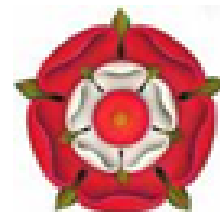


# Old Parish Council

12 Charles Close  
Old  
NN6 9RQ

Email: [oldparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:oldparishcouncil@gmail.com)  
Website: <http://www.villageofold.org>



## MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of Old Parish Council held on **Wednesday 10th April 2024**.

Present:

Cllr Ed Green (Chair)

Cllr Rosemary Bury (Vice Chair)

Cllr David Gwinn

Cllr Mariah Hocking

Cllr Alex Hocking

Cllr Andrew Moodie

Cllr Lynn Pilley

Six Members of the public.

Meeting Commenced: 19:30

Year Month Item	The following business was transacted:
2024 04 01	To receive and approve apologies for absence. <i>RESOLVED: All Councillors were present.</i>
2024 04 02	To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. Members should disclose any interests in the business to be discussed and are reminded that the disclosure of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest will require that the member withdraws from the meeting room during the transaction of that item of business. <i>RESOLVED: There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest.</i>
2024 04 03	That the minutes of the meeting held on the March 13th 2024 be approved by Council and signed by Chairman as a true and correct record. <i>RESOLVED: Council approved the minutes and the Chair signed them.</i>
2024 04 04	Public participation session. Members of the public are invited to address the council. The session will last for a maximum of 15 minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 3 minutes. Members of the public should address their representations through the chairman of the meeting. <i>Two members of the public requested to speak during item 8, Council approved this request.</i>
2024 04 05	Finance: To receive financial and budget report as of 1st April 2024. <i>RESOLVED: Council were presented with the financial and budget report.</i>
2024 04 06	To present and approve the bank reconciliation as of 1st April 2024. <i>RESOLVED: Council were presented with the bank reconciliation for March payments. Cllr Moodie approved and signed.</i>
2024 04 07	To approve payments:  <b>TBC - See item 19:</b> <i>Clerk Salary (SO) - April 2024</i> £345.28 <i>Clerk Home Working (SO) - April 2024</i> £26  <i>Clerk - Community Safety Items £51.43 + £10.28 VAT</i> £61.71  <i>Grass Cutting - T J Whittaker - Invoice 1630</i> £320  <i>Rosemary Bury - Defibrillator Child Pads £118.80 (£19.80 VAT)</i> £118.80

	<p>EON - Street Light Maintenance £68 + £13.60 VAT £81.60</p> <p>Payments made under prior approval:  Yu Energy (DD) (Invoice 01625505) £13.64 + £0.68 VAT £14.32 (Due 10/4)  Yu Energy (DD) (Invoice 01625507) £62.37 + £3.12 VAT £65.49 (Due 10/4)</p> <p>To agree who will authorise the payments.  RESOLVED: Council approved all payments, bar Clerk Salary and Home Working (awaiting item 22 - not 19 as presented on the Agenda). Cllr Bury received a cheque as payment (cheque number 000869).  <b>AP: To set up EON and Grass Cutting. (Clerk)</b>  <b>AP: To set up Clerk community safety items payment and authorise EON and Grass Cutting payments. (EG)</b>  <b>AP: To authorise Clerk community safety items, EON and Grass Cutting payments. (RB)</b></p>
2024 04 08	<p>To provide an update on the Cherry Hill lights. (Clerk)  The Chair read a response from EON regarding questions raised to them. Members of the public raised their concerns that despite EON's response, they believe that the lights are not dimming to the amount specified. The Clerk informed the Council that correspondence had been received from a resident to say that they are pleased with the upgrade to the lights and requested for them to remain as they are. Council agreed for investigations to continue and to ask EON to visit the site to see the dimming themselves.  <b>AP: To contact EON to arrange for a visit to the lights. (Clerk)</b></p>
2024 04 09	<p>To provide an update on the purchase of the Children's defibrillator pads for Cherry Hill. (RB)  Council were advised that the new children's defibrillator pads had been replaced. It was reported to Council that the defibrillator box had been damaged, with the screen coming away from the sealing to one side of the box.  Council agreed for the box to be assessed as to whether it can be fixed and if so, to complete the work.  <b>AP: To look at the defibrillator to assess the damage and see if it can be fixed. (EG&amp;RB)</b>  <b>AP: To investigate what the requirements are for the defibrillator box. (Clerk)</b></p>
2024 04 10	<p>To agree a plan for the Big Clean Up Date. (Clerk)  RESOLVED: The 1st of June was agreed as the date for the village tidy. The start time was agreed to be 10am to meet at the Jubilee Tree and the Cherry Hill bus stop.  <b>AP: To put up a flyer on the noticeboards advertising the event. (Clerk)</b>  <b>AP: To put a message of social media advertising the event. (AH)</b></p>
2024 04 11	<p>To discuss the requirement for a new defibrillator box in cherry hill. (AH)  Discussed as part of item 9 above.</p>
2024 04 12	<p>To discuss the change to gov.uk website. (Clerk)  Council were advised of the current opportunity from the Cabinet Office to change to a gov.uk website.  <b>AP: To confirm that the Parish Charities are obtaining their own website as previously advised to Council in 2023. (DG)</b></p>
2024 04 13	<p>To discuss further planting of trees by Council.  Some Councillors expressed that they had reservations about funding a tree to be planted on a resident's private land.  Council approved for two trees to be purchased, one being planted at Cherry Hill and the second one to be decided on.  <b>AP: To discuss with the Parish Charities about the possibility of planting a tree on their private land. (DG)</b></p>
2024 04 14	<p>To give an update on the D-Day Celebration Plans. (Clerk)  Council agreed that it would organise a beacon lighting to be held on the 6th of June.  Council agreed to get in contact with Parish Charities to find out what activities they would like to be involved with.  <b>AP: To contact Parish Charities to ask if they wished to be involved. (DG)</b></p>
2024 04 15	<p>To provide an update on the mobile signal grant application. (AM)</p>

	<p>Council were advised that investigations have been made into the possibility of having a mobile signal booster, including contacting OFCOM, West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) and telephone providers. The grant opportunity that was originally discussed has closed but other options will be sought, once the logistics of a mobile signal booster has been further investigated.</p> <p>The Clerk offered to forward the enquiry to the Parish Liaison at WNC to see if any information could be gained.</p> <p><b>AP: To contact the Parish Liaison at WNC. (Clerk)</b></p>
2024 04 16	<p>To discuss the Green Hill Solar Farm, following correspondence received on subject.</p> <p>The Council were informed of an opposition meeting being held on the 23rd of April. Cllr Pilley offered to attend to gain further information.</p> <p><b>AP: To receive a report following the meeting. (LP)</b></p>
2024 04 17	<p>To give consideration to the following Planning Application: 2024/1650/FULL</p> <p>Construction of new steel frame garage. (All walls and roof cladding to be in green). 2 roller shutter doors on front elevation for vehicle access. 1 pedestrian access door to RH elevation. Last House, Mill Lane, Old, NN6 9YA</p> <p><i>RESOLVED: Council agreed that they did not have an objection to the application.</i></p> <p><b>AP: To notify WNC of the Council's decision. (Clerk)</b></p>
2024 04 18	<p>To give consideration to the following Planning Application: 2024/0288/FULL</p> <p>Change of use from agricultural barn to dwellinghouse Barn Off Bridle Road, Old, Northamptonshire, NN6 9QY</p> <p><i>RESOLVED: Council agreed that they objected to the application due to the possible future development and road access concerns.</i></p> <p><b>AP: To notify WNC of the Council's decision. (Clerk)</b></p>
2024 04 19	<p>To review and approve the following policies/procedures: <b>(Clerk)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complaints Procedure. - Council approved this document but to remove the mention of a telephone number and a complaints committee. <b>AP: To update the website.</b></li> <li>• Risk Assessment. - Council agreed for a workshop to be completed to work further on the document. <b>AP: To organise a date for Council to meet up. (Clerk)</b></li> <li>• Grievance Policy. - Council approved this document, small amendments were made to include weblinks, replace Daventry District Council with WNC and to correct spelling mistakes. <b>AP: To update the website.</b></li> </ul>
2024 04 20	<p>To co-opt new Councillor. <b>(Clerk)</b></p> <p><i>RESOLVED: Colin Smart was co-opted as a Councillor and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.</i></p> <p><b>AP: To send the relevant documents and links to the new Councillor. (Clerk)</b></p>
2024 04 21	<p>Closure of the meeting to the public and press.</p>
2024 04 22	<p>To discuss Clerk's salary.</p> <p><i>RESOLVED: Annual salary increase and increase in home working allowance approved with effect from 1st April 2024.</i></p> <p><b>AP: To amend Clerk's standing order to reflect the new payment amounts. (EG)</b></p>
2024 04 23	<p>Re-opening of the meeting to the public and press.</p>
	<p><b>Councillors Report:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Gwinn advised that the Old Open Gardens will be taking place on the 15th and 16th of June.</li> <li>• Cllr Gwinn advised that the grass on Bridle Road is regularly cut by residents. <b>AP: To contact grass contractor about the possibility of including Bridle Road on the larger village cuts. (Clerk)</b></li> <li>• Cllr M Hocking advised that the playground had been inspected and that the seats on the junior swings appear to be starting to crack at the bottom. This will be regularly checked via the playground inspection.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Cllr Pilley advised that she has been reporting any pot holes via Fix My Street. <b>AP: To report on Highways damages under Councillors report.</b></i></li> <li>● <i>Cllr A Hocking advised that he had received comments from residents about damage to the grass verges on Walgrave Road. Council advised for residents to contact Highways with any issues.</i></li> </ul>
	<p><i>Correspondence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>A resident querying the grass cutting at Bridle Road. - Discussed under Councillors report.</i></li> <li>● <i>Correspondence received regarding Green Hill Solar Farm (reference item 16). - Discussed under item 16.</i></li> <li>● <i>A resident querying the upkeep of the village. - Council agreed for the Clerk to respond to the questions.</i></li> <li>● <i>(Received after Agenda was published) A resident congratulated Council on the new Cherry Hill lights and saving energy and cost. The resident also thanked Council for not increasing the Council tax in 2024/2025. - Discussed under item 8.</i></li> </ul>

**End of Meeting 21:48**

**Signed.....**  
**Date.....**