



Minutes of the Parish Maintenance Committee meeting held on Monday 14th October 2024 at the Village Hall

PMC 532 Appointment of Secretary for the meeting

- A. Peter Dowsett took notes

PMC 533 To receive and accept any apologies

- A. None received
- A. In attendance John Cook, Jane Clowery, Nigel Cox, Colin Shepard (Ch), Peter Dowsett, Anton Vickers

PMC 534 Declarations of interest – members to declare any pecuniary or prejudicial interests in relation to items on the agenda

- A. None except the Gandy Field as Anton lives nearby

PMC 535 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 10th September 2024.

- A. Some edits completed further required, so these were not approved.
- A. Nigel made it clear to the meeting that Sue always provided him with a list of maintenance jobs when he next met her after a maintenance committee meeting.
- A. Nigel's task list is included as an addendum to these minutes.

PMC 536 Report on work carried out over the last month

- 1 Final mowing of year Hills & Hollows
- 2 Mowing has continued around the village
- 3 Security work and other tasks have taken place at the Storage Unit
- 4 The dam in the Pocket Park has been repaired
- 5 Bulbs have been planted at the following locations,

Daffodils on the corner of School Lane and Stamford Road and along towards The George

Wood Anemones and cyclamen have been planted in the bed at the Stamford Road end of the Village Green

Crocus have been planted in the other two beds on the Village Green

Tulips have been planted in the bed opposite The George

Daffodils have been planted in the octagonal bed on the High Street / Oundle Road corner

- 6 Yellow Rattle and Cowslip seed has been planted on the banks below the houses in The Leys.
- 7 A letter stating that they have no objection to a new planter on the site of the old bus shelter has been obtained from the residents of 12 The High Street.
- 8 The state of the footpath from Rose Avenue to Chapel Road has been re-reported on Fix-my-Street
- 9 Costings for an Amberol bench and planters on the site of the old bus shelter have been drawn up.

- A. Map of grass cutting contract to be circulated and potentially posted on the website
- A. Work at the unit D1 in progress. Awaiting mobile data WiFi instal.
- A. Peter to ask the Clerk for copies of the letters of agreement for the planter by Londis and email to NNC for agreement to make / place a planter at the site of the old bus shelter.
- A. Nigel to report bad footpaths in Woodlands on Fix-My-Street.

PMC 537 Weldon in Bloom update

- A. We discussed conflict of interest as a number of Cllrs volunteer for Weldon in Bloom. Whilst this is an interest, it does not appear to be either pecuniary or prejudicial. Cllr volunteers benefit no more or less than any member of the public. The policy is here...

<https://weldonparishcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/member-code-of-conduct-north-v1-1.docx.pdf>

B Grant request for 2025 to be constructed by Colin Shepard for presentation to the November full council meeting

- B. Thoughts to be given on how to include PHP and WP in 2025 activities
- B. Concern over funding and organisation to be clarified with the Clerk (how to define the divide between WiB and Maintenance for budget and tasks)

PMC 538 Suggestions for Claire to consider for tasks for the Parish Caretaker

- A. Nigel to clarify new maintenance equipment needs with Clerk
- A. [Colin to paste list in or add as appendix]
- A. Agreed to use John's spreadsheet as the task list
- A. Gandy field needs a maintenance specification documented. Suggest this is based on Nigel's quote, Colin to draft the document.
- A. Confirmed that the Gandy field is now handed back into parish maintenance.

- A. Need to chase RBL grant that supports replacement of posts at the war memorial. This needs to progress now.
- A. Footpath HF5 from Gandy Field to Corby road needs clearing. Anton to provide photos and discuss with the Clerk.

PMC 539 Potential new flower bed on the old bus shelter site by Londis

- A. Peter to get copies of neighbours letters from the Clerk.
- A. Peter to write to NNC Highways for approval.
- A. Options, plans and costings to be presented to Full Council Meeting, who will make the decision of which design to progress and agree purchase if feasible from this years PC budget.

PMC 540 Electric Power to the Village Green update

- A. Grants being pursued with Grantscape and Augean.
- A. Updated quotes being progressed.
- A. John and Colin to draft grant application, with updated quotes.

PMC 541 Hills & Hollows

- A. Carried forward.
- A. Last cut of the year completed.

PMC 542 Community Payback Team update and potential future tasks

- A. See Addendum.

PMC 543 Report from the Tree Warden

- A. On Nigels task list. Some trees on the Village Green have diseased lower branches.

PMC 544 Report from the Footpath Warden

- A. Footpath near junior school reported on fix my street. NNC committed to fix in 28 days. Check next meeting.

PMC 545 To provide support for the Maintenance Budget for 2025

- A. Maintenance committee to provide any help that Claire requires regarding potential work needed during the coming year and provide feedback on her proposed budget.

PMC 546 Date of next meeting

- A. 25 Nov at 19:00. Preference is to run the meeting online as there are no powers to vote or spend in the group.

Addendum

Tasks for Claire to consider for Nigel with suggested timeframe and tasks for others

- 1) Cut back the bramble and areas not subject to regular mowing in Pocket Park and the Leys. October
- 2) Shred the growth removed and other twigs and branches already cut and piled up in the Pocket Park spreading the wood chips along grassed path to pond. Some could also be spread in the bed under trees at the Stamford Road end of the Village Green to help retain moisture and suppress weed growth. November / December
- 3) Cut back the basal growth on one of the trees on the piece of land opposite the hairdressers. November / December
- 4) Remove this year's basal growth from the Lime trees in the Pocket Park. November / December
- 5) Cut down the new growth from the elderberry stump by the bench in Church Walk at the entrance to The Leys. November / December
- 6) Prune trees on the Village Green to raise crowns slightly and remove dead / diseased wood. November/ December
- 7) Repair the gate to the allotments. October
- 8) Monitor the state of the Gandy Field to keep it tidy and litter free. October and onwards
- 9) Empty the litterbins in the Pocket Park and at Larratt Rd. Ongoing task
- 10) Install new posts and gate at War Memorial once these have been obtained by the British Legion. October?
- 11) Lay replacement paving slabs on The Leys side of the footbridge into the Pocket Park to remove potential trip hazard. October
- 12) Repair wooden footbridge across the pond outlet stream in the Pocket Park. The sleepers having been lost due to flooding. (Cost to replace the missing sleepers approx. £32 + Vat each. If concreted into position to prevent recurrence total cost will be double). Reliant on risk assessment being received – potentially early spring.
- 13) Refurbish the bench on Water Lane. Needs painting. Early next year if /when weather allows
- 14) Ensure Stamford Rd footpath is safe for pedestrians (A parishioner has reported slipping on conkers). October
- 15) Install the 3 new planters which have now arrived under Parish Council notice boards and at entrance to village primary school. October
- 16) Install posts at entrance to village primary to prevent parking on verge. October

Tasks for Weldon in Bloom volunteers

- 1) Help with number 2 above although all / any actual machine work must be undertaken by Nigel.
- 2) Help with number 15 above.
- 3) Removing all dead plants and other dead vegetative material in beds and planters as plants die back for autumn.

- 4) Trim lavenders as flower heads die off
- 5) Continue to clear and plant the area at the Stamford end of the Village Green.
- 6) Help with litter picking in areas of the Parish deemed to be in need.
- 7) Continue to plant the bulbs for next year.

Tasks for Community Payback Team

- 1) Help to tidy up the Pocket Park including digging up Russian Comfrey.
- 2) Plant daffodil bulbs (purchased by Cricket Club) in the large bed at the Cricket Club
- 3) Trim edges of Church footpath
- 4) Litter pick the Old Stamford Road