

GRENDON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting - 09.12.2024

136.24	Public Open Forum. No members of the public attended.				
137.24	North Northamptonshire Councillor Reports. Present: Cllr Jon-Paul Carr. Apologies: Cllrs Tom Partridge Underwood and Martin Griffiths Highways contact re: flooding and emergency response procedures received by the clerk. Parish forum highways and community transport systems were discussed but there were no updates on the introduction of any new bus services. However, the Village Hopper was highly recommended. Presentation by Greenhill and the online consultation form and associated documentation were discussed. It was reiterated that every member of each household should respond individually. Section 19 flood report discussed; the draft has been submitted and is undergoing revisions. The revisions will be submitted to NNC for feedback to ensure all details are addressed adequately. Cllr Carr will investigate if there is a timeline for release which can be fed back to residents.				
138.24	To receive and accept apologies and reasons for absence. Cllr N Nimmo - unwell. Cllr M Howell - unwell. Cllr Smith - unwell. Present: Cllr C Dow (chair), Cllr P Mason, Cllr J Codner, Cllr M Herron, Cllr J Lister and S Tilaks (clerk/RFO).				
139.24	To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary or non-statutory disclosable interests from Councillors for items on the agenda. Cllr Herron - item 150.24 (iii)				
140.24	To receive requests for dispensation. None received.				
141.24	To sign the minutes of the council meeting. The minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2024 were resolved and signed .				
142.24	Police Matters - Monthly Crime Report. No crimes reported.				
143.24	Chair's Report. It was proposed and resolved to defer the election of a Chair, Vice Chair and agreed First Reserve to January 2025 as a result of the illness of multiple councillors.				
144.24	Finance. i. Income <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">31/10/2024</td> <td style="width: 60%;">Natwest Reserve acc interest</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">£26.91</td> </tr> </table> It was reviewed and resolved to approve the income as listed. ii. Expenditure *Where payment is made under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council is satisfied that the benefit is commensurate with the amount.	31/10/2024	Natwest Reserve acc interest	£26.91	
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Date	Payee	Amount inc. VAT	VAT	Payable under power
04/11/2024	Playdale playgrounds	£362.83	£60.47	S.164 Public Health Act 1875 & S.9 & 10 Open Spaces Act 1906
05/11/2024	Sylvia Tilaks	£584.80		S.112 LGA 1972
08/11/2024	Countrywide	£393.60	£65.60	S.10 Open Spaces Act 1906 S.96 Highways Act 1980
08/11/2024	ENC (streetlight)	£477.60	£79.60	S.301 Highways Act 1980
08/11/2024	Countrywide	£393.60	£65.60	Open Spaces Act 1906 S.96 Highways Act 1980
25/11/2024	DD Credit Card (allotment book and fee)	£33.20	£0.90	Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908 S.29 & S.150 LGA 1972
29/11/2024	Grendon Village Hall	£45.00		S.111 LGA 1972
29/11/2024	Savills	£430.00		S.10 Open Spaces Act 1906
30/11/2024	Service Charge	£6.00		S.150 LGA 1972

As of 30.11.24, the balance in the Current Account stands at **£8,675.99** (assuming all cheques presented).

The balance in the business premium accounts stands at **£22,631.21**

Out of this **£2,480.40** is earmarked to the Pathfinder grant. Planning is in progress to identify appropriate, compliant expenditure to be brought for resolution at a full parish council meeting.

It was **reviewed** and **resolved** to **approve the expenditure** as listed.

iii. To approve bank reconciliation 30.11.24

Bank reconciliation	30.11.2024		
Total receipts		£ 18,838.42	
less			
Total payments		£ 15,741.12	
Total receipts less total payments			£ 3,097.30
Plus opening balances as of 31.03.24	Unity	£ 5,771.90	
	Bus prem	£ 22,438.00	
			£ 31,307.20
Bank accounts closing balances			
Current AC: Unity Trust		£ 8,675.99	
Business Prem AC: Natwest		£ 22,631.21	
			£ 31,307.20
Plus credits not yet showing	None		
Less payments not yet showing	None		£ 31,307.20

It was **reviewed** and **resolved** to **approve the bank reconciliation** as listed.

iv. To discuss and resolve the proposed budget and precept for 2025

It was **proposed** and **resolved** to **defer the budget** until January 2025 when all/more members of the finance working party are present.

v. Business Savings Account

A replacement account for the NatWest savings account (interest 1.45%; gross 1.46%) was discussed. Unity Trust Instant Access variable rate savings account (current AER rate 2.62%) was

	<p>seen as the most beneficial because of ease of set up, link to the Council's current account and a reasonable savings interest rate for instant access.</p> <p>It was proposed and resolved to approve Unity Trust Instant Saver as the replacement for the current savings account.</p>	Clerk
145.24	<p>Flooding - Community Meeting</p> <p>i. To receive updates on the community flood working party meeting. A few meetings have now been held. Discussions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● response processes and actions, ● risk assessments and ● the purchase of mitigation tools from the pathfinder grant. <p>Working party members will vote on the choices for the purchase of the mitigation tools from the Pathfinder grant monies at the next working party meeting Monday 16th December 2024 and those choices will be presented for resolution at the next Parish Council meeting. Clerk to provide guidelines for grant compliant goods and services.</p> <p>ii. To receive updates on response protocols with/from partner agencies. Meeting held with EA to discuss flood prevention actions. These would need to be initiated by February 2025 due to nesting birds. If this timescale is not able to be met then action planned for September 2025.</p>	<p>CLRs Lister & Dow Clerk</p> <p>CLRs Lister & Dow</p>
146.24	<p>Policy reviews</p> <p>i. Sickness Policy It was reviewed and resolved to approve the amended Sickness Policy as listed.</p> <p>ii. Emergency Plan The update on the Emergency Plan is ongoing. Initial plan will be for Blackmile Lane with remainder of village to be added once initial draft has been formulated. Examples of necessary proposed additions include: energy and communications loss and other potential places of safety that are accessible from different areas of the village. Next update February 2025.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>CLRs Lister & Dow</p>
147.24	<p>Grit Bin - Blackmile Lane NNC have declined supplying a grit bin to Blackmile Lane, Grendon. It was proposed and resolved to defer the decision on a purchase of a new grit bin to January 2025 whilst an investigation into the damaged bin on Chequers Lane takes place. Clerk to research asset mapping register documents in order to update the Asset Register to include all the grit bin locations.</p>	Clerk
148.24	<p>Clerks Report To receive updates on:</p> <p>i. Kissing Gates - update Request for an upgrade on Fix My Street proposed and resolved.</p> <p>ii. Street Lighting upgrade costings report Defer to 2025.</p> <p>iii. Member Empowerment Fund - Cllr M Griffiths It was reviewed and resolved to approve an application to Cllr M Griffiths (available monies: £1,500) to replace the stile to a kissing gates on the inner circle Grendon walk.</p> <p>iv. Village communications and updates It was reviewed and resolved to approve the leaflet. Amendments: a higher contrast text colour; add Grendon Parish Council titling; reduce the size of the QR code. It was proposed and resolved to print 500 leaflets for up to £27 inc delivery and to set aside up to 100 leaflets for use at school and church events. It was proposed and resolved to agree allocation of councillors and zones for leaflet delivery to January 2025.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

149.24	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Joint letter to Highways ref: Station Road re-surfacing</p> <p>It was reviewed and resolved to approve the letter as listed with possible amendments added as required by EBPC.</p>	Clerk
150.24	<p>Planning</p> <p>Applications Received</p> <p>https://publicaccess.wellingborough.gov.uk/online-applications/</p> <p>i. NW/24/00657/FUL; 32 Manor Road Grendon Northampton NN7 1JF It was proposed and resolved to respond with no objections.</p> <p>ii. NW/24/00658/FUL; 30 Manor Road Grendon Northampton NN7 1JF It was proposed and resolved to respond with no objections.</p> <p>iii. NW/24/00635/FUL; 2-4 Church Farm Church Way It was proposed and resolved to respond with no objections.</p> <p>iv. Greenhill Solar Farm Public Consultation - Stage 2 under the Planning Act 2008 It was proposed and resolved to submit the responses set out in the draft solar farm document. It was proposed and resolved to action a joint response with other parish councils to the future scheduled elements of this planning process and applications.</p>	Clerk Clerk Clerk Clerk
151.24	<p>Playing Field update.</p> <p>i. Risk assessment not received due to councillor illness.</p> <p>ii. It was proposed and resolved to use Kettering Playsafe as the contractor to counteract the wet pour gap at the quoted cost of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● £1316.00 + VAT = £1579.20; remove approx 73 linear metres of timber edging, infill with new black rubber ramped down into grass <p>iii. The landing pad was replaced. The clerk was notified of 2 safety concerns by the contractor: wear to the scramble net and an exposed bolt. It was proposed and resolved to close access and use of the climbing frame while the issues noted by the contractor are investigated and/or until temporary measures to counteract the noted concerns are completed . Replacement cargo net/handrail quotes were received.</p>	Cllr Howell Clerk Cllr Howell Clerk
152.24	<p>Pocket Park update – including risk assessments</p> <p>i. Risk assessment not received due to councillor illness.</p> <p>ii. It was proposed and resolved to add the following checklist items with action priority to the risk assessment to mitigate potential flooding risks.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Does the grass require cutting back? ii. Is the vegetation on the bank by the park at an acceptable level? ii. Are the existing Ash trees on the banks at an acceptable height? Crown height @ approximately 2 metres Single trunk and No low overhanging branches iii. Are the banks free from loose branches and detritus? iv. Is the fencing by the bank secure and sound? NB: The landowner (field named Laycroft which is south of the Brook by Main Road) is responsible for keeping the outfall and flap valve clear of vegetation and detritus. <p>iii. The dead tree has now been removed. Thanks given to Arborescence Tree Care.</p>	Cllrs Nimmo Clerk Clerk
153.24	<p>Allotments update</p> <p>i. It was proposed and resolved to agree to: the updated tenancy agreement for 2025 as drafted and the letter notifying tenants of an annual increase for 2026 to include the reason for the increase.</p> <p>ii. It was proposed and resolved that the councillors responsible for the allotments will measure and mark out the 3 remaining plots in January 2025.</p>	Clerk Clerk Cllrs Smith & Herron
154.24	<p>Councillor ideas</p>	GPC

155.24	Items for information or next agenda Please provide any items for addition to the next agenda by 06.01.2025. Councillors to meet with Sarah Boole Friday 13th December 10am.	GPC
156.24	The date of next meeting 20 th January 2025	

Meeting ended: 21.50pm

Chair's Signature:

Date:

Signed copy held on file