

SYRESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office
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MEETING OF SYRESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

held on **Wednesday 18th December 2024**

at 7.00pm in the Village Hall Meeting room, Main Road, Syresham, NN13 5HE

Minutes

Present: Cllr D Dunkley (DD) (Chair), Cllr I Draper (ID) (Vice Chair), Cllr C Munsey (CM),
Cllr R Woolley (RW), Cllr D Green (DG), Nichola Ali (NA) (Clerk and RFO to the Council)

No members of the public were present

24/185 To **NOTE APOLOGIES** for absence.

Apologies received and **NOTED** from Cllr H MacIver, Cllr A Jeskins, Cllr D Cranwell and Ward Cllr D Bambridge.

24/186 To receive and approve for signature the **minutes** of the meeting held on Wednesday 27th November.
RESOLVED

24/187 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.)**

None received

24/188 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION. An opportunity for the public to address the Parish Council on issues on the agenda or to raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman. 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 representation through the Chairman of the meeting. Once the public participation session has ended, members of the public may not take part in the meeting.
No members of the public were present.

24/189 To receive the **REPORT from Cllr Dermot Bambridge**, Ward Councillor Silverstone Ward, WNC.

Not received.

24/190 FINANCE.

- I. To **NOTE** and **APPROVE** the following payments:

Details	Payee	Power	Net Amount	Payment Type
Scribe Monthly Fee inv 7811	Scribe Accounts	Local Government Act 1972 s.111	£34.00	DD Unity Trust Current Acc
Monthly Telephone Bill inv 2749	Bluebell Cloud Solutions	Local Government Act 1972 s.111	£14.95	DD Unity Trust Current Acc
Section 137 Grant Award The Syresham Gems	The Syresham Gems	LGA 1972 S137	£200.00	Unity Trust Current Acc
Npower 01/07/24-30/09/24	NPower	Highways - Highways Act 1980, s301	£181.48	DD Unity Trust Current Acc
Reimb C Munsey Flowerbed Supplies Nov	C Munsey	Highways - Highways Act 1980, s.96	£7.98	Unity Trust Current Acc
Unity Bank Fees – Oct	Unity Bank	Local Government Act 1972 s.111	£6.00	Unity Trust Current Acc
December salary month 9 inc WFH Allowance	Parish Clerk Salary NA	Administration of the council - Local Government Act 1972 s 112 (1)	£1,082.88	SO Unity Trust Current Acc
HMRC Tax & NI	HMRC PAYE	Administration of the council - Local Government Act 1972 s 112 (1)	£95.86	DD Unity Trust Current Acc
Nest Pension Contribution - December	Nest Pension	Administration of the council - Local Government Act 1972 s 112 (1)	£42.51	DD Unity Trust Current Acc
Swirl Roundabout Surface Repair	Wicksteed	Open Spaces Act 1906, s9&10	£469.00	Unity Trust Current Acc
Unity Bank Fees – Nov	Unity Bank	Local Government Act 1972 s.111	£6.00	Unity Trust Current Acc

- II. Bank balances for approval; Unity Current Account: £4,781.13
Unity Savings Account: £31,079.24 Unity Reserve Acc: £24,951.80
Equals Card: £232.16
- III. To note transfer of funds from Unity Current Acc to Unity Reserves Acc (CIL Payment) of £4,165.64 on 09.12.24. And a transfer of funds from Unity Savings Acc to Unity Current Acc of £4000 on 09.12.24.

RESOLVED: The above finances were noted and **APPROVED**

24/191 OTHER INTERNAL REPORTS.

- To receive **Swingfield Report** from **DG & CM** for most recent inspection **RECEIVED**, everything looked okay. It was noted that there was evidence of 1 mole. The no dogs sign had been put up, repairs to roundabout looked good. Proposal received to book pressure wash in again for springtime.
- To receive report from Flood Warden **HM** following recent floods.
Not received.

24/192 ENERGY SUPPLIER. To **NOTE** that our new green energy supplier Engie have provided us with a **Renewable Energy Certificate** which we can share on our website.

NOTED Clerk to add to website and share on Facebook. A printed copy will be available for the noticeboard.

24/193 SWINGFIELD LEASE. To **NOTE** draft lease is currently being drawn up by George Timms Trust for the new 21-year lease for the Swingfield Play area. Permission to appoint solicitor to approve the lease once received prior to the council signing.

Several solicitors were asked to provide quotes for the works and the following two companies provided estimates for their work:

Heald Law (Milton Keynes Based) fees from **£900 to £1250 + VAT and disbursements for reviewing the lease once, with one set of amendments.**

SP Law (Northampton Based) **£2035 + VAT and disbursements.**

RESOLVED Council agreed to instruct Heald Law.

24/194 CORRESPONDENCE. To **NOTE** Parish Council correspondence:

1. *“Hello, this is a courteous message just to say the Banner advertising the St.Nicholas (St.James Church) Fair has been put on display around the Jubilee Tree. We thank the Parish Council for this favour each year and appreciate it as it is a very favourable place to advise our Church Fair. Thank you on behalf of St.James Church”*

NOTED

2. Fault Report Form filled out by resident: *“Frequent, repetitive flooding to Wappenham Road and Bell Lane, surface water flows and persistent standing water to The Hill. Becoming a hazard to traffic and pedestrians. No proper/effective remedial works to date.”*

NOTED

3. *“Hello. Recently contractors used the land entering Bradbery Close to store plant. Do you know please when the land, now left as muddy exposed earth, will be restored properly to its previous good condition? With kind regards”*

NOTED Clerk updated cllrs that this was followed up with WNC Highways and received the following response: *“Our New Roads and Street Works Inspector has been out to have a look at the issues you have raised. I can advise that they have raised defects against the sewer connection works on High Street, Syresham, for the verge left a mud bath, the kerb not set correctly and the carriageway reinstatement not being sealed, edges fretting out and over saw cut. Unfortunately, we don’t know how quickly this work will be carried out.”* The resident has been informed of this update.

24/195 COUNCIL ATTENDANCE RECORD. To **NOTE** attendance record to date for Parish Council meetings including the annual meeting of the Parish Council, extraordinary meetings and the monthly full council meetings from April 24 to November 24.

Chair Cllr Dunkley	100%	Vice Chair Cllr Draper	87.50%
Cllr Cranwell	25%	Cllr Green	50%
Cllr Jeskins	25%	Cllr Malver	25%
Cllr Munsey	100%	Cllr Woolley	75%

NOTED

24/196 EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE. To set a date for next meeting.

RESOLVED Date set for 20th January, agenda to follow.

24/197 ABBEY ROAD TREES. To **NOTE** the response given from Martin Frost at National Grid:

“The team went to site yesterday. I have asked our tree contractors to liaise with the householders as these all appear to be trees on private land. Once “permissioned” they will then complete the trimming. There is no immediate rush for the works as the conductors are insulated and the tree growth has slowed at this time of

year. Usually when the trees are privately owned we would ask the householders to arrange and fund the cost of the trimming but in this case it would save time and effort for us to complete the works. Thanks for bringing this to our attention”

NOTED Cllrs were unclear on whether residents are responsible for funding such works and requested that further clarification be sought.

24/198 BROAD STREET To **NOTE** the response given by the parking restrictions teams regarding reducing the length of double yellow line around the bend of Broad St/High Street: *“In consideration of the junction, with the narrowing of the road as it enters Broad Street, we felt the extended double yellow lines improved the safety of the junction, to ensure the full utilization of the junction’s width for vehicles exiting Broad Street. At present, vehicles parking on the High Street as you exit from Broad Street and those parked in Broad Street to the corner, are creating a single file of traffic and bottleneck of vehicles trying to exit from Broad Street onto the High Street. If we were to shorten the restriction as suggested, this we feel would compromise the safety and visibility of pedestrians crossing from between any parked cars on the High Street, as cars exit left from Broad Street.”*

NOTED Cllrs have concerns over the length of the proposed double yellow line and request a meeting is arranged to discuss this in person with WNC.

24/199 HIGH STREET FOOTPATH. To **NOTE** the response received from WNC regarding complaint raised about condition of footpath: *“I am sorry that the Parish Council are unhappy with the condition of the footway and our previous responses to requests for improvement. I have investigated this matter and looked into the individual Street Doctor reports. 3580673 – This was reported on 8th June 2022 relates to the condition of the footway. It was inspected the following day. The reports states that there are no safety defects which require attention. 6164144 and 6121031 – This report relates to the same kerb entry gully on High Street and was reported on 16th and 27th June. This gully has now been reset. 6121031 – Reported on 18th June and relates to the footway. It was inspected on 19th June. Our records show that the area had now been patched. 6517617 – Reported on 26th September and inspected the same day. The reports states that there are no safety defects which require attention. Having had the area visited, I am understanding to the concerns of the Parish Council. The footway is narrow in width and has a steep camber. However, these are not defects which have arisen on the footway, this is a historic footway, and we are restricted on any repairs that we can make owing to physical limitations in the area. Whilst at this point, I cannot guarantee that works will be completed in the immediate future, we have put this area forward for a major footway reconstruction scheme. These schemes are ranked and assessed annually against other schemes across West Northamptonshire but there are many schemes on the list and unfortunately, we do not have the available budgets to complete them all.*

I am sorry that I am unable to provide an immediate solution to the concerns that have been raised.”

NOTED Clerk to make further enquiries regarding current position on the list.

24/200 SWINGFIELD ROUNDABOUT. To **NOTE** the repairs to the surface have been carried out by Wicksteed. Special acknowledgement to Wicksteed for their speed and quality of the repairs.

NOTED Clerk to send email thanking Wicksteed for their work.

24/201 CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

Date of next Parish Council meeting **Thursday 16th January 2025 at 7.30pm** to set budget and parish precept.

Date of next full Parish Council meeting **Wednesday 29th January 2025 at 7.30pm.**

RESOLVED

24/202 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES MEETING Proposal to close the Finance and General Purposes meeting to the public and press to allow discussion of commercially sensitive quotations and tenders, which are to be treated as private and confidential.

RESOLVED

Meeting closed 7.37pm

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBIC

F&GP meeting to follow immediately after this meeting.



Nichola Ali
Syresham Parish Clerk

email: parishclerk@syreshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Please note, this is a public meeting, and you may be filmed, recorded and published. Copies of all council papers are available to download at www.syreshamparishcouncil.gov.uk