

MINUTES OF STANWICK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

Date: 28th October 2021

Venue: Committee Room, Village Hall, Stanwick

Time: 7.15 p.m.

Present: Councillors:-
N Peck (in the chair)
S Glanville-Hughes
S Kitchener
M Partrick
J Paterson
M Taylor
Clerk to the Council J Hodgson
Members of the Public 0

NNC Councillor R Levell

21.100 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Konstantinidis had emailed his apologies.

Apologies were received from NNC Councillors Howell and Wilkes.

21.101 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held 23rd September 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

21.102 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made.

21.103 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

There were no members of the public present.

21.104 PRESENTATION BY CLASSQ

Mr T Helliwell and Mr M Taylor of Class Q gave a brief background to the company and outlined a housing development scheme that they felt addressed the needs identified in the Neighbourhood Plan and the Parish Plan on land to the rear of Stanwick Recreation Ground/Needham Road. It was noted that they had already consulted with the Local Education Authority and the Wildlife Trust.

It was noted that development in Stanwick is guided by the Neighbourhood Plan and at this time there was no plans to review the Plan.

21.105 HIGHWAY MATTERS – discussion with Highways liaison

a. Zebra crossing on Raunds Road

Concerns raised by a resident were considered. Ms Barnwell agreed that the vegetation on both sides of Raunds Road near the zebra crossing required cutting back to improve visibility. It was reported that the zebra crossing was not clearly visible on the road and this would be investigated to determine if the contrast can be improved. Ms Barnwell will look into the costs of upgrading the lights to a Belisha beacon head with a halo of super bright amber LEDs.

It was noted that the school crossing sign on Spencer Parade dated to when there was a school crossing person and the sign location was still valid as people would cross in the vicinity to get to school.

The ‘crossing’ sign nearer the zebra crossing was in place a general sign rather than a ‘school’ sign to make drivers aware that people could be crossing at any time.

It was noted that to upgrade the zebra crossing to a traffic light controlled crossing would likely cost in excess of £75,000.00.

b. Traffic speed and volumes on West Street/Spencer Parade/Raunds Road

Ms Barnwell advised that the only engineering solution Northants Highways could potentially offer would be to ‘build out’ i.e. chicanes. However this was largely achieved on Spencer Parade already by parked cars.

Chicanes would create a nuisance for nearby properties as engines idled and would remove on street parking where there was no opportunities for off street parking.

Ms Barnwell advised that speed humps would only be installed where there were incidents of serious collisions. Speed humps generally cause a nuisance for adjacent homeowners.

The situation will be monitored as the completion of the Chowns Mill improvements and changes to the Red Lion roundabout and Wetenhall Road junction scheduled for early 2022 may alleviate some of the situation.

c. Raunds Road footpath from Wetenhall Road to Raunds (safer route to school)

Concerns were raised that the footpath regularly became excessively overgrown restricting the usable pavement. It was noted that on occasions Northants Highways had cut this back but it was the landowner’s responsibility to maintain it.

The issue of the 30 mph being obscured by vegetation was raised together with the slow response time by Northants Highways to take action.

It was noted that vegetation on the opposite of the road (east bound) regularly encroached into the road causing cyclists and drivers to move into the centre of the carriageway and therefore oncoming traffic. It was advised that all problems should be reported via Street Doctor.

d. Volume and speed of traffic on Church Street

Further to Minute 21.95 h the Parish Council's Speed Indication Device had been used to collect traffic data on Chelveston Road between 29/09/21 and 09/10/21 and on Church Street 10/10/21 to 24/10/21.

The data shows that the volume of traffic has increased as predicted by the Parish Council following the building of Darcie Park. The raw data has been shared with Northants Police as Chelveston Road showed evidence of speeding. All traffic on Church Street with the exception of a couple of motorists were recorded at 30 mph or under and whilst this may be too fast for the road, it was within the legal limit.

The situation will be monitored as the completion of Chowns Mill improvements and changes to the Red Lion roundabout scheduled for early 2022 may alleviate some of the situation.

It was noted that details of 20mph advisory schemes had previously been circulated to council members (20.197 a) with further information from Northants Highways in September 2021: *At present there are no plans or political appetite to introduce wide ranging 20mph limits in the county. Whilst 20mph 'signed only' (advisory) limits instinctively feel like a good idea, the evidence is clear that the implementation of a 20mph restriction without physical calming measures will not translate into compliant speed. In other words there is disparity between the aspiration for a lower limit and the reality of conformity. In addition, any associated modal shift, health or environmental benefits are unlikely to be achieved without a significant reduction in speed. This is reinforced by the government study in 2018 which found that signed only 20mph limits have very small effects on speed and no reductions in casualties. In addition, local people did not perceive changes and behaviour improvements were small. Other than the government study (by far the largest and most sophisticated study to date) the whole subject lacks a robust body of evidence or clear insight to endorse 20mph restrictions in terms of tangible benefits and positive outcomes for local communities.*

e. Bollards and flower planters for High Street

Further to Minute 21.97 d Ms Barnwell agreed to obtain further information from the Regulations Team.

f. West Street verge from 30mph sign to the roundabout and onto A45

It was noted that this had not been cut this year and other expected works on West Street are outstanding. It was suggested that problems should be reported via Street Doctor.

g. Road surfacing at Raunds Road near the Church

Councillors expressed concerns at the poor state of the surface and requested that action be taken.

h. Rewilding of verges

It was noted that the Parish Council is keen to see greater bio-diversity on the verges that lead out of the village together with potentially some county verges within the village. It was advised that ‘wilding’ of verges was a relatively new concept for Northants Highways and protocols had not been established. It was requested that the Parish Council submits a request with maps for consideration.

i. Reinstatement of roundels on West Street & Chelveston Road

It was noted that details of any ‘white lining’ that requires reinstatement should be sent through to the Area Highways Manager to ensure it is on the current schedule.

Faded double yellow lines that require reinstatement should be reported through Street Doctor in the normal manner.

j. Vehicles exiting Villa Lane incorrectly

It was noted that additional signage had been added to the junction of Villa Lane and High Street advising that it was no entry ahead. It was noted that work had been ordered to reinstate the ‘no entry’ sign on the road and other markings.

21.106 SHORT TERM IMPROVEMENTS TO THE A45 CROSSING POINT

Further to Minute 21.95f (September 2021) the response from Highways England was received. Highways England are expected to correspond further about the moving of signs and reducing vegetation to improve visibility. However Highways England are insistent that the Toucan Crossing project cannot be looked at until after other projects on their priority list have been completed.

It was also noted that the Parish Council is waiting for a response from the North Northamptonshire Council executive member for Highways.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should write to Mr T Pursglove MP for assistance in moving the Stanwick Lakes crossing up the Highways England priority list.

21.107 CHRISTMAS FAYRE COSTS

It was agreed that the Council would cover the costs of publicity and advertising for the Christmas Fayre.

21.108 PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

NE/21/01445/FUL Proposed Dwelling (resubmission of 20/01548/FUL) (Part retrospective) 1 St Laurence Way

After consideration of the planning documents it was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the following response be sent to North Northamptonshire Council

That the Parish Council has not changed its opinion that this site is not appropriate for development and the scheme is not in keeping with the layout and design of the estate as a whole.

The issues of overlooking and over bearing will be exacerbated by the proposed two storey dwelling causing loss of amenity to properties on Rectory Close and Mansfield Street.

The design that requires the front door immediately adjacent to the pavement is out of keeping with the style of properties at this location and out of keeping with the street scene, contrary to the Stanwick Neighbourhood Plan.

There is insufficient parking provision for a dwelling of this size.

This is a garden development, shoehorning in a property in such a way that it will have a negative impact on existing properties.

Development of this plot would remove open space that has been designed into the estate.

Therefore the Parish Council respectfully requests that consent is refused for this proposal and refused for the principle of development on the plot and the site is reinstated to a garden.

21.109 CONSULTATION: NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY 2022-2027

It was noted that the policy does not make any reference to the consultation Town and Parish Councils and clarity should be sought on this issue either within the consultation or with Cllr Wilkes.

21.110 RECREATION GROUND CAR PARK

It was noted that work has been instructed to replace missing bollards at the recreation ground car park at a cost of £120.00.

21.111 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH STREET SIGNS

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That 3 signs at a cost of £14.00 each for Chelveston Road, West Street & Raunds Road at £14.00 each and that the cheque be drawn at this meeting.

21.112 QUOTE FOR RE-BEDDING 24 PAVING SLABS

A quote to re-bed the loose slabs on the path on the eastern side of the churchyard was considered. Rev Aldwinkle had confirmed that the work could take place without a faculty. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That a quote for £370.00 be accepted from SJ Pell.

21.113 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the schedule of payments that forms Appendix A to this Minute be approved for payment

21.114 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be on 18th November 2021. Cllr Partrick gave his apologies for this meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.22 p.m.

Chairman

Appendix A

Schedule of Payments presented for authorisation at the meeting.

Table 1: Schedule of payments made outside of the meeting (Financial Regulation 6.8)

Cheque no	Payee and reason	Amount
	None	

Table 2: Schedule of cheques presented for authorisation at the meeting

Cheque no	Payee and reason	Amount
1056	Stephen J Pell – bench West Street	£225.00
1057	Westcotec Ltd – SID brackets [Minute 21.95 h refers]	£129.00
1058	S. Garret-Harvey – 2021 grass cutting at the allotments	£960.00
1059	Stanwick Village Hall Trust - meeting room hire Oct 2021	£42.00
1060	Northants CALC – training M Taylor	£38.00
1061	CPRE – annual subscription	£36.00
1062	J Hodgson – 1 months Zoom, computer ink, stationery	£70.11

The above payments were approved (signature line) _____ Chairman
Date signed 28th October 2021

Table 3: For information (Financial Regulation 6.5 & 6.6) automated payments

Date	Method	Payee and reason	Amount
30.09.21	DDM	BT Business	£33.28
03.10.21	STD	Stanwick Village Hall	£218.00
09.10.21	STD	LGPS Pensions	£485.50
12.10.21	DDM	E-on for street lighting	£19.38
19.10.21	DDM	Wave – cemetery water rates	£5.00

Table 4: Money received since the last meeting:

Date	Where the money was received from	Amount
01.10.21	Co-operative Funeral Services	£345.00
14.10.21	HMRC VAT refund	£725.13
27.10.21	North Northants Council – final tranche of Precept	35772.50

Note: *The General Power of Competence adopted 20th May 2021*