

EAST FARNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AT THE VILLAGE HALL

GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

TUESDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2021 COMMENCING AT 7.45PM

PRESENT: Mr M Curtis (Chair), Mr R Burton, Ms J Cooper, Mr B Fallon, Mr P Hodgetts, Mr P Harrison, Ms E Pepler

Mrs C Burton (Clerk to the Parish Council)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE – Fifteen, including WNC Councillors Harris and Parker.

1. Apologies for Absence

None.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. Public Participation

- **Village Survey Results**

Councillor Curtis outlined a summary of the village survey results (see attached), which will be used to inform the Parish Council's 2022/23 budget, and thanked those who had responded and volunteered to help. Further, the Parish Council agreed that an occasional paper newsletter would be issued. The results of the survey will be published on the village website. A resident suggested that a village meeting could be held to seek further input on developing ways forward based on the survey results.

ACTION: Councillor Curtis to publish the village survey results on the website.

ACTION: Clerk to add to January 2022 meeting agenda further discussion of the survey results to develop ways forward.

- **West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan – Spatial Options Consultations – Land South of Market Harborough**

Councillor Curtis outlined that WNC are in the process of creating a new strategic plan and are currently consulting on Spatial Options. These are areas where major housing developments could be built between now and 2050. Land between East Farndon and Market Harborough has been identified in the WNC strategic plan as potential sites for 2,000+ homes. This land was initially identified via a process known as Call for Sites.

He reported that the Parish Council has worked hard to understand the issues and options, and has been instrumental in making them known to residents of both East Farndon and Market Harborough; further, the Parish Council has contributed, where appropriate, to local press coverage on this subject. Further, the Parish Council has met with senior planning leaders from WNC and the Brixworth Ward Councillors (of which East Farndon is part) and on 27 October 2021, a formal letter of clarification from WNC was received. The text from this letter states:

"West Northamptonshire Council are not proposing the allocation of land to the south of Market Harborough as part of the development strategy for West Northamptonshire.

The only circumstance in which this position could change would be if Harborough District Council (HDC) were to approach us to request assistance in meeting the housing needs of their area.

In order to do this HDC, having considered all the reasonable options available, would have to demonstrate that they couldn't meet their needs within their boundary. Under provisions known as the 'duty to cooperate' we would be obliged to consider such a request but would not be obliged to accept.

HDC are in the early stages of updating their Local Plan and have not established whether there would be a need for land in this area to come forward to help meet their needs.

As such we have not received any request from HDC to consider the allocation of land to meet any of their needs in West Northamptonshire. However, given that the Strategic Plan covers a period up to 2050 it was considered appropriate to acknowledge the potential for such circumstance to arise in the future.”

Councillor Curtis further advised that the Parish Council are completely against any proposed development in this area as the rural nature of East Farndon would be destroyed; there will be huge impacts on transport, heritage and landscape, with valuable green space and historic features potentially lost for ever. Based on the feedback from East Farndon residents to date, there appears to be a unanimous objection to these proposals, but this meeting was an opportunity to hear everyone's views to ensure that the Parish Council is representing the consensus view of its parishioners.

A HDC representative was invited to the meeting, but no-one attended.

The floor was then opened to allow everyone the opportunity to give their views:

- WNC Councillor Harris reiterated that the land is just referenced in, but not part of WNC's consultation. Nonetheless, he recommended that both the Parish Council and individuals submit comments, because the plan runs to 2050 and 'Never say never'.
- WNC Councillor Parker advised that HDC have 250 other sites to look at and need to show that they cannot meet their housing need through these sites before they could ask WNC for the land.

Residents comments/queries included:

- A query as to whether the county border could be moved, as had happened twice previously (the last time being in the 1960s). The Parish Council had asked WNC about this previously and been told no.
- They felt a lot less people had attended this meeting as it looked like the matter had been smoothed over.
- WNC and HDC appear to be being disingenuous, claiming they had not been in contact regarding the land, as the consultation itself states that discussions have taken place with HDC and the need to maintain a constructive dialogue.
- The impact on Market Harborough services – schools, GPs, hospitals, etc. – would be immense.
- There needs to be a proper assessment regarding air quality, drainage and the land type.
- There is a real danger of a flood risk.
- The seeds of this development have been sown, and as Local Plans are reviewed every five years, this issue is likely to come up again.
- Why Appendix 3 (Strategic Plan Availability Assessment) to the consultation has this site (number 64) marked as 'recommended to proceed to more detailed assessment', whereas site 136 (Farndon Fields) had not been. WNC Councillor Harris stated he would investigate. It was also asked how to get this site also removed as an option.
- Whether council tax in one area can be surrendered to another. Councillor Parker advised this was not possible. Another resident felt this meant that the border would have to be moved, as they could not see HDC building houses for which they would not receive the council tax.
- HDC are in the process of building around 3,000 houses (600 houses at Clack Hill, 1,600 houses off the A6 and other smaller developments), meaning around 8,000 extra residents in the near future, the impact on services in Market Harborough of which has not yet been felt.
- A Neighbourhood Plan would not help to stop such a major development.
- If the houses are built, it will be the end of the community known as East Farndon.
- East Farndon is such a long way from Daventry/WNC centres and it feels like it is 'out of sight, out of mind'.
- The road in East Farndon is simply not good enough to cope with the inevitable increase in traffic.

- Around 20 years ago, the land in question was previously rejected for planning after a technical survey regarding affordable housing. WNC Councillor Harris said he would check.

Comments from the floor demonstrated a unanimous objection to these proposals going ahead and residents wanting to work with the Parish Council to do everything possible to prevent it from happening.

The Parish Council agreed the following next steps:

1. The Parish Council will object formally by commenting on the WNC consultation and will publish its response on the website.
2. The Parish Council will continue to work closely with the Brixworth Ward Councillors and WNC Planning Leaders to ensure that any proposals to develop this land are rejected.
3. The Parish Council will encourage all residents to object formally by commenting on the WNC consultation. Details on how to do this have already been posted on eastfarndon.org. The closing date for comments is 6 December 2021.
4. The Parish Council will write formally to request that HDC rejects this land as a development option and does not include it in its new strategic plan.
5. The Parish Council will encourage all residents to influence HDC to reject this land for development. Details on how to do this have already been posted on eastfarndon.org.
6. The Parish Council will continue to monitor these proposals, continue to build its case against these developments going ahead and continue to keep everyone informed.

ACTION: The Chair and the Clerk, in consultation with other Councillors, to progress the next steps devised to respond to the WNC Spatial Options Consultation.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 14th September 2021

Subject to a small amendment regarding the ash tree opposite The Manor, the Minutes of the above meetings were agreed by all Councillors, and signed by the Chair.

5. Matters Arising

ACTION	PROGRESS
Clerk to continue work on the footpath leaflet.	Ongoing
Burial Ground Committee to meet again to carry out further grave levelling.	Done – discussed under Burial Ground Committee agenda item
Clerk to obtain quotes for hedge-cutting of Burial Ground, Extension and Churchyard.	Done – added to agenda
Councillor Hodgetts to organise spraying of the path through the Graveyard and Burial Ground with dog-friendly weed killer.	Done
Councillor Burton to organise future Push Tests with Burial Ground Committee.	Done – discussed under Burial Ground Committee agenda item
Councillor Burton to combine Burial Ground Regulations and Byelaws.	Done – discussed under Burial Ground Committee agenda item
Councillors Harrison and Curtis to draft a communications survey for circulation to Councillors, to include seeking views of parishioners on microlites.	Done – added to agenda
Councillor Harrison to seek volunteers for a Queen's Platinum Jubilee Committee.	Added to agenda
Councillor Cooper to organise defibrillator training.	Carried forward – with a suggested date of March 2021
Councillor Harrison to carry out a site visit of the bus shelter and advise on suitable action.	Carried forward

ACTION	PROGRESS
Councillor Fallon to organise a date for a Fire Service CPR/AED use demonstration.	Carried forward – date to be agreed
Councillor Fallon to organise moving the SID to the lamp post opposite the VAS.	Ongoing – the hedges/trees have been cut, but a cage may need to be hired
Clerk to sort an amendment to the Section 50 notice relating to the SID/VAS.	Not required
Clerk to respond to planning applications WND/2021/0464 and WND/2021/0465 (The Hall, Back Lane).	Done
Clerk to establish the Land Registry title number and registered owner for the Burial Ground Land, and seek an amended quote from Wellers Hedleys as appropriate.	Done – added to agenda
Clerk to monitor progress regarding the Spring hardstanding, and take action as appropriate.	Done – added to agenda
Councillor Curtis to organise a website article on the history of the Spring, and promote it further if possible.	Done
Clerk to establish who owns the dog bin at the Amenity Land.	Done – there is no dog bin, just a standard bin that is owned by the Parish Council
Councillor Curtis to ensure a question is included in the survey regarding spending priorities, including bin provision.	Done
Clerk to action donation of £100 to the Amenity Land Trust.	Done – David Thake has thanked the Parish Council on behalf of the Trust
Clerk to monitor progress regarding the drains, and take action as appropriate.	Done – added to agenda
Clerk to monitor progress regarding Construction Traffic Using Lubenham Lane, and take action as appropriate.	Done – added to agenda
Clerk to add Neighbourhood Watch signs to the Fixed Asset Register.	Done

6. Planning and Development

Applications granted

- WND/2021/0464 Repair and refurbishment of existing outbuilding to accommodate replacement roof, doors and windows, insertion of 3 no. rooflights, relocation of 2 no. rooflights previously approved, removal of 2 no. existing rooflights, insertion of 1 no. dormer window and partial rebuilding of external walls (revised scheme) - The Hall, Back Lane, East Farndon, Northamptonshire, LE16 9SE. This application was approved on 21 October 2021.
- WND/2021/0465 Listed Building Consent for repair and refurbishment of existing outbuilding to accommodate replacement roof, doors and windows, insertion of 3 no. rooflights, relocation of 2 no. rooflights previously approved, removal of 2 no. existing rooflights, insertion of 1 no. dormer window and partial rebuilding of external walls (revised scheme) - The Hall, Back Lane, East Farndon, Northamptonshire, LE16 9SE. This application was approved on 21 October 2021.
- WND/2021/0215 Replace front porch with bay window, construction of new repositioned front porch, two storey rear extension, replacement chimney to rear - Old School House, Main Street, East Farndon, Northamptonshire, LE16 9SJ. This application was approved on 28 October 2021.

Applications for consideration

- WND/2021/0649 Single storey rear extension to form orangery and detached covered outside dining area - Beauchamp House, Main Street, East Farndon, Northamptonshire, LE16 9SH

The Parish Council had considered this application via email, and had no objections.

7. Other Matters

- **Footpath Report**

The Footpath Warden, Mr Langley, in attendance, reported:

- The revived Parish Path Warden scheme brought another session of on-line training in October, telling Wardens what they should report and how to report it. Such a pity a perfectly good scheme which existed when I started as Warden was allowed to lapse. Once highways and rights-of-way were outsourced the scheme gradually dwindled to nothing. Now KeirWSP, the contractors, are putting quite a lot of effort into re-establishing it. One cynic on the training session remarked on a possible connection between this new initiative and the fact that the contract is up for renewal next year.
- Wardens are being urged to report all the problems they come across. However there is something of a gulf between the good intentions expressed and the concrete reality of getting repairs carried out. You can report a problem but it doesn't mean that anything will actually happen to solve it. This is what is so frustrating. The most egregious example is the fingerpost at The Dales on the Marston Road. I first reported that it had been knocked down and thrown in the ditch on 27th April 2020. It has still not been replaced, despite a number of assurances that it would be.
- Last month I reported two other problems. A second fingerpost on the Marston Road, marking the bridleway, fell and was lying on the verge. The answer came back on StreetDoctor that it would be fixed within 12 months. Though this could hardly be called ambitious, it would be an improvement on the one mentioned above. However I had another look this week and found that it had been re-erected. Bent and rather battered, but back in place. Perhaps whoever knocked it over decided to put it back.
- I also reported the path behind the village hall. Apart from being overgrown much of the year, the steep slope in the middle section becomes ever more difficult. The ground has become very uneven and develops into a mudslide as autumn and winter progress. I suggested that steps would be a good idea, though that is a remote possibility. Something needs doing to make it less hazardous.
- I shall continue to report problems as I hope everyone else will, even if we have limited confidence that there will be any result.

- **Burial Ground Committee**

Councillor Burton reported that in the last month, the Burial Ground hedges have been trimmed, thanks to Councillors Hodgetts and Fallon. A small amount of litter has been removed. Graves have been levelled where needed by the Burial Ground Committee. Push Tests on memorials have been carried out in the Burial Ground and the Churchyard; some memorials require monitoring, one memorial needs to be properly fixed. There is a query over the siting of one of the memorials, which may be resolved through contact with Stamps.

ACTION: Councillor Burton to contact the family of the memorial that needs to be fixed.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Stamps to request information on memorial siting.

The Clerk reported that she has conducted a thorough review of all of the burial records, resolving queries, issuing certificates of ownership, and receiving monies for plot purchases. The Clerk presented evidence to Councillors regarding reservations for plots 85 and 90, and the Parish Council agreed that these plots could be released for purchase. There still remains a couple of plot reservation queries to resolve.

ACTION: Clerk to resolve remaining queries on burial plot ownership.

- **Tree Wardens**

Nothing to report.

- **Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and Police Liaison Representative (PLR)**

Councillor Harrison reported that there have been many PLR emails, but nothing relevant to the parish. Only one person had signed up for NHW recently. There will be a Christmas drink/driving campaign.

- **Land Freeholds of Burial Ground, War Memorial and Spring Trough**

The Clerk reported that Peterborough Diocese had confirmed that the Burial Ground is now without a Land Registry number; she advised Wellers Hedleys accordingly, and their quote remained at £550 (plus VAT and disbursements) to deal with registration of the Burial Ground, plus the War Memorial and Spring Trough. The Parish Council agreed via email to accept this quote and Weller Hedleys have been instructed to act.

The Clerk has provided Wellers Hedleys with the necessary documents to apply to register the Burial Ground in the Parish Council's name. They are currently awaiting the result of their land charges search and upon receipt, they will submit the application for First Registration of the Burial Ground.

In order to register the land on which the War Memorial and Spring Trough sit, examples and, where possible, evidence as to how the Parish Council has maintained these assets over the years is required. Essentially, the Parish Council needs to demonstrate that it has dealt with the land in question as an occupying owner might have been expected to deal with it and that no-one else has done so - evidence of an "intention to possess" might include putting up notices, planting up the area, maintenance, controlling access and/or maintaining boundary features. Land Registry needs to be able to see evidence that the works have been done over a period of more than 12 years.

The Clerk and Councillor Burton have attended the Northamptonshire Records Office to extract the necessary information from the historic minutes to show that the Parish Council (and previously the Vestry Meeting and then the Parish Meeting) had maintained the War Memorial and Spring Trough, as well as looking through the minutes held by the Clerk. The Clerk is now in the process of collating the evidence to submit to Wellers Hedleys.

ACTION: Clerk to continue to deal with Wellers Hedleys regarding the land freeholds of the Burial Ground, War Memorial and Spring Trough.

- **Spring Hardstanding**

The Clerk reported that she had registered an interest in applying for a Community Funding Grant as regards the Spring renovation (as advised by Councillor Harris). However, the scheme policy has now been agreed and Parish Councils are not eligible to apply.

WNC Councillor Harris, in attendance, advised he met with Helen Howard (WNC Community Liaison Officer) and this remains a complex issue in terms of ownership, but they agreed that the most sensible approach initially would be to explore whether or not the resurfacing work that had been originally planned has simply been delayed rather than cancelled, as this would be the most pragmatic way of getting the work done.

ACTION: Clerk to monitor progress regarding the Spring hardstanding, and take action as appropriate.

- **Main Street Drains and Gullies**

WNC Councillor Harris, in attendance, advised that Helen Howard (as above) has confirmed that the Area Maintenance Team have raised a reactive works ticket for drainage investigation. She is unable to confirm on timing as they are dealing with issues related to the recent extreme weather.

ACTION: Clerk to monitor progress regarding the drains, and take action as appropriate.

- **Construction Traffic Using Lubenham Lane, East Farndon, Northamptonshire for Avant Homes Development at Farndon Fields, Market Harborough, Leicestershire**

The Clerk reported that HDC have reiterated the advice given before that the only Construction Traffic Routing which appears to have been approved, directs the HGVs through the development but not once it has left the wider Farndon Fields site and joined the main highway network. However, they will contact Avant Homes to ask if they can confirm what deliveries have been taking place recently and to request that they remind drivers, wherever possible, to avoid smaller rural roads. No further complaints have been received to date.

- **Mowing and Hedge Cutting Contracts**

The Clerk reported that the current mowing contractor is moving out of the area, so a new person needs to be found. Notice for contract tenders was placed on the website on 19 September 2021, with a closing date of 31 October 2021. The Clerk had also approached some recommended contractors. As a result, only one tender was received for £1,850.00 (current year's charge is £1,650.00). The Parish Council agreed to accept this quote.

ACTION: Clerk to accept mowing quotation, subject to receipt of a valid public liability insurance certificate.

As regards hedge cutting, the Clerk had also approached some recommended contractors. As a result, two tenders were received. The Parish Council agreed to accept the quote of £365 per hedge cut.

ACTION: Clerk to accept hedge quotation, subject to receipt of a valid public liability insurance certificate.

It was also agreed to obtain a quote for the removal of the dead trees around the Spring.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain a quote for the removal of the dead trees around the Spring.

- **Queen's Platinum Jubilee Committee**

Councillor Harrison confirmed that he has possibly found a chair for this Committee, and will confirm in due course.

ACTION: Councillor Harrison to confirm Platinum Jubilee Committee Chair.

- **2022 Meeting Dates**

The following 2022 meeting dates, with a start time of 7.15pm, were agreed:

MEETINGS

19th January 2022

16th March 2022 – Annual Meeting of the Parish

18th May 2022 – Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

20th July 2022

21st September 2022

16th November 2022

PROVISIONAL DATES

16th February 2022

20th April 2022

22nd June 2022

17th August 2022

19th October 2022

21st December 2022

ACTION: Clerk to arrange for 2022 meeting dates to be put on the website and noticeboard, and advise WNC Councillors by email.

8. Finance

• Bank Reconciliation

Bank Reconciliation as at close of business on 5 November 2021

Balance as at 13 September 2021

Current account	£16,549.92	
Deposit account	<u>£1,552.02</u>	
		£18,101.94

Income

Burial plot purchases	£1,180.00	
VAT refund	£165.99	
Precept	£5,100.00	
Interest	<u>£0.01</u>	
		£6,446.00

Expenses

Amenity Land Trust	£100.00	
EON	£64.99	
EON	£244.00	
Royal British Legion	£17.00	
SLCC	£80.00	
Paul Hodgetts	£21.99	
C Burton	£501.63	
K Kavanagh	<u>£550.00</u>	
		-£1,579.61

Balance as at 5 November 2021

Current account	£21,416.30	
Deposit account	<u>£1,552.03</u>	
		£22,968.33

The bank reconciliation was checked and signed by Councillor Pepler.

• 2021/22 Budget and Precept Discussion (including Actual v. Budgeted Spending)

The Clerk had prepared actual v budgeted spend for 2021/22 to date; anticipated income and spending for the rest of 2021/22; and a draft budget for 2022/23 for discussion (see attached). After discussion, the Councillors agreed the following:

- The parish lighting options are reviewed in 2022/23, with a view to making a decision and any associated budget impacts by November 2022.
- Clerk to be paid for an excess 40 hours this year.
- The draft budget for 2022/23 to be amended to reflect accepted mowing/hedge quotes, and the defibrillator expenses to be increased to £220 to cover the training costs. Further, an additional £600 to be added to cover the collection costs for two new bins.
- The Spring renovation reserves for 2022/23 to be increased to £1,500.
- The Burial Ground/Churchyard Maintenance reserve for 2022/23 to be reduced to £2,000, and any future burial plot sales would be added to this reserve.
- A new reserve of £600 set up for the purchase of a laptop for the Clerk.

- A new reserve of £500 for the purchase of two new bins.
- The options and potential costs for a playground are to be explored in 2022/23, but no financial provision at this stage.
- No specific provision to be made for the Platinum Jubilee.

ACTION: Clerk to finalise 2022/23 budget and prepare 2022/23 precept request for January 2022 meeting.

- The following payments were agreed by all Councillors

Payee	Reason	Amount	Chq no
Amenity Land Trust	Donation	£100.00	online
EON	Lighting maintenance	£64.99	online
EON	Electricity	£244.00	online
Royal British Legion	Remembrance wreath	£17.00	online
SLCC	Subscription	£80.00	online
Paul Hodgetts	Weedkiller	£21.99	online
C Burton	October/November 2021 salary/expenses	£501.63	online
K Kavanagh	Mowing	£550.00	online

9. Correspondence

- WNC have published their bus service improvement plan which outline their plans for improving bus services in their areas and accessing funding available from Government through the National Bus Strategy. It was noted that no mention was made of re-instating the stop in East Farndon of bus service 59 (Market Harborough - Welford). This was flagged up with WNC Councillor Harris.
- All other relevant correspondence (e.g. NCALC Newsletter) has been circulated to Councillors and shared on the village website and Facebook page where appropriate.

10. Any Other Business

- Neighbourhood Plan – it was agreed to add this to the January 2022 agenda.
ACTION: Clerk to add Neighbourhood Plan discussion to the January 2022 meeting agenda.
- Gartree Planning Application – A resident had flagged up the proposals for both a new “Super Prison” and also an extension of the existing prison at HMP Gartree – and the planning application which is already running with HDC in respect of the new Prison. The Parish Council has not been consulted. The details are available at <https://pa2.harborough.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=QYT0SHHW0MS00&activeTab=summary>. The resident believes it will have a very significant impact on this village, as follows:
 - *Impact on the landscape: For anyone walking along the northwestern side of the village at the present time, the visible impact of the existing Prison is all too clear to be seen both during the summer and winter months. By trebling the size of the Prison facility at Gartree (if that is what it is), the “scar” on the rural and open landscape will be dramatic and immense. A broadly similar facility has been constructed in the last few years on the southern edge of Wellingborough, in a far more desirable location, and anyone who has seen the impact which that project has had on the surrounding area will understand my thoughts on this.*
 - *Traffic: Although the majority of the traffic is likely to come in and out of the facility via Lubenham, the additional volumes of vehicle movements will be immense. It is almost inevitable that the narrow land from Lubenham to Farndon will become even more of a rat run.*

Parish Council agreed that details of this consultation should be placed on the website, and views should be sought from parishioners.

ACTION: Clerk to organise placing details of the Gartree prison development on the website, and formulate an appropriate response to the consultation.

- Councillor Fallon queried how the ANPR camera is powered.

ACTION: Councillor Harrison to confirm how the ANPR camera is powered.

- It was noted that the hedges at Home Farm and Spring Cottage need cutting, as farm vehicles are having to pull out to avoid hitting the hedges. The Clerk noted this should be reported on Street Doctor.
- Councillor Hodgetts advised that he wanted to trim the trees in the churchyard bordering his property at his own expense. The Parish Council has no objections and Councillor Hodgetts will also seek permission from the PCC.

11. Date of the next meeting – 19th January 2022
Provisional meeting date – 14th December 2021

12. Closure

The meeting closed at 9.55pm.

Signed that the Minutes are a true and accurate record

Chairman _____ **Dated** _____

SUMMARY OF VILLAGE SURVEY RESULTS AND COMMENTS

140 Hardcopy Surveys Issued, 58 Received (43 Online, 15 Hardcopy)

Question 1: Parish Council communication currently consists of the Village website at eastfarndon.org, Village pages on Facebook and Instagram, and notices placed on the Village Hall notice board. Do you think these communications are sufficient?

Total Responses: 57 Yes: 44 (77%) No: 13 (23%)

Comments (20) Summary: Although the majority felt existing communications were sufficient, the comments suggested that residents supported an occasional paper newsletter.

Question 2: What Village services could the Parish Council add or improve upon and would you support an increase in the local annual council tax (precept) to fund these?

Comments (39) Summary: Around a third of those that commented did not feel there were services that should be improved. Of those that did identify possible improvements, a wide range of suggestions was received, including a park / playground, footpath improvements, streetlight improvements, social events and Spring renovation.

Question 3: What events or activities would you like to see more of to bring the Village together?

Comments (43) Summary: The most popular suggestions were quizzes, pub nights and family orientated events. Many of the comments mentioned using the Village Hall as a social focal point.

Question 4: Dog waste fouling and the littering of dog poo bags is a growing issue in the Village. Would you support investment to add more public waste collection bins, each bin costing £250 to buy and £289 per annum for it to be emptied professionally?

Total Responses: 55 Yes: 38 (69%) No: 17 (31%)

Comments (24) Summary: The comments indicated that residents felt dog owners should be more responsible.

Question 5: The Parish Council has taken many actions to try and limit vehicles speeding through the Village. What further actions, if any, should we take in relation to this ongoing issue?

Comments (50) Summary: The most popular suggestions were speed bumps and permanent / average speed cameras. Other suggestions included pinch points, chicanes and 20 mph speed limit.

Question 6: The Parish Council has discussed the possibility of providing a Kids Playground in the Village. Would you support investment and fundraising for this initiative?

Total Responses: 57 Yes: 38 (67%) No: 19 (33%)

Comments (25) Summary: The majority of comments supported the creation of a playground and some expressed concerns about cost and finding a suitable location.

Question 7: The Parish Council has discussed the possibility of renovating the Spring on Main Street to turn it into a Village feature. Would you support investment and fundraising for this initiative?

Total Responses: 56 Yes: 42 (75%) No: 14 (25%)

Comments (19) Summary: The majority of comments supported the Spring renovation and some mentioned that this would be a lower priority for them versus other initiatives.

Question 8: The Parish Council has recently received complaints about Microlites flying over the Village at low level. Does this activity cause you concern? If concerned, what further action do you think should be taken?

Total Responses: 58

A Great Deal: 6 (10%) A Lot: 7 (12%) A Moderate Amount: 10 (17%) A Little: 15 (26%)
None At All: 20 (35%)

Comments (27) Summary: 61% of respondents were only a little or not at all concerned about microlites and 65% of respondents expressed some concern.

Question 9: The Parish Council is always looking for volunteers to help with community projects. Would you be interested in becoming involved?

Total Responses: 39 Very Interested: 15 (38%) **Not at all interested: 24 (62%)**

Comments (31) Summary: Most people who did not want to get involved said this was because they were too old or did not have the time. 16 people volunteered to help and kindly gave their contact details. Names are not published for privacy reasons and the Parish Council will be getting in touch as appropriate.

Question 10: Do you have any other comments, questions or concerns?

Comments (36) Summary: The main two themes were thanks to the Parish Council for its work, and concern about the potential housing development between the Village and Market Harborough. There were also some concerns about drains, roads and pavements.

PRECEPT WORKING SHEET FOR 2022/23

SPENDING IN 2021/22 (EXCL. VAT)	PRECEPT 2021/22	PAID TO DATE	ANTICIPATED REST OF YEAR SPEND	TOTAL YEAR ANTICIPATED SPEND
Streetlighting and Maintenance	£2,050.00	£830.56	£837.23	£1,667.79
NCALC	£250.00	£246.03		£246.03
Insurance	£690.00	£680.39		£680.39
S137 Spending	£220.00	£266.30		£266.30
Training	£50.00	£0.00		£0.00
Mowing of Burial Ground/Hedges	£2,000.00	£1,978.32		£1,978.32
Clerk Gross Salary	£3,020.00	£2,044.26	£1,550.80	£3,595.06
Parish Council/Clerk Expenses	£350.00	£318.08	£340.00	£658.08
Miscellaneous Expenses	£100.00		£1,000.00	£1,000.00
Graveyard Responsibility	£1,000.00			£0.00
Election Expenses (May 2021)	£270.00	£75.00		£75.00
Defibrillator Expenses	£200.00	£126.00		£126.00
TOTAL	£10,200.00			£10,292.97

BALANCE IN ACCOUNTS @ 4 NOVEMBER 2021		
CURRENT ACCOUNT	£21,416.30	
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	£1,552.03	
TOTAL		£22,968.33

LESS ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURE (EXCL. VAT)		
EON electricity (Oct - Dec 21)	£283.07	
EON lighting maintenance (Oct - Dec 21)	£54.16	
Clerk's salary (Oct 20 - Mar 21)	£1,550.80	
Lighting repair provision	£500.00	
Solicitor's costs and disbursements	£1,000.00	
Clerk/PC expenses	£340.00	
TOTAL		£3,728.03

PLUS ANTICIPATED INCOME		
Interest	£0.05	
TOTAL		£0.05

ESTIMATED BALANCE AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022		£19,240.35
--	--	-------------------

RESERVES

Lighting Replacement	£3,000.00
Renovation of Village Spring	£500.00
Burial Ground/Churchyard	
Maintenance Work	£3,000.00

Balance**£12,740.35****2022/23 PRECEPT REQUIRED FOR ONGOING COSTS**

Streetlighting And Maintenance	£2,200.00	To cover electricity (currently £114.20 pcm), maintenance (currently £54.16 quarterly) plus replacement of 2 lights, plus 5% inflation increase
NCALC	£260.00	Based on NALC's advice
Insurance	£715.00	This year plus 5%
S137 Spending	£300.00	The limit for Section 137 expenditure for 2021/22 was £8.41 per elector; 2022/23 level not yet confirmed
Training	£100.00	Predominantly online training available
Mowing Of Burial Ground/Hedges	£3,500.00	Mowing (est. £1,900), Hedges (est. £1,600)
Clerk Gross Salary	£3,260.00	Working on 20 hours pcm and salary scale increase to SPC 12 rate (currently £11.53ph - NALC recommend budgeting for 5% increase so £12.11), plus payment for leave not taken in 2021/22 (est. at 29.5 hours)
Parish Council/Clerk Expenses	£700.00	Including DPO and ICO fees (est. £50), Clerk's SLLC fee (est. £90), Clerk homeworking allowance (£10 pcm), website fees plus contingency for unexpected expenses
Defibrillator Expenses	£200.00	Annual fee £126 plus unforeseen expenses
TOTAL	£11,235.00	