

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 November 18th, 2024, at 7.00pm. The meeting took place at TCAM.

Present

In person – Councillors R Barnwell (Chairman), K White, A Moore, S Kennedy, W Bontoft

One resident.
John Holton (TCAM)
NNC Cllr Jim Hakewill

24/116 Apologies - members to approve apologies for absence.
Apologies were received and approved from Cllr Juliet Bontoft and Cllr Nicki Clode.

24/117 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.

There were no public comments.

24/118 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.

There were no declarations of interest.

24/119 Minutes of the ordinary parish council meeting on October 21st, 2024
Subject to approved amendments the minutes will be confirmed as a correct record.

The minutes of the October meeting were circulated prior to the meeting, there were no amendments, and the minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

24/120 Matters arising from previous meetings, no decisions made.

- Tim Sellens from Taylor Wimpey, confirmed as attending the December PC meeting.
- Hawthorn Av dangerous parking reported to Taylor Wimpey.
- Request for more 20mph signs from NNC chased up, no response to date.
- Request for a drop kerb from NNC chased up – No response to date.

Matters arising were noted.

24/121 North Northants Councillor update (for information)

NNC Cllr Hakewill updated the council about several items including the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and the budget process at NNC. Cllr Hakewill also spoke about the planning application for Barnwell Court, he advised that the parish council could still send a letter to the planning officer regarding the application and the concerns that the council has, the application has been submitted under permitted development rights and therefore.

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comments from residents and the parish council are not considered. There are several objections logged on the council planning portal. It is clear that the planning policy that was developed to help commercial units in town centres convert to residential is not suitable for rural villages.

24/122 To receive the Clerks report and reports from Councillors attending meetings or training on behalf of Mawsley PC. The Clerk attended 'AI for Councils' run by Nalco, the clerk also explained to councillors that there is a consultation online about remote council meetings, all councillors are urged to complete the consultation.

24/123 Planning

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

NK/2024/0607 14 Long Breech, Mawsley. Replacement of conservatory roof

It was **Resolved** to submit no comments.

2. **For information only, Not Consultation** - NK/2024/0608 17 Barnwell Court, The Green, Mawsley. Change of use Class B1 Business to C3 Residential, 3 x 1-bedroom flats. *Please note this is not an application that will be considered by the parish council, Clerk to provide further information.*

It was **Resolved** to send a letter to the planning officer confirming that the council has concerns regarding this application, particularly in relation to the parking provisions which are not adequate and the reference to the bus service which is actually very limited contrary to the Design & Access Statement.

3. **Green Hill Solar Farm** – Clerk to provide an update regarding the public consultation. The public consultation for this very large solar farm will run from Nov 8th to December 19th, more information can be found on <https://greenhillsolar.co.uk/>

24/124 Staffing

1. Resolution to approve the increase in the national pay scales for parish clerks for the year 2024-2025, resolution to approve the backdating of the increase to April 1st 2024. Actual increase is 0.61p/hr

It was **Resolved** to approve the increase and the backdated pay.

24/125 Finance

1. To approve the following payments for November and any that arrive between the agenda and the meeting date.

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Payee	Detail	Amount £
Clerk	Clerks salary November plus back pay to April 1st	1010.48
F Young	Reimburse for memorial plaque	7.70
TCAM	Room hire	25.50
RBL Kettering Branch	Remembrance wreaths x 2	40.00*
Mawsley Villagers Association	Fireworks event grant	1000.00*

*paid in between meetings, agreed October meeting.

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

2. To note receipt of the bank reconciliation statement for 31st October 2024

Opening balance 01.04.2024 £183,675.65 plus receipts £75,277.71 minus payments £51,360.22 =
£207,593.14

Bank balances as at 31st October 2024

Unity Current Account £61,107.72

Unity Reserve Account (reserve funds) £68,616.31

Nationwide Savings Account (Emergency contingency repairs fund for TCAM) £77,869.11

Total = £207,593.14

The bank reconciliation was noted.

3. Confirmation that checks by the internal controls councillor have been completed. Cllr Moore confirmed that he had completed the internal controls checks and there were no concerns. The Chairman thanked Cllr Moore for all this work with the council, it was agreed that when Cllr Moore moves away from Mawsley, Cllr Kennedy will take over the role of Internal Controls Councillor.

24/126 Budget and Precept 2025-2026

To begin discussions regarding the budget for 2025-2026 before finalising the amount in the December meeting.

The Clerk circulated a draft budget prior to the meeting, she explained that the amounts in the draft budget so far were costs that occur every year, the amounts have been adjusted for the coming financial year to allow for the increase in the cost of living and the changes to National insurance payments.

It was agreed that the budget and precept would be finalised in the December meeting.

24/127 Community Items

a) Highways – The Clerk explained that she had contacted NNC Highways regarding the 20mph signs and the drop kerb for the Memorial Green, both issues are now being looked into.

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

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To receive an update from Tcam . The following update was received from John Holton at Tcam, '*October was another poor month for the Centre with a loss of £2,717. This again was due to low bar revenues £6,400 under budget. Discussions with Marston's indicated that low sales are seen across the hospitality sector so the Centre is not unique. Results for November to February are historically poor so discussions are ongoing on any necessary actions. Finally we received the news that our grant application was unsuccessful. No explanation was forthcoming however the scheme was greatly oversubscribed and the Centre did not fully meet the stated criteria. We are looking to progress the installation of a heat pump to run the underfloor heating and hot water. This would allow us to dispense with the requirement for gas which is up for contract negotiation by March. Technically we need to ensure that this is a viable solution for all the Centre's heating needs. Longer term we would look to install solar panels. Grants are being sort to support these installations but we will need the Council's financial assistance.*

Renegotiation of the electricity supply contract is in progress. This will inevitably produce a significant price increase and we will assess the impact once we have the figures.'

Bonfire night was very successful with over 2,500 attendees, over 1,000 paying. The event was breakeven for the MVA thanks to the grant from the Parish Council.

Mr Holton also mentioned that a quote had been received for the electricity supply contract for TCAM and the cost was substantially more than this year which will cause financial concerns.

It was agreed that Cllr White would meet with John Holton before the next parish council meeting and discuss the coming financial year.

c) Memorial Garden

1. To receive an update including one new memorial plaque installed. The Clerk reported that one new memorial plaque had been installed this week and a second one had been re placed.
2. To confirm details of a memorial for Mr Vic Cope. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

d) Skate Ramp

1. The Clerk confirmed that the wooden ramp has been removed by NNC.
2. To receive an update from Skate Mawsley. Cllr Bontoft reported that the group is still working on finding suitable grant finding streams. There is nothing else to report at the moment.

24/128 Correspondence for information, action to be agreed.

- Ncalc training newsletter – circulated
- Kier/Highways Drop In sessions (not for the public)
- Enquiry from a member of the public regarding a councillor vacancy.
- Ncalc updates
- Ncalc Health and Wellbeing survey – does council wish to respond?

24/129 Next meeting December 16th 2024.

To confirm the arrangements for the Christmas holiday period, the office will close 5pm Friday December 20th 2024 and reopen January 2nd 2025.