

# 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 September 16th 2024, at 7.15pm. The meeting took place at TCAM.

At the start of the meeting the Chairman led a tribute to Mr Vic Cope, Honorary Freeman of the Parish of Mawsley and a parish councillor for two terms. Mr Cope sadly passed away last week, deepest sympathies were sent to his family from the parish council and one minutes silence was observed.

## **Present**

In person – Councillors R Barnwell (Chairman), K White, A Moore, N Clode, S Kennedy, W Bontoft and J Bullock  
NNC Cllr Jim Hakewill  
9 members of the public including 4 local children.

**24/93 Apologies** – There were no apologies.

**24/94 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.

Four local children attended the meeting and spoke very eloquently to the council about the skate ramp. The ramp has been closed by North Northants Council as it has a hole in the platform surface. The children urged the council to do what they can to try and repair the ramp so that there is something for the children of all ages in the village to play on until the funds have been secured to build a new concrete ramp.

The Chairman explained that North Northants Council have decided that the ramp is now too old for them to repair, the parish council agreed to take over the cost of repairs to the ramp but have already had to pay out for two lots of repairs. Unfortunately it is quite difficult to see what condition the ramp is in underneath and so it might eventually be the case that the ramp becomes too expensive for the parish council to repair.

Cllr Bullock requested an agenda item for October regarding the naming of the road known locally as the C31, there was some confusion regarding whether the road was known as this anymore or not. The Chairman agreed to look into it and report back at the meeting in October.

**24/95 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. None received.

**24/96 Minutes of the ordinary parish council meeting on July 15<sup>th</sup> 2024** The minutes were circulated prior to the meeting, it was **Resolved** to approve and sign the minutes as a correct record.

**24/97 Matters arising from previous meetings, no decisions made.**  
None.

**24/98 North Northants Councillor update (for information)**

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Cllr Hakewill explained that he had helped the Clerk with trying to establish why the skate ramp had been fenced off without the parish council being told, Cllr Hakewill had received an apology from North Northants Council for this.

A councillor asked about the pub site and the recently filled in foundations, Cllr Hakewill explained that as the foundations have now been started the planning approval for the site will remain valid and will be in place forever.

Cllr Hakewill explained that NNC are currently supporting a community orchard initiative and are also undergoing a peer review process this week.

A councillor asked whether the principle councils policy on school bus allocations has changed in the last 12 months. Cllr Hakewill explained that this is a very complex issue and although prices have increased for school transport it is not thought that there have been any other fundamental changes, it was agreed that this is not a parish council issue.

## **24/99 To receive the Clerks report and reports from Councillors attending meetings or training on behalf of Mawsley PC.**

The Clerk attended the Ncalc Lunchtime Lowdown session in Private and Confidential matters.

## **24/100 Planning**

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

NK/2024/0433 80 Old Gorse Way, Mawsley, NN14 1GJ Replacement windows and doors

<https://www.kettering.gov.uk/planningApplication/133869>

It was **Resolved** to submit No Comments.

NK/2024/0459 1 Cransley Court, Mawsley, NN14 1SX Replacement windows and doors

<https://www.kettering.gov.uk/planningApplication/133929>

It was **Resolved** to submit No Comments.

NK/2024/0457 32 Rose Hill Way, Mawsley, NN14 1TT Replacement windows and doors.

<https://www.kettering.gov.uk/planningApplication/133928>

It was **Resolved** to submit No Comments.

NK/2024/0498 3 The round, Mawsley, Replacement windows and doors.

It was **Resolved** to submit No Comments.

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## 24/101 Finance

1. Resolution to subscribe to the Parish Online mapping service, the subscription cost is £86.40 per year. It was **Resolved** to subscribe to Parish Online following a trial period.
2. To approve the following payments that were paid in between meetings

Payee	Detail	Amount £
F Young	Clerks salary June	826.64
Blossom and Bloom 027	Memorial garden	47.00
Blossom and Bloom 026	Memorial garden	102.00
Rampchild	Skate ramp repair	1080.00

It was **Resolved** to approve the above payments.

3. To approve the following payments for September plus any invoices that are submitted prior to the meeting.

Payee	Detail	Amount £
Staff Costs	Staff Costs	£826.64
HMRC	Quarterly Payment	733.94
Zurich Insurance	PC Insurance	2167.17 (last year of 3 yr LTA)
Doorway Services	TCAM faulty door	£150.00
Cuttlefish	Website, email and domain name	702.00
TCAM	Reimburse the patio extension	7200.00
PKF Littlejohn	External audit report	378.00
TCAM	Meeting room hire	25

It was **Resolved** to approve the above payments.

4. To note receipt of the bank reconciliation statement for 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

Opening balance 01.04.2024 £183,675.65 plus receipts £74,519.85 minus payments  
£37,628.30 =  
**£220,567.20**

Bank balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024  
Unity Current Account £74,839.64

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Unity Reserve Account ( reserve funds) £68,143.97

Nationwide Savings Account ( Emergency contingency repairs fund for TCAM) £77,583.59

**Total = £220,567.20**

5. Confirmation that checks by the internal controls councillor have been completed. Cllr Moore confirmed that the internal controls checks have been completed and there are no concerns.
6. To confirm receipt of the Conclusion of Audit notice from PKF Littlejohn, to also note any actions required by the external audit report. It was **Resolved** to accept the external audit report, it was noted that there are no actions required. The relevant paperwork has been posted online.
7. Review of the budget against expenditure to August 31<sup>st</sup> 2024 The Clerk circulated the budget report prior to the meeting, there was one query on the budget category that will be used for the £7200 expenditure for the new patio at TCAM. It was agreed that this would come under the TCAM maintenance budget as it was unlikely that there would be much more to spend on this category this financial year.

## 24/102 Community Items

a) Highways – to report any issues. The clerk reported that she has chased the extra 20mph signs with NNC but has not received a response, another email will be sent. Concern was raised that the new adoptions that have gone through this year have not been included yet on the grounds maintenance schedule for NNC. It was agreed to monitor this.

b) The Centre at Mawsley, to include the following,

To receive an update from Tcam .

July was a good month for the Centre with both sales and expenses in-line with budget. The Centre made a surplus of £3,103 for the month. As for previous years August was a quiet month. Normally the Centre makes a loss in the month but this year there was a small surplus £654. Year to date the Centre is in surplus.

The patio extension was completed in August and is now being used. New furniture is still to be ordered but is under discussion with the supplier.

We are awaiting news on the grant application following further questions and adjustment of the application. (We could not include electric showers in the application).

A councillor asked when the current contract for energy supply ends, the electricity one ends on December 1<sup>st</sup> and the gas ends on March 31<sup>st</sup>. New contracts are currently being investigated.

c) Memorial Garden

1. Resolution to decide what action to take regarding the plastic planters at the memorial garden, the possible actions are as follows– removal of the plastic planters due to watering difficulties, replace the existing annual plants in the planters with drought tolerant plants or replace existing plastic planters with new ones and plant with drought tolerant plants.

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Following a visit to the memorial garden it was **Resolved** to plant some more drought tolerant plants in the beds, to also add in some seasonal colour for Remembrance weekend and to not replace the small green plastic planter. The Chairman has offered to refurbish the fallen soldier and the planter will be removed at the same time. The soldier will then be re-sited on the other side of the memorial so that he is facing the remembrance wreaths. This will be done after this years Remembrance event. The clerk will ask a local builder to repair a concrete bar that has fallen into the flower bed at the back of the memorial and to also re-secure the pole holding the solar panel as it is leaning to one side.

## d) Skate Ramp

1. Retrospective resolution to agree to repairs on the existing wooden skate ramp in order to keep it in usable condition. Repairs financed by Mawsley PC on the understanding that the skate ramp remains the property of North Northants Council and that North Northants Council continue inspecting and insuring the ramp for public liability. Repairs £3375.00 +vat

It was **Resolved** to retrospectively agree to these repairs which had to be done in between meetings and during the Clerks annual leave. The main surface of the ramp was replaced at a cost of £3375.00.

2. Resolution to undertake further repairs as needed and to set a maximum expenditure for repairs over which the skate ramp will be regarded as 'beyond economical repair'

The clerk reported that over the summer a second repair had been required to the skate ramp, this was classed as an emergency repair as the ramp was dangerous, the repair was to one of the two landing platforms. The cost of the repair was £1080.00 inc vat.

The Clerk explained that now a third repair was needed on the ramp as a hole had appeared on the other landing platform. North Northants Council have currently fenced off the ramp so that it cannot be used.

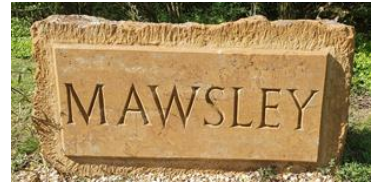
A councillor proposed that the ramp has reached the end of its viable life and that it needs to be removed in order to avoid compromising user safety. This proposal was not seconded or voted on.

Following a lengthy discussion Cllr Clode proposed the following –

- Contact Dave Lane at NNC and ask them to look at the latest recommended repairs and ask for assurance that this would be the last large repair bill for the ramp and that the ramp would remain safe to use for another 12 months
- Also ask NNC if we are able to get a second quote
- Ask Dave Childs at Rampchild if he is able to assure the PC that this repair should be the last one and that the ramp is likely to remain safe and usable for another 12 months
- If an assurance is received and the ramp repair figure remains in the region of £1900 then the repairs can be done.
- If no assurance is received and the repair bill is likely to exceed £1900.00 then council will need to revisit this decision.

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The proposal was seconded by Cllr Kennedy and passed by a majority of six votes to one against.

e) Police – Resolution to request that police representatives attend the monthly PC meetings if possible It was **Resolved** to only request Police attendance if there was a specific item that needed to be discussed.

## **24/103 Correspondence for information, action to be agreed**

- Resident email regarding planning application NK/2024/0454 – no action required
- Resident email regarding the maintenance of Ellis Lane – forwarded to NNC Cllrs.
- NNC /Kier Drop in surgeries dates in September – Circulated to Council.
- NNC Member Code of Conduct matters – Circulated to Council
- NNC, Strategic Town and Parish Forum, next meeting invite Tuesday November 26<sup>th</sup>, 6.30pm, the Cube, Corby – to agree attendance
- Have your say on Polling District and Polling Place Review 2024 /Designation of Kettering Central neighbourhood – consultation ends October 25<sup>th</sup> 2024 – cllrs invited to complete consultation
- NNC- Community Governance Review – Circulated to Cllrs
- Woodland Trust – Free saplings offer
- NCalc Annual Conference and AGM – Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup> 2024, 9.15 to 1pm Cllr Kennedy to attend.
- Moulton Community Centre – to nominate voting attendee.
- Resident complaint about the overgrown bushes near to the bus stop opposite the pond – referred to NNC.
- Resident complaint regarding the general appearance of the village and the standards of maintenance – resident referred to NNC Cllrs.
- Resident complaint about overgrown trees – Clerk referred to NNC
- Ncalc Training Letter – circulated to councillors

## **24/104 Next meeting October 21st 2024**