

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

held at **7.30pm on Thursday, 18 July 2024**

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

**Present:** D Burfot (chair), J Berry, E Brennan, S Nelson, E Spanswick and D Westenholz-Smith

**In attendance:** T Douris (Borough and County Councillor), A Farrow (Parish Clerk), and sixteen members of the public.

**Agenda ref.      Agenda item**

**24/083      Apologies for absence** were received and accepted from Cllrs Grimsdale and Smith.

**24/084      Declaration of interests** – Cllr Burfot declared an interest in item 24/091.a and took no part in the debate relating to that item.

**24/085      Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Council at 7:30pm on 20 June 2024 as circulated to members be signed as a correct record. Agreed unanimously.

**24/086      Public Issues**

- a. A question was asked whether Cllr Smith should have declared an interest in the discussions at the April, May and June Council meetings relating to the possible installation of new benches on Spencer Holland. The Clerk advised that he did not consider it necessary.
- b. A question was raised about the participation of Cllr Westenholz-Smith as a teller during the general election. The Clerk advised that as Cllr Westenholz-Smith was not acting in her capacity as a Parish Councillor this was not an appropriate subject for the Parish Council.
- c. The hedgerows along Nettleden Road by the junction with Frithsden Lane were overgrown and should be reported to Highways.
- d. A question was raised regarding the clearance of drains along Nettleden Rd by the junction with Frithsden Lane.
- e. With regard to 24/092.c it was noted that the opening up of the second phase of the SANG would be determined by the demand for SANG capacity, but it wasn't clear how the second phase would be maintained prior to being opened up.
- f. With regard to 24/078/c (24/01138/RET), the council was asked to reconsider its objection to a planning application at 51 Hempstead Lane (see 24/092).

**24/087      Correspondence received not covered elsewhere in the agenda**

- a. Dacorum Community Safety Partnership – agreed to ask Cllr Grimsdale whether he would act as the Council's contact point.
- b. The Council was asked that any changes to parking in Homefield be discussed with residents; it was noted that the topic had only arisen because of an approach from a resident and it was re-affirmed that any changes would be subject to consultation.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>c. The Council was asked to reconsider its decision in May that the grant request from the Trustees of the Village Hall be included in the public consultation for how to spend CIL funds and be prioritised for immediate approval (24/065). The Council saw no reason to reconsider its previous decision.</li><li>d. The Council was asked to note an objection to the SANG (24/092.c) on the grounds of increased traffic, the impact on the landscape, and facilitating anti-social behaviour.</li></ul>															
<b>24/088</b>	<b>General matters outstanding</b> – noted as presented to members.															
<b>24/089</b>	<b>Parish Warden</b> – general litter-picking including the sports field where large quantities of plastic bottles were removed. The hedge at the burial ground had been cut. Fly tipping had been monitored.															
<b>24/090</b>	<b>Report of Traffic and Highways Working Party</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. <b>Outstanding issues</b> – noted the update presented to members.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. The work to drainage at the bottom of Roman Road had been completed.</li><li>ii. The reduction to the speed limit along The Common had been delayed and was now anticipated in September.</li></ul></li><li>b. <b>Roadworks</b> – noted the update presented to members.</li><li>c. <b>HCC 20mph programme</b> – noted the update provided to members.</li></ul>															
<b>24/091</b>	<b>Report and Update from the Open Spaces and Leisure Working Party</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. <b>Grass cutting contract</b> – resolved to extend the current contract until the end of the calendar year to allow the scope of the contract to be reviewed. Agreed unanimously.</li><li>b. <b>Play equipment</b> – noted that Cllrs Smith and Spanswick are now qualified to carry out weekly checks on the play equipment.</li><li>c. <b>Burial Ground</b> – resolved that with the agreement of his family, the Parish Council would fund a memorial to Luke Haines, the contractor who died so tragically whilst trying to fix the flooding along Hempstead Lane. Agreed unanimously.</li><li>d. <b>Spencer Holland</b> – noted that the Clerk had commissioned work to remove a low-hanging branch across Vicarage Rd that was causing problems for high-sided vehicles.</li></ul>															
<b>24/092</b>	<b>Report and update from the Planning Working Party</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. <b>Decisions by Dacorum BC on planning applications</b> – noted as presented to members.</li><li>b. <b>Planning Applications</b> – noted that no responses had been given under the Clerk's delegated powers since the last Council Meeting.</li><li>c. <b>Planning applications</b> – to agree a response to the following application:<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"><tr><td style="width: 30%;">24/01239/MFA</td><td style="width: 50%;">Land, Nettleden Road, Potten End</td><td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">Object</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Change of use from agricultural land to Suitable Accessible Natural Green Space (SANG), together with a vehicular access, car park, paths, fencing and landscaping.</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">The Council agreed by a majority to object to the application.</td></tr></table></li></ul> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"><tr><td style="width: 30%;">24/01138/RET</td><td style="width: 50%;">51 Hempstead Lane, Potten End, HP4 2RZ</td><td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">Defer</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Retention of first floor glass balustrade</td></tr></table>	24/01239/MFA	Land, Nettleden Road, Potten End	Object	Change of use from agricultural land to Suitable Accessible Natural Green Space (SANG), together with a vehicular access, car park, paths, fencing and landscaping.			The Council agreed by a majority to object to the application.			24/01138/RET	51 Hempstead Lane, Potten End, HP4 2RZ	Defer	Retention of first floor glass balustrade		
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This application was considered at the Council's June meeting (24/078.c) when it was agreed to object to the application. After representation from the applicant the Council agreed that Cllrs Berry and Brennan would conduct a site visit.

The Council agreed that if the Planning Working party recommended that the original decision should be changed that the Clerk could make that decision under his delegated powers.

**d. Planning applications** – no applications had been received since the agenda was published.

**e. Development at the bottom of Pouchen End Lane** – noted the update presented to members.

**24/093 Report and update from the Finance and Administration Working Party**

**a. Financial performance for Q1 2024/25** – noted as presented to members.

**b. Bank reconciliation** – noted as presented to members.

**c. Payment of invoices** – agreed as presented to members together with £380 to Baker Tree Services (see 24-091.d).

**d. Payments received and due** – noted as presented to members.

**e. Insurance** – resolved

i. to renew the Council's insurance with Aviva arranged through Clear Insurance Management Ltd on the terms presented to members.

ii. to confirm the statement of fact as presented to members.

Agreed unanimously.

**24/094 Date and time of next meetings**

There is no meeting in August.

The next meetings will be held at the Church Room, Potten End starting at 7:30pm on

Thursday 19 September 2024

Thursday 17 October 2024

The meeting closed at 20:42

Signed .....

Dated .....