

Minutes of Dingley Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th January 2025

in the Village Hall, Dingley at 7.00 pm.

Members of the Parish Council Present	Cllr B Jones (Chair) Cllr S Dudson Cllr E Lomer-Wood Cllr L Jones
Others in Attendance	Mrs Justina Medwell (Clerk) NNC Cllr B McElhinney One member of the public

		Action
1484	To receive and approve apologies: J Ingham (Village Hall) and PC M Ryan	
1485	Member's declaration of interest in items on the agenda and any changes to the Members Register of Interests: There were no declarations of interest in items on this agenda. There were no changes to the Register of Member's Interests.	
1486	To approve and sign the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 th November 2024 were agreed as a true record of these meetings and were duly signed by the Chair. Proposed Cllr Dudson Seconded Cllr Lomer-Wood	
1487	Matters Arising from the last Parish Council meeting: There were no matters arising.	
1488	Open Forum and Representations from members of the public – Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council: The Council was asked whether it had a Neighbourhood Plan and if not whether it had any plans to produce one in the future, particularly in light of the Government proposed devolution. (Meeting closed to the public)	
1489	Planning: There were no planning applications to consider.	
1490	(i) Safety Review of Parish Assets: It was noted that all assets including the defibrillator were in order. The Council agreed to use the more centrally located noticeboard in the bus shelter on Church Lane to display parish council notices from here on in. (ii) Local Government Update: Cllr B McElhinney advised that North Northamptonshire Council is (NNC) holding an extraordinary meeting on 9 January 2025 to decide whether to submit an expression of interest to join the government's Devolution Priority Programme. The advantage of this would be that NNC could potentially benefit significantly from the greater flexibilities and funding that devolved government could provide.	

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1491	<p>Parish Highways and Rights of Way:</p> <p>Highways Update</p> <p>Flooding on Braybrooke Road was raised. This continues to be a problem, especially close to the A6 junction. The blocked drains have been reported on Fixmystreet but the ditches belonging to the adjacent landowners need clearing. NNC Cllr B McElhinney undertook to take this up with NNC.</p> <p>Safe Cycle Path</p> <p>Proposed Cycleway:</p> <p>I. The Council considered the following results of the recent survey to establish whether the village were in support of this project and in favour of increasing the precept to fund this.</p> <p>All 88 Dwellings in the village received the survey and covering letter.</p> <p>48 (54.5%) Surveys were returned</p> <p>41 (85%) were in support of the project</p> <p>37 (77%) were in favour of an increase in the precept to fund this.</p> <p>The Council therefore RESOLVED to go ahead with the project to create a safe cycleway.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr L Jones Seconded Cllr S Dudson All in favour</p> <p>II. Proposed Loan:</p> <p>The Council RESOLVED to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to apply for a PWLB loan of £47,000 over the borrowing term of 50 years for the purpose of building a safe cycle path from Dingley to Market Harborough. The annual loan repayments will come to around £2,757.00.</p> <p>It is also intended to increase the council tax precept for the purpose of the loan repayments by 46% which is the equivalent of an additional £25 a year for a Band D property. This has been subject to a precept increase consultation.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr E Lomer-Wood Seconded Cllr S Dudson All in favour</p> <p>The next steps are to confirm the quote and to establish permissive rights to the land given to the Council by the landowner. The Clerk will contact NCALC for legal advice and to ascertain what is required in terms of a written legally binding agreement.</p>	JM
1492	<p>Financial Matters:</p> <p>(i) To consider the 2025/26 Budget and Set Precept</p> <p>The Council Resolved to Agree the Dingley Parish Council budget for 2025/26 (see annex)</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr E Lomer-Wood Seconded by Cllr B Jones All in favour</p> <p>The Parish Council Resolved to Agree the level of precept set at £8,867.00 for the financial year 2025-26. This equates to an increase of 46.15% or an extra £25 per household for a Band D property.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr E Lomer-Wood Seconded by Cllr B Jones All in favour</p> <p>The Clerk will submit the Precept Demand to NNC.</p>	JM

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1492	<p>(ii) Payments</p> <p>The following payments were presented and unanimously agreed:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Payee</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Details</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Amount</th> <th style="text-align: left;">VAT element</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Legal Authority</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Curtis Website</td> <td>Website</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£135.00</td> <td></td> <td>LGA 1972 s.111</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Microsoft</td> <td>Microsoft Office</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£59.99</td> <td>£10.00</td> <td>LGA 1972 s.111</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amazon</td> <td>Printing Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£34.69</td> <td>£4.50</td> <td>LGA 1972 s.111</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(iii) Financial Statement and Bank Reconciliation</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Current Account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,571.78</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Savings Account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£13,739.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ringfenced – Cycle Path</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£9,165.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Balance of Reserves</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>£6,146.27</u></td> </tr> </table> <p>All matters pertaining to finance are displayed on the website on dingley-pc.gov.uk</p>	Payee	Details	Amount	VAT element	Legal Authority	Curtis Website	Website	£135.00		LGA 1972 s.111	Microsoft	Microsoft Office	£59.99	£10.00	LGA 1972 s.111	Amazon	Printing Costs	£34.69	£4.50	LGA 1972 s.111	Current Account	£1,571.78	Savings Account	£13,739.49	Ringfenced – Cycle Path	£9,165.00	Total Balance of Reserves	<u>£6,146.27</u>	
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1493	<p>Exchange of Information, Crime Report and Village Hall:</p> <p>PC Ryan had sent the following report ahead of the meeting.</p> <p><i>“In short ASB and crime figures are still looking really good at the moment. Our area of Rural North Northants has some of the best figures on paper. We remain one of the safest places to live and continue to see reductions in our stats”.</i></p> <p>Following report from Village Hall received ahead of the meeting.</p> <p><i>“We are updating the Audio Visual this month and our next event is the Burns Supper on 7th Feb. It would be great to see Councillors at more events - and an open invitation to our NNC Councillors who would be very welcome to any event. An ‘open invitation’ has been sent to the MP Rosie Whiting”.</i></p>																													
1494	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>There was no further correspondence to discuss.</p>																													
1495	<p>New items for inclusion on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting:</p> <p>Risk assessment</p> <p>Neighbourhood plan</p> <p>May Election preparations</p>																													
1496	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>Wednesday 5th March 2025</p> <p>The Meeting Closed at 8.09 pm.</p>																													

Signed (Chair)

Dated

Annexe

Dingley Parish Council Budget

	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
Projected Expenses	£	£	£	£
Clerk's Salary	3,823.00	4,123.00	4,456.00	4,590.00
Insurance	180.00	180.00	180.00	180.00
Village Hall Hire	150.00	175.00	175.00	100.00
Website	100.00	100.00	200.00	200.00
NALC Subscription	190.00	190.00	190.00	195.00
Village Maintenance	300.00	300.00	150.00	150.00
Training	88.00	0.00	44.00	44.00
Office Expenses	120.00	120.00	144.00	144.00
Admin costs	50.00	50.00	200.00	100.00
ICO - Data Protection	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
Audit Fee	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00
Election Expenses	124.00	0.00	0.00	80.00
Clerk Pension	115.00	125.00	138.00	140.00
PWLB Loan	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,757.00
Bank Charges	100.00	75.00	75.00	72.00
Total Expenses	<u>5,455.00</u>	<u>5,553.00</u>	<u>6,067.00</u>	<u>8,867.00</u>
Proposed Precept	5,455.00	5,553.00	6,067.00	8,867.00
	Increase	Increase	Increase	Increase
	£24	£98	£514	£2,800
	0.44%	1.80%	9.26%	46.15%
Amount for Band D Property	£49.05	£50.03	£54.17	£79.88