

Minutes of a meeting of Rothersthorpe Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Church Street Rothersthorpe on Monday June 25th 2018 at 7.30p.m.

Present: Mr R Boscott – Chairman, Mrs C Nolan, Mrs J Johnson, Mrs J Botterill, Mr P Sage and Mr N Henry

In Attendance: NCC Cllr Adam Brown

Mrs A Atkin:- Pattishall bus users rep

Mrs Linda Paice – Parish Clerk for Greens Norton

Mrs Sarah Murphy – Clerk

Members of the Public:- Jo Keays, Mr C and Mrs Appleton, Mr D Kettell, Mr Calvert,

Mr G Harte, Mrs M Contrain, Mr J Morphy, Mr A Johnson and Mr J Burroughs

Mr Boscott addressed the meeting and advised Councillors and members of the public that under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, members of the public are permitted to photograph, film, broadcast and report on the meeting, subject to the efficient running of the meeting not being disturbed.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from SNC Cllr A Addison (meeting), SNC Cllr K Cooper (meeting) and Mr S Major (holiday).

2. Declaration of Interest.

Mrs Johnson declared an interest in Agenda item 11:- Community Space Planning Application.

3. Public Open Session

NCC Cllr Brown updated the meeting on the current situation at NCC. The new commissioners are in place and are working to find out where things stand. Proposed changes to the gritting routes will be released shortly. This reduction is due to the cut in the Highways budget.

Cllr Brown addressed the meeting regarding the No 87 bus. This will stop on 22.7.2018 as part of the budget measures introduced by NCC. Officers at NCC are setting out a process to enable the service to continue. There are two options at present:-

1. This would give a peak hour bus to/from Northampton for work, one off peak (shoppers journeys after 09.30.to/ from both Northampton and Towcester six days a week.

It also includes a closed school transport run within the service, and to utilise section 106 monies where available. This now indicates the shortfall that would need to be met by "local funding" is around £26,000 per annum (£17,000 for what remains of the financial year). Any on –bus takings would be deducted from this sum.

2. On this service, the only buses from the villages (except Hunsbury Meadows) to anywhere would be one arriving in Towcester at around 10.50am, and one leaving again just after 13.15p.m. This option can be fitted around the school runs at each end of the day and is dependent on other section 106 pots that are available.

Ann Atkin, Bus user representative from Pattishall Parish Council, addressed the meeting and confirmed that Pattishall PC agreed to support the continuation of the No 87 in principle, up to £6,500 if a minimum of 4 parish councils agreed to enter the proposed scheme. Towcester Town Council have agreed to contribute, Greens Norton PC have yet to meet and Hunsbury Meadows PC have declined, at present, to be part of the scheme.

There is a risk for all parish councils involved in that public transport is unlikely to be taken back by the Council at a later date.

Cllr Brown pointed out that it could be a two year commitment for parish councils.

Mr Boscott asked the parish council if they were in favour of considering a subsidy. All councillors were in favour.

Mr Boscott asked that more information on facts and figures be made available before making a decision on how much Rothersthorpe PC would commit and suggested that a meeting be arranged for July 2nd as the process needs to be finalised as soon as possible.

Mr Harte addressed the meeting on the amendments to the planning application for the Community Space. He said that he had lived in the village for 9 months and was concerned about changes to the buffer zone, which cause lack of privacy. Mr Johnson responded and said that SNC had moved the border back but if the residents preferred it could be moved back again. He explained that the applicants are working closely with the planning officer to get everything right. John Burroughs had met with Highways who had detailed their requirements. The cemetery hedge obscures visibility at the junction so will need to be cut back. Mr Appleton spoke about his concern over health and safety issues. Mary Contrainne said that she did not want people in her back garden and that it would cause more traffic and congestion in Church Street. Jo Keays addressed the meeting and explained that after consultations and listening to people the plans were amended. The CSP team are prepared to compromise on the buffer zone and all emails are on line on the application. Mrs Contrainne asked about the document that has the details of the land in trust. Mr Morphy explained that the trust is for 25years which will be drawn up if planning permission is granted. At the end of the first 25 years the trustees will be offered another 25 years. If planning permission is not granted the offer will be withdrawn.

Mr Boscott said that the Parish Council needed further information to make a decision and suggested meeting again on July 2nd when the necessary information would be available.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous parish council meeting held on May 18th 2018 were agreed and signed.

5. Matters Arising

HGVs on North Street

Highways have confirmed that North Street and Church Street are both covered by the correct weight restriction signage. The suggestion was made for the parish Council to pass details of the Companies and when the vehicles were seen to Highways , who will write to them.

Best kept Village

The judges were in the village on June 7th and all went well.

Planning Notice on Elephant grass Fields

Cllr Addison confirmed that the notices are to provide notification of the proposal to seek and identify interest in land and property that will be affected by the Rail Central / Ashfield land rail freight terminal proposals. SNC have also been approached by Terraquest, who are a land referencing company and have been retained by Ashfield Land management Ltd.

6. The No 87 Bus Route

The implication of the route stopping when NCC finance stops in July.

To consider if the Parish Councils should make a financial contribution towards maintaining the service.

The main discussion about this item took place during the Public Open Session. It was agreed that the Parish Council tentatively support the idea of providing a contribution to maintain the bus service but need more information. Further discussion will take place at the meeting on July 2nd.

7. Northamptonshire Unitary Consultation

To respond to the consultation on Local Government reorganisation in Northamptonshire

Consultation on a re-structure of local government in Northamptonshire is taking place, until July 22nd. Following the Best Value Inspection, the government concluded that the financial, cultural, and governance problems of NCC could not be solved in isolation and recommended that plans be developed for two unitary authorities

SNC are having to sever their connection with Cherwell District Council and are deeply concerned about NCC's huge debt and who is going to pay for it.

Mr Boscott expressed his concern that if a West Northamptonshire Unitary is created it will allow greater expansion into rural areas. He suggested that Northamptonshire Urban, consisting of Northampton, Kettering and Corby and Northamptonshire Rural, consisting of SNC, DDC, WBC and ENC as authorities as this would allow groups with similar characteristics and demographics and where resources and issues can be focussed.

Paul Sage agreed to attend a meeting at SNC to discuss the proposals put forward in the Consultation.

Mrs Murphy spoke about the roles of parish councils in Unitary Authorities and how some services could be devolved to parish councils.

8. Local Green Spaces

To respond to the consultation on Local Green Spaces in South Northamptonshire.

Rothersthorpe has 2 sites that they wish to be included and these are part of 32 sites, which have been considered suitable for designation so far. Mr Boscott said that there was no further response at present.

9. Rail Central and Roxhill Updates

The next meeting of the Rail Central Local Liaison Group is on July 17th 2018 at 6.15p.m. at the Walnut Tree. Mr Boscott and Mrs Nolan to attend. Roxhill/ Northampton Gateway have submitted their Development Consent Order to the Inspectorate.

10. Clerk’s Report

Remembrance Day Silouettes

Mr Sage will try and get some for the services with school and church.

11. Planning

Application: S/2017/2769/MAE : Change of Use of Agricultural land to Community Space.

Discussed in Public Open Session – awaiting further information before making comment.

Application: S/2018/1327/LBC: Repairs to Lock 7 Grand Union Canal

The Parish Council have no objection.

12. Finance

Income: Cemetery fees: Mr L Harrold £130.00

Expenditure: To pay the following

E.ON – New light at crossroads	£336.00(vat 56.00)	Chq.No. 001066
Allseasons – Gardening	£372.00(vat 62.00)	“ “ 001067
Allseasons – Gardening	£739.80(vat 123.30)	“ “ 001068
E.ON – Street Lighting	£145.66 (vat 24.28)	“ “ 001069
Mrs S Murphy – Salary	£500.01	“ “ 001070
Barbara Osborne – Payroll	£55.00	“ “ 001071

Balance up to 25.6.2018

NSB: £15,371.15

C/A: £12,164.49

13. Highways/Footpaths

Street Lights: New light at crossroads and light outside Alsike Barn

14. Representative Reports

Speed Watch: Police speed trap on North Street. Nobody was caught speeding

15. Date of Next Meetings

Monday September 10th at 7.30p.m.

Meeting closed at 9.25p.m.

Signed.....Dated.....

