of their offer to update the website to a new, more modern format. (example circulated to councillors before the meeting) It was **Resolved** to complete the onboarding offer from Cuttlefish and update the website.

## 24/51 Community Items

a) Highways – to confirm that the speed limit in Mawsley is 20mph, this is enforceable not advisory, to also confirm the request by the Clerk for more signage. The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the NNC Highways Liaison Officer and she had explained that Mawsley has a 20mph speed limit throughout the whole village. There is no requirement for repeater signs because Mawsley is a no through village, there are only two entrances.

The Clerk had obtained two 20mph signs which can be cable tied onto lampposts and moved around the village. It was agreed that Cllr Clode would fix the signs up and they would be below head height so no ladder is needed.

The Clerk was asked to go back to the Liaison Officer and ask for more signs and also enquire whether it would be possible to have some 20mph signs painted onto the road.

b) The Centre at Mawsley

The following update was received by John Holton

*' In March income was significantly above budget (+£6K) and brought the year to date income in-line with the budget. Expenses were over budget (£1.6K) primarily due to higher premises expenses (£1.5K). We are also carrying a higher depreciation cost due to the capital investments. The accounts are still to be reconciled but we will be in profit in March.*

*March is the end of our financial year and YTD the income is spot on budget but expenses are over budget due to the maintenance investments in the Centre. We expect to be in profit for the financial year once the accounts are reconciled.*

*Easter events were all successful and well attended.*

*The report has been received from the Independent Energy Assessor. The recommendations are:*

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*Improved LED lighting and heating control systems - £5,500*

*Heat pump, restart fans, infra red heaters - £50,000*

*Solar panels and batteries - £75,000*

*The target is to achieve net zero to low cost for the building.*

*Following a discussion we have decided to apply for a grant to cover the total cost £130,500 and we will clarify the options and obtain quotes for the work. Once we understand better the available grant and extent of the work we can decide with the MPC the best options for the building ‘*

The Clerk mentioned the Fun Day on July 6<sup>th</sup> and asked if Councillors would like to reserve a pitch, it was **Resolved** that the parish council would have a pitch for the village fun day.

The Chairman mentioned that the council had received a complaint regarding a perceived lack of diversity of the sports coverage on offer at TCAM on the TV. It was agreed that this was not a matter for the parish council and that the complainant would be directed to TCAM.

c) Village Green and Memorial Garden – The Clerk reported that the new gardener had done some weeding and tidying up, he was going to plant some new shrubs and perennials today but the weather was awful so that has been postponed.

The Chairman explained that he had received two brass plaques for the Memorial Walls from Vic Cope, it was agreed that the new gardener will be asked to fix the new plaques on the walls.

It was also agreed to ask the new gardener to have a look at the string of LED lights that are currently in a ball on the flower bed and try and re-fix them. The Chairman or Cllr Moore will arrange to meet with the gardener to sort out the plaques.

d) Skate ramp – Cllr Clode explained that the main barrier to grant applications was that the parish council did not own the land that the skate ramp is on. Cllr Clode has asked for a meeting with Dave Lane at NNC to see if there is anything that can be done. There is concern that the existing skate ramp is becoming more dangerous as it now has holes in the surface. The council are worried that if the old large skate ramp is closed there will be nothing for the kids to do until the new ramp project is completed which could be a couple of years away. The Clerk was asked to get in touch with Dave Lane at NNC and ask if it would be possible for the PC to pay for a small skate ramp to be installed so that the kids have something to play on while the new large one is sorted out. The parish council would be prepared to consider paying for the smaller ramp as long as NNC would continue to insure and maintain it.

e) Community Speedwatch – to establish if council would like to take part in this initiative. It was **Resolved** that the council would not take part in this initiative at the moment but would instead try and get more 20mph signs.

f) Memorial garden flagpole – to receive a report from the Clerk and to agree actions required.

The Clerk had received two quotes for repairs to the flagpole, the problem is that both companies have a call out charge and so it was possible that when attending the site more issues with the pole would be found that were not visible on photos.

The Clerk explained that the council are not able to ask volunteers to do maintenance on items like the flagpole especially when working at height maybe required. It was **Resolved** to ask Zephyr Flags to attend the site and do a maintenance visit to repair whatever was needed and to also advise on the general condition of the flagpole.

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## **24/52 Correspondence for information, action to be agreed**

- Complaint from a resident regarding the lack of diversity shown at TCAM. – Clerk has responded with a holding email. This item was discussed in the main agenda.
- Ncalc – Lunchtime Lowdowns – Circulated to all
- Community speedwatch info – included in agenda

## **24/53 Next meeting To be Confirmed.**