

Minutes of the Council Meeting of

Nettleden with Potten End Parish Council

held at **7.30pm on Thursday, 19th January 2023**

at the **Church Room, Church Rd, Potten End, HP4 2QY**

Present: D Burfot (chair), J Berry, D Grimsdale (for items 23/001 – 23/010 and 23/011.e and f), H Smith, and D Westenholz-Smith.

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

Agenda ref. Agenda item

23/001 Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs Brennan and Spanswick.

23/002 Declaration of interests – none.

23/003 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council at 7pm on the 15th December 2022 as circulated to members be signed as a correct record. Agreed unanimously.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council at 7.30pm on the 15th December 2022 as circulated to members be signed as a correct record. Agreed unanimously

23/004 Public Issues

- a. Requested that the possibility of using speed signs with yellow backings along The Common if the speed limit was changed (22/099.e) be added to the outstanding issues list. Agreed.
- b. Requested that the possibility of a white 'H' bar being placed across the dropped kerb outside the church be added to the outstanding issues list. This hasn't previously been minuted and will be added to the February agenda.
- c. Concern was expressed at the state of repair of the safety netting on the sports field.
- d. The Council was asked how it conformed to the requirement in the conveyance that it "make proper regulations as to the playing of games" on the sports field. Agreed that the Clerk would respond after the meeting.
- e. Concern was expressed as to the regularity of the bus service in recent weeks (see 23/008.d)

23/005 General matters outstanding

- a. Noted that there was general community support for some sort of community event over the coronation bank holiday weekend and that the festival committee would be considering how this might best be implemented.

23/006 Correspondence received

- a. **Gritting of roads** – concern had been expressed as to the safety of The Back when icy. Agreed that The Back couldn't be considered in isolation from other roads not gritted by Hertfordshire Highways and that it wasn't practical for the Parish Council to grit those roads. However it would be possible for the Parish Council to install more grit bins to be topped up

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by supplies from Highways by the warden. Agreed that the Clerk would ascertain what interest there was for additional salt bins and report back to the Council.

- b. **Nettleden Rd gritting** – an accident had been reported caused by the icy conditions. Nettleden Rd is a designated secondary gritting route. When gritting route priority is reconsidered, Cllr Douris will ask whether it can be upgraded.
- c. **Cutting back of hedge along Hempstead Lane** – concern had been expressed that the pavement along Hempstead Lane was being obstructed by a large holly hedge. Agreed that the Clerk would write to the owners asking that it be cut back.
- d. **Kerb parking on Vicarage Rd** – concern had been expressed that the pavement was being obstructed by cars parking on it. The local PCSO had agreed to monitor the situation. Agreed that the Clerk should ask the PCSO whether it would be appropriate for the Parish Council to place notices on such cars.
- e. **Cricket balls** – concern had been expressed at the lack of progress on an improved safety net on the sports field. Noted that the Council was awaiting legal advice before responding,
- f. **Bus service** – concern had been expressed as the regularity of the service in recent weeks. See 23/004.e and 23/008.d

23/007 Parish Warden

General litter picking had been undertaken. There had been some fly-tipping at the pond end of Vicarage Rd. The Christmas lights had been taken down. The play equipment had been checked and no issues identified. The burial ground gates had been repaired.

23/008 Report of Traffic and Highways Working Party

- a. **Outstanding issues** – none not covered below
- b. **Upcoming road works** – noted.
- c. **20's Plenty** – noted.
- d. **Bus service** – Cllr Douris reported that a new on-demand bus service covering the parish would be implemented from Autumn 2023. More information will follow.
- e. **The Common speed limit** – Cllr Douris reported that Hertfordshire Highways had agreed to investigate how recorded speeds along The Common could be reduced so that a 40mph limit could be implemented. The initial planning is likely to take place shortly but the implementation of a solution would not be until the 2023/24 financial year.
- f. **School Gardens** – Cllr Douris reported that repairs to School Gardens were underway and that a quote to implement bollards would be provided shortly.
- g. **Elderly persons crossing sign** – Cllr Douris reported that a sign will be installed at the entrance to Common Gardens.
- h. **School parking** – Cllr Douris reported that traffic wardens had been on site recently to monitor parking on yellow lines during drop-off/pick-up.
- i. **Water End Rd SID** – noted that a third SID was to be installed by mid-2023.
- j. **Drive Safe signs** – noted that Town and Parish Councils implementing their equivalent of the DriveSafe campaign in the Thames Valley police area advertised the initiative on village signs. The Potten End DriveSafe team had been asked to raise this with the Hertfordshire PCC at their next meeting with him in April.

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23/009 Report and Update from the Open Spaces and Leisure Working Party

- a. **National Trust** – noted that five people had volunteered to act as the new Parish representative on the Ashridge Estate Committee and that the first applicant was in discussion with the NT to determine time commitment.
- b. **Burial Ground** – noted that the outer gates to the car park had been vandalised twice in the past week but had been repaired. Agreed that Cllr Nelson would provide the Warden with a motion-activated camera.

23/010 Report and update from the Planning Working Party

- a. **Decisions by Dacorum BC on planning applications** - noted as presented to members.
- b. **Noted** that the following responses had been given to planning applications under the Clerk's delegated powers since the last Council Meeting.

22/03657/FHA Stable Cottage, Ivy House Lane, HP4 2PP No objection
Erection of single storey side extension

- c. **Agreed** a response to the following planning application:

22/03473/FHA Tall Trees, Little Heath Lane, Potten End, HP4 2RY No objection
Ground and first floor side and rear house extensions and associated alterations including a new pitched roof to the existing annex. New double garage and replacement access gates

- d. No planning applications had been received after the agenda was published.

23/011 Report and Update from the Finance and Administration Working Party

- a. **Payment of invoices** - approve as presented to members.
- b. **Payments received** – noted as presented to members
- c. **Bank account reconciliation at 31st December 2022** – noted as presented to members.
- d. **Election arrangements for May 2023** – noted

e. Budget 2023-24

Financial position as at 31st December 2022 – noted as presented to members

Budget for 2023-24

Resolved: to accept the budget as presented to members requiring a 10% increase in precept. Agreed unanimously.

f. Precept 2022-23

Resolved: That Nettleden with Potten End Parish Council under section 41 of the Local Government Act 1992 hereby give notice that in respect of the financial year beginning on 1st April 2023, the sum of £23,995 is required to meet the expenses of the Council. We hereby require the levy of the said sum as an additional item of Council Tax for the Parish by Dacorum Borough Council, being the Billing Authority for the Borough and that Councillors Burfoot, Grimsdale and Berry be authorized to sign the demand for the precept on behalf of the council. Agreed unanimously.

23/012 Date and time of next meetings

The next meetings will be held at the Church Room, Potten End at 7.30pm on

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Thursday 16th February 2023

Thursday 16th March 2023

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed

Dated.....

DRAFT