

**Minutes of the Council Meeting of
Nettleden with Potten End Parish Council Meeting**

held on

Thursday, 18th November 2021

in the **Church Room, Potten End, HP4 2QY at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs D Burfot (Chair), E Brennan, S Nelson, E Spanswick, D Westenholz-Smith and R Wright

In attendance: Mr T Douris (County and Borough Councillor), Mr A Farrow (Parish Clerk), Mr K Furness (Parish Warden) and five members of the public.

Agenda reference	Agenda item
21/132	Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs D Grimsdale and H Smith
21/133	Interests – there were no declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda or written requests or requests for grants of dispensations for declarable interests.
21/134	Minutes Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council on the 21 st October 2021 as circulated to members be signed as a correct record. Agreed unanimously.
21/135	Public Issues <ol style="list-style-type: none">Concern was expressed regarding a sign advertising logs for sale on The Green. Agreed that this was not desirable but noted that it was related to Martins Pond pub, should only be up for a short time, and that the contractors clearing the pond had used the pub carpark without permission.Concern was expressed regarding the inconsistent application of conservation yellow lines on roads around the village. Cllr Douris agreed to meet with Mr and Mrs Barnard to identify where the problems lay.At the October council meeting (21/123.b) concern had been expressed at the over-enthusiastic policing of the Village Hall carpark when used by parents dropping off children at the school. It was noted that the Hall had taken the initiative in making parking available for parents on the understanding that it would be policed by a parent which had not been forthcoming, and that parents would have left the car park before the hall's first booking. If this was abused then the ability to use the carpark would be withdrawn. Any complaints should be addressed either to the school or the Chairman of the hall trustees.Problems had been experienced with cars parking on the pavement in Vicarage Rd. Absent someone to enforce the situation where the pavement was completely blocked no action could be taken (but see 21/139.f below)The use of Church Rd and Vicarage Rd as a detour around the roadworks on The Common had highlighted the lack of room on both roads because of parked cars. Further work was anticipated on The Common in 2022 and Cllr Douris undertook to try to arrange for no waiting cones to be deployed.It was noted that the possibility of crowdfunding to purchase some or all of the woodland behind Brown Springs was on the agenda (21/137.d) but that the asking price was extortionate and wouldn't be a good use of the council's time.

Agenda reference	Agenda item
	g. Cllr Douris noted that he had authorised payment of grants of £500 toward the allotment car park and £1,000 toward the new play equipment (see 21/141.a.ii below).
21/136	Matters outstanding – all in hand or covered elsewhere.
21/137	Correspondence received
	a. Concern had been expressed at parking on pavements in Vicarage Rd (see 21/135.d above)
	b. Dacorum enforcement of Public Space Protection Order – noted that Dacorum had appointed District Enforcement which had powers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices of £80 should they witness people littering, failing to clean up after their dog or breaching any other Public Spaces Protection Order.
	c. Inconsistent application of yellow lines in conservation area (see 21/135.b above)
	d. To consider a request that the Parish Council organises crowd funding to purchase all or some of the woodland behind Brown Springs (see 21/135.f above)
	e. Noted that a consultation had started on the Hertfordshire to Essex Rapid Transit, closing on 28 th January 2022.
	f. Concern had been expressed that some hedges were restricting pavements. Agreed to encourage residents to cut their hedges back over the next few months before the nesting season starts.
21/138	Parish Warden report
	The Tommy had been erected and the allotment plot markers installed. Fly-tipping along Bullbeggars had been reported and outside the burial ground had been removed. Litter picking continued to be light. A start had been made on cutting back the vegetation on the Old Green. The damaged fingerpost from the junction with Nettleden Rd with Vicarage Rd had been removed after the recent accident.
21/139	Report of Traffic and Highways Working Party
	a. The fingerpost at the junction of Nettleden Rd with Vicarage Rd – the damage after the recent accident was noted. The Clerk had asked the police for contact details for the driver to submit an insurance claim. The Council confirmed that subject to price it wished to replace the sign.
	b. DriveSafe – responsibility for the campaign had now been assumed by the Lead Volunteers who had submitted the petition together with proposed locations to the Police and Crimes Commissioner.
	c. 20's Plenty – Cllr Nelson confirmed that the council was now affiliated to the campaign. Noted that Hertfordshire Highways was undertaking a process to identify areas that might benefit from a 20 mph limit which included Potten End. Feedback to this was that criteria that HCC used in this process did not include reduction in emissions and noise pollution or the great Community support as detailed in the recent Parish Highways survey. Cllr Douris noted this
	d. Hertfordshire Police and Crimes Commissioner survey – agreed the proposed response subject to changing the answer to question 5.1 to 'very important'.
	e. School wig-wag - Cllr Douris noted that there was a technical glitch with the school wigwag sign which might mean that it didn't turn off over school holidays.

Agenda reference	Agenda item	
	f. Police attendance at council meetings - Cllr Douris reported that he had contacted the Chief Constable to express concern at the poor representation of the police at parish council meetings.	
21/140	Report and update from the Planning Working Party	
	a. Noted the following responses to planning applications submitted to Dacorum BC since the last Council Meeting under the Clerk's delegated powers.	
	21/03617/FHA Stable Cottage, Ivy House Lane, HP4 2PP	Object
	Proposed one and a half storey infill extension with new dormer matching rear elevation, conversion of existing barn to host living, bedroom and WC.	
	21/03886/FUL Frithsden Vineyard, Frithsden Lane, HP1 3DD	Object
	Construction of 3 x guest accommodation treehouses	
	b. Agreed responses to the following planning application:	
	21/03525/ROC 38 Rambling Way, Potten End, HP4 2SF	Object
	Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 21/00138/FUL (construction of 5 dwelling houses including associated hard and soft landscaping).	
	The Council had been mediating between local residents and the developer regarding this application and although the recommendation was to retain the objection if agreement could be reached the application could be supported.	
	21/04238/ROC Pilgrims Landing. The Hamlet. Potten End, HP4 2RD	No objection
	Variation of condition 4 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 4/01758/19/FHA (Replacement two-storey side extension, ground floor rear extension, partial loft conversion, rebuilding of and enlargement of chimney to southwest side elevation, two rear rooflights, alterations to window and doors, landscaping, new access and other alterations.)	
	21/04261/ROC IET House, Chestnut Close, Potten End, HP4 2RN	No objection
	Variation of condition 18 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 21/01213/FUL - Demolition of existing commercial premises and construction of 3 houses, together with associated accesses and landscaping.	
	c. Agreed responses to the following planning applications received after the agenda was published.	
	21/04276/FHA Pedley, Vicarage Rd, Potten End, HP4 2QZ	No objection
	Proposed front extension with gable roof and new velux windows	
	21/04314/TCA 2 Nursery Terrace, Potten End, HP4 2QU	No objection
	Tree work	
	21/04342/FHA The Old Granary, Little Heath Lane, HP4 2RT	Defer
	Replacement windows	
21/141	Report and Update from the Open Spaces and Leisure Working Party	
	a. Spencer Holland Development Strategy	
	i. Noted that the artificial grass surface has been installed.	

Agenda reference	Agenda item
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- ii. **Resolved** – that the Parish Council commit to expenditure of £48,000 with Sovereign Design Play Systems Ltd. For the installation of new play equipment on Spencer Holland. Agreed unanimously.
- b. **Sports Ground** – noted that the Cricket Club had leafleted houses bordering on the sports field with their proposal to install a higher safety net and were in the process of submitting a planning application.
- c. **Burial Ground** – noted that commitments of £1,425 had been received toward the installation of an avenue of flowering cherry trees to commemorate the Queen’s Platinum Anniversary.
- d. **Christmas tree** – a rooted tree had been planted. Agreement was given for a cut tree to be acquired for the first year whilst the rooted tree established itself.
- e. **Allotments** – rents of £884 had been received which was broadly in line with budget.
- f. **Memorial bench** – approve the installation of a memorial bench on the sports field.
- g. **Defibrillator** – agreed to submit a proposal to Cllr Douris for a defibrillator at The Alford Arms at Frithsden.
- h. **The Pond** – noted that Clearwater had spent three days clearing crassula and lilies from the pond. Clearwater confirmed that in their opinion the silt in the pond did not require any urgent attention.

21/142 Report and Update from the Finance and Administration Working Party

- a. **Approved** a grant to the Parochial Church Council of St Lawrence, Nettleden for £460 for grass cutting in 2021.
Resolved that in accordance with the council’s powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 that it should incur the expenditure of £460 being the cost of grass cutting from March to November 2021 for the Parochial Church Council of St Lawrence, Nettleden, which in the opinion of the council is in the interest of the area and its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure. Agreed unanimously.

- b. **Approved** the purchase of a wreath for the festival of remembrance under s. 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Resolved that in accordance with the council’s powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 that it should incur the expenditure of £21.98 being the cost of a wreath for Remembrance Day, which in the opinion of the council is in the interest of the area and its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure. Agreed unanimously.

- c. **Financial report** – noted the report as submitted to members

d. Noted payments made

A&M Services (London) Ltd	2 x Christmas trees (one to be reimbursed by Great Gaddesden PC)	£618.00
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e. Approved payment of the following accounts:

K Furness	Parish Warden duties	£448.00
DCVS	Clerk’s salary	£864.23

Agenda reference	Agenda item	
	DCVS	Payroll administration £31.20
	Nest	Clerk's pension £23.84
	A Farrow	Expenses £403.61
	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly service charge £18.00
	Nomow Ltd	Supply and installation of artificial grass on Spencer Holland £8,928.00
	PCC of St Lawrence Nettleden	Grass cutting for 2021 £460.00
	Potten End Bowls Club	Grant payment toward defibrillator and handrail onto playing surface £300.00
	Potten End Gardening Club	Grant for bulbs planted around Potten End £97.34
f.	Noted payments received	
	Allotment rents	Cheques and cash £286.50
	New playground equipment	Online and cash £2,000.00
	Great Gaddesden PC	Share of Christmas tree £257.50
	M Lutt & Sons	Donation for Christmas tree £394.12

- g. 2022-2025 Budget** – noted the first draft of the budget which included reserves allocated for the maintenance and replacement of the artificial football surface and the new play equipment for the first time. The budget assumed a 5% increase in precept for each of the next three years. A final decision on the precept for 2022/23 was not required until January 2022.

21/143 Date and time of next meetings

The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on 16th December 2021 at the Church Room, Potten End.

The meeting closed at 21:17.

Signed

Dated