

Potterspurty Parish Council

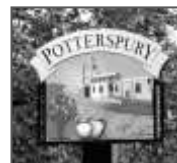
Chairman of the Council: Dr Steve Parkin

Clerk: Mrs Jane Spence

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www.potterspurtyparishcouncil.gov.uk



MINUTES of the meeting of Potterspurty Parish Council held on Wednesday 9 April 2025 at 7:30pm in St Nicholas Church Meeting Room.

Councillors present: Dr S Parkin (Chair), Mr I Garbutt, Mr G Lucas, Mrs C Nagle, Mr R Capps, Mr N Neubersch, Mrs B Silvester, Mrs J Blunden.

Parish Clerk: Mrs J Spence.

Apologies: Cllrs Millidge, Norris and Dring.

Also present: Ward Cllr Barter.

6698	APOLOGIES: <i>It was resolved to approve the apologies for absence from Cllrs Millidge, Dring and Norris.</i>	
6699	MINUTES: <i>It was resolved to approve as a true record the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12 March 2025, which were duly signed by the Chair.</i>	
6700	MATTERS ARISING: The WNC Vaccination Van has booked Meadow View car park on 12/05/25 instead of 14/04/25.	
6701	DECLARATION OF INTEREST UNDER COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT: None.	
6702	MINUTES ACTION REPORT: Noted.	
6703	PAYMENTS & BANK RECONCILIATION: Checked by Cllr Capps.	
6704	PUBLIC FORUM: There were no members of the public in attendance.	
6705	WNC WARD COUNCILLORS REPORT: Cllr Barter will not be standing at the May Election. He had a meeting with Shadow Secretary of Transport about MK rail services. He attended the last Planning Committee on 03/04/25 and again a member asked to adjourn into private session without giving a reason – the adjournment was carried with a vote of 4 to 3. The item was deferred for further reports. Cllr Barter thanked the PC for their support and noted his respect for their dedicated work. The Chair thanked Cllr Barter for all his support, advice and collaboration.	
6706	NHW COORDINATOR & POLICE LIAISON REP: Mr Coppin submitted email report. Crime figures: January 2025 – SN 129 (Potterspurty 8). February 2025 – SN 100 (Potterspurty 7). Local: Still monitoring electric bikes and scooters. A small orange dirt bike has been racing around the village. The Police have asked if there has been any hare coursing recently. Locally Identified Priorities for next 6 months: 1. Road Safety & Road Traffic Offences. 2. Vehicle Crime. 3. Burglary. Other: Be cautious about buying tickets online.	
6707	PLANNING: (i) Planning Applications: (a) WA0210001 The Planning Inspectorate. Transfer of Water Resources. The Grand union Canal Transfer Project. <i>It was resolved that Cllr Parkin and Cllr Blunden will respond.</i> (ii) Planning Decisions: 2025/0202/TPO Trim the broken branches of a fallen oak tree and leave it safely to see if it regrows. TPO 16/1994. Oak View. Approved 10/03/25. Noted. (iii) Other Planning Matters: 2024/1528/OUT Six self and custom build properties. Poundfield Road. Consider further contact with senior WNC officers regarding South Planning Committee meeting held on 05/12/2024. Cllr Parkin has not yet received a response to his email of 06/03/25 to Danny Moody, CEO, Northants CALC.	SP JB JS

6708	<p>PLAY AREAS:</p> <p>(i) Inspection Reports: March-April:</p> <p>(a) Meadow View: Cllr Lucas submitted a written report.</p> <p>(b) Mays Way, Blackwell End, Village Hall: Cllr Norris submitted email reports.</p> <p>(c) Skatepark Weekly: Cllr Garbutt – weekly inspection reports submitted by email.</p> <p>(d) Items requiring attention will be referred to Handyman and PSSC as necessary.</p> <p>(e) The skatepark and car park are being monitored on CCTV for possible drug use and selling and anti-social behaviour. <i>It was resolved to contact PCSO Matt Taylor reporting potential issues.</i></p> <p>(ii) Inspection Rota: April-May:</p> <p>(a) Meadow View – Cllr Blunden.</p> <p>(b) Mays Way, Blackwell End & Village Hall – Cllr Millidge.</p> <p>(c) Skatepark Weekly – Cllr Garbutt.</p>	JS JS																																																																						
6709	<p>FINANCE:</p> <p>(i) Budget Reports: <i>It was resolved to approve the FYE and April Budget Reports.</i></p> <p>(ii) Bank Reconciliation: <i>It was resolved to approve the FYE Bank Reconciliation.</i></p> <p>(a) Bank Balances: Total £57,111.79 (31/03/25).</p> <p>(b) Lloyds Current: £17,439.93 (31/03/25).</p> <p>(iii) Lloyds Deposit: £39,671.86 (31/03/25).</p> <p>(iv) Receipts:</p> <p>(a) <i>It was resolved to approve the FYE Receipts Report</i></p> <p>(b) Lloyds Deposit: March interest - £72.37.</p> <p>(c) HMRC: VAT Repayment 01/12/24-28/02/25 - £4,046.08.</p> <p>(d) Dayla Ltd: Contribution to Meadow View steel barrier (lorry damage) - £390.00.</p> <p>(v) Asset Register: <i>It was resolved to approve the updated 2024-25 register.</i></p> <p>(vi) Quotations:</p> <p>(a) Rotten Churchyard Posts: <i>It was resolved to raise order for 13 recycled plastic posts £1400.</i></p> <p>(b) Cleared area adjacent to Meadow View Play Area:</p> <p>(i) Supply and plant 10 Buddleia bushes. <i>It was resolved to raise order £100.</i></p> <p>(ii) Supply and install 1.8m high palisade fence with 900mm pedestrian gate. <i>It was resolved to raise order £1350.</i></p> <p>(iii) Attach 3' panels to existing fence panels. The quotation of £790 was considered too expensive for the short-term benefit until the new planting matures.</p> <p>(vii) Grounds Contract 2025-2028: <i>It was resolved to approve the additional cost of £375 pa for cutting the newly installed grass in Meadow View play area.</i></p> <p>(viii) Churchyard Green Waste Bins: Invoice for £416 business rate received from WNC to empty bins instead of £120 domestic rate previously charged. <i>It was resolved to ratify the change from 2 x 360L to 2 x 240L bins.</i></p> <p>(ix) PRG Allotment Insurance due 11/04/25: <i>It was resolved to approve payment of £183.80 from PRG account.</i></p> <p>(x) Payments: <i>It was resolved to approve bank transfers as listed below, checked by Cllr Capps. To be authorised by Cllr Neubersch and Cllr Parkin.</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="261 1563 1406 2092"> <thead> <tr> <th>TR no</th> <th>PAYEE</th> <th>Net £</th> <th>VAT £</th> <th>Total £</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>613</td> <td>J Spence: March Clerk salary £961.78, mileage £45.50, office £19.25.</td> <td>1026.53</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>1026.53</td> </tr> <tr> <td>613</td> <td>Amazon: 2 x Safety barriers</td> <td>83.32</td> <td>16.66</td> <td>99.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>613</td> <td>BS Fixings: Tamtorque clamps & tools for VAS</td> <td>62.31</td> <td>12.46</td> <td>74.77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>614</td> <td>HMRC: March PAYE £240.60. Employer NI £61.32.</td> <td>301.92</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>301.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>615</td> <td>A Stockton: Litter picking March</td> <td>100.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>616</td> <td>Mrs H Westlake: Honorarium – help at 12/2/25 meeting</td> <td>100.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>617</td> <td>B Osborne: Payroll services January-March 2025</td> <td>70.50</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>70.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>618</td> <td>The Old Mail: Councillor vacancy adverts April & May</td> <td>80.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>80.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>619</td> <td>Smith of Derby: St Nicholas Church clock annual service</td> <td>321.00</td> <td>64.20</td> <td>385.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>620</td> <td>RTM Landscapes: Grounds contract</td> <td>684.00</td> <td>136.80</td> <td>820.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>621</td> <td>R Phillips: Handyman labour and materials</td> <td>593.23</td> <td>17.89</td> <td>611.12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>622</td> <td>Potterspurty Village Hall: Meeting room hire January-March</td> <td>84.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>84.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>TOTAL APRIL TRANSFERS</td> <td>3506.81</td> <td>248.01</td> <td>3754.82</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	TR no	PAYEE	Net £	VAT £	Total £	613	J Spence: March Clerk salary £961.78, mileage £45.50, office £19.25.	1026.53	0.00	1026.53	613	Amazon: 2 x Safety barriers	83.32	16.66	99.98	613	BS Fixings: Tamtorque clamps & tools for VAS	62.31	12.46	74.77	614	HMRC: March PAYE £240.60. Employer NI £61.32.	301.92	0.00	301.92	615	A Stockton: Litter picking March	100.00	0.00	100.00	616	Mrs H Westlake: Honorarium – help at 12/2/25 meeting	100.00	0.00	100.00	617	B Osborne: Payroll services January-March 2025	70.50	0.00	70.50	618	The Old Mail: Councillor vacancy adverts April & May	80.00	0.00	80.00	619	Smith of Derby: St Nicholas Church clock annual service	321.00	64.20	385.20	620	RTM Landscapes: Grounds contract	684.00	136.80	820.80	621	R Phillips: Handyman labour and materials	593.23	17.89	611.12	622	Potterspurty Village Hall: Meeting room hire January-March	84.00	0.00	84.00		TOTAL APRIL TRANSFERS	3506.81	248.01	3754.82	JS JS JS JS
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	DD623	09.04.25 Yu Energy: March Streetlight electricity	261.14	13.06	274.20	
	DD624	09.04.25 Yu Energy: March Streetlight electricity	27.94	1.40	29.34	
	DD625	15.04.25 Tesco: Mobile Phone March	6.62	1.33	7.95	
	DD626	18.04.25 Lloyds Bank: Monthly service charge	4.25	0.00	4.25	
	DD627	30.04.25 PWLB: Loan repayment	63.47	0.00	63.47	
		TOTAL APRIL DIRECT DEBITS	363.42	379.21	15.79	
		TOTAL APRIL PAYMENTS	3870.23	4134.03	263.80	
6710	PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS:					
(i)	VAS Equipment: Cllr Parkin and Mr Phillips the Handyman have done a trial run installation using a triangular tripod ladder. Not yet installed as smaller clips required. The VAS has 4 batteries – 2 in use and 2 spare. Cllr Parkin will calculate cost of battery charging. The Clerk will prepare a draft Risk Assessment for insurance purposes.					SP JS
(ii)	Old Mail Reporter: Cllr Garbutt volunteered.					
(iii)	Grounds Maintenance Specification 2025-2028: <i>It was resolved to approve the revision to include mowing Meadow View play area grass.</i>					JS
6711	VILLAGE MATTERS					
(i)	Defibrillator Monthly Check: Cllr Parkin reported that the 04/25 battery/pads had been swapped with 10/25, with another spare set also dated 10/25. <i>It was resolved that the Clerk will research replacements and contact Jane Roberts again.</i>					JS
(ii)	CCTV/ANPR Monthly Check: Working but clock one hour ahead. <i>It was resolved Clerk will contact BeeTee Alarms.</i>					JS
(iii)	Potholes Repairs – Poundfield Road: No reply yet from Highways Service Manager to PC email dated 05/03/2025. <i>It was resolved Clerk will contact again.</i>					JS
(iv)	Road Safety A5 Watling Street: National Highways Safety Engineering Team Leader, Mr Greg Payne, contacted the PC on 09/04/25 and offered a site meeting. Date and time to be arranged.					JS
(v)	Blackwell End Dangerous Bend: WNC Highways signage improvements awaited.					
(vi)	Yardley Road Solar Farm - Public Consultation 19/03/25: Cllr Parkin attended the stakeholders preview and advised it provided little information. According to the organisers, 85 people attended the public meeting.					
(vii)	Potterspurty Pre-school Fundraising: <i>It was resolved to ratify the placing of wooden eggs around village.</i> It was noted that one egg had been nailed to a bench. <i>It was resolved to write to the Pre-school requesting they cable tie in future.</i>					JS
(viii)	Village Litter Picking and Bin Emptying: Marcus Young Environmental Services Ltd, who empty the dog bins, has been approached to temporarily empty bins at Meadow View, Blackwell End play area and Mays Way play area when Mr Stockton is not available. A quote is awaited. No arrangements made regarding litter picking. The two bins in front of the SSC clubhouse get overly full after events, including food, which may attract rats. <i>It was resolved to write to PSSC to request they take responsibility for emptying these two bins after events.</i>					JS JS
(ix)	St Nicholas Church Porch Light: A request has been received from Mr Holloway on behalf of the PCC to take over responsibility for maintaining and adjusting the exterior light on the church porch which has been part of the village street lights since the 1950's. The Streetlight Coordinator has suggested installing solar lights, but this would require the PCC to obtain permission from the Diocese. Other possible options to be looked into.					JS
6712	CORRESPONDENCE: Consider as listed and other items received.					
(i)	Email 31/03/25: Streetlight column 53 in Meadow View – request from resident to change to downward facing LED light. It was noted that the light is now working properly and lighting the road following the removal of a nearby tree which was blocking the light. <i>It was resolved to respond this has not been budgeted in the current financial year but may be considered next year.</i>					JS
(ii)	Complaint from Drovers Way resident about MK Special Ops in Furtho Lane: Excessive noise and loud bangs at random times of day and night – up to 11pm. Rat infestation in several gardens – possibly caused by inadequate food and rubbish storage and disposal. It is not known if the resident has reported to Guinness but will					JS

<p>(iii)</p> <p>(iv)</p>	<p>be recommended to do so. <i>It was resolved to report to Planning Enforcement as possible planning breach and to the landowner Mr Humphries, Pinchgut Farm requesting action is taken to reduce the noise and to report the rat problem.</i></p> <p>Email 07/04/25: A witness reported that two young girls left the skatepark at around 5:00pm when some males arrived. The girls were disappointed to leave the skatepark but did not feel comfortable with the older males, which may be drug related. The girls' father collected them and said he would report to the police. <i>It was resolved to report possible drug-related activity to PCSO Matt Taylor and request visit the car park on their patrols.</i></p> <p>Email 04/04/25: The landlord of The Cock Inn, Mr Gary Ion, is planning a day of festivities on 10/05/25 to celebrate the 80th VE Day. <i>It was resolved to wish him a successful day.</i></p>	<p>JS</p> <p>JS</p>
<p>6713</p> <p>(i)</p> <p>(ii)</p> <p>(iii)</p>	<p>Annual Parish Reports:</p> <p>Parish Council Chairman's Report.</p> <p>Parish Council Finance Report.</p> <p>WNC Deanshanger Ward Report – Cllr Barter.</p> <p>The reports were presented to the meeting and will be circulated and posted on the website.</p>	
<p>6714</p>	<p>Next Parish Council Meetings - Wednesday 14 May 2025 – Village Hall</p> <p>7:00pm Annual Meeting</p> <p>7:30pm Parish Council Meeting</p> <p>Meeting closed at 9:35pm</p>	
	<p>JES 07/05/2025</p>	

Signed _____ Date _____