



Tree asset management – A justifiable and defensible inspection policy is recommended. It was suggested aerial inspection appropriate every 5 to 10 years, with street inspection every 3 to 5 years.

3. Interactions with other landowners - Proposed to ensure consistency and support the improvement and expansion of the existing tree and woodland cover.

Council were very grateful to Dylan Lewis for the proposals. It was agreed further work and consideration would be given to the 3 objectives

- c) To consider and agree the requirement for any works to trees.

Council considered the Street Doctor report for the Holcot Lane bridleway trees which states the trees are the responsibility of the landowners. There was discussion regarding the removal of broken branches and the greater damage that could occur to the tree if landowners tried to remove them. If broken branches were securely lodged in trees then it may not be the best course of action to remove them and each branch and tree should be individually considered by landowners. Councillor Curtis expressed concern over one tree in particular, so with the landowner being present, he said he would take a look.

### **13/117 Playing field**

- a) To receive update report from the 'Friends of Scaldwell Playing Field' and agree any actions. Georgina Carter had emailed the Clerk and Michelle Wharton was present. It was noted the 'playdale' key for tightening bolts had broken so a spare was trying to be located, but if the spare was not found a new key would be required. Council were advised of the possible need for lids for the 2 bins due to the wasp problem during the summer and them become filled with water following rain. The Clerk informed she was still waiting to hear from DDC following her enquiries regarding a request for wheelie bins and/or the emptying of the litter bins.
- b) To consider the Risk Assessment reports received since the last meeting and agree any actions. The latest reports had been circulated. There were no actions.
- c) To review insurance requirements for inspection regime and agree any actions. The Clerk reported having spoken with Came and Company and a fortnightly inspection regime could be requested if there was a genuine reason for the request, such as a reduction in visitors to the playing field or a lack of availability of volunteer inspectors. Council agreed they would request a fortnightly inspection during the winter when visitor numbers were much lower.
- d) To consider progress of the repair of the collapsed wall and agree any actions. Council previously had concerns because the works to the wall had not commenced, but Michelle Wharton reported the works were underway.
- e) To agree a planting scheme for the Woodland Trust pack received and to agree arrangements for undertaking the planting work. Groupings of planting were preferred over a straight hedge line. Dylan Lewis is to mark up a plan and/or mark out the area at the playing field to allow the 'Friends of Scaldwell Playing Field' group to see the proposed planting area. Councillor Alcock said he could be available, on behalf of Council, to review the proposed scheme when marked out.

### **13/118 Planning applications**

To receive report on progress: DA/2013/0733, works to trees in a conservation area, the Hollies, High Street. At the time of the meeting the Clerk was not aware of a decision from DDC.

### **13/119 Correspondence**

- a) Consultation, Northamptonshire Highways, Asset Management and Strategy. Council agreed they would not make a response to this consultation.
- b) Consultation, Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue, Draft Strategic Update and Review for 2013.

- Council agreed they would not make a response to this consultation.
- c) Consultation, DDC, Draft Community Strategy.  
Council agreed they would not make a response to this consultation.
- d) DDC email 14 October, WW1, Centenary Commemorations for 2014.  
Councillors thought there was a war memorial plaque in the Church and it was agreed the plaque would be viewed in advance of the next meeting when the matter would be placed on the agenda for further consideration. It was suggested a good idea to speak with and seek ideas from John Wiggins and Councillor Vinton offered to do this.
- e) To receive other items of correspondence (*for information only*)
1. Letter dated 27 September 2013 from Jackson Grundy with cheque enclosure of £135.65 from the Community Support Initiative.
  2. Northamptonshire Highways, application paperwork for the grass cutting grant 2014, £280.73.
  3. Email dated 13 November 2013 from DDC outlining the Christmas waste and recycling collection arrangements for 2014. Councillor Long suggested this might be included in the next newsletter.
  4. Email notification received from DDC of the next Parish and Town Councils Liaison meeting, Thursday 12 December 2013.
  5. 'Housing Needs Survey' report received from DDC. The report was sent to the Council for consultation but received by the Clerk after the agenda had been published. The Clerk had sought an extension to the consultation deadline to allow a Council response, if necessary, following their January meeting. The report did not identify a need and Council felt a response would not be necessary.

**13/120 Grass cutting 2014: to consider quotes and agree appointment of contractor**

The Clerk circulated to Councillors a spreadsheet showing the prices received from the 4 contractors. Councillors reviewed the spreadsheet and agreed they would offer the work to R&G. It was accepted that R&G had not submitted the lowest price but Council felt their performance this season had been extremely good and they had been responsive to specific requests for the mowing of the playing field.

**13/121 Street lighting: to receive report, consider implications and agree any actions**

Council were reminded that the European Union's 'Energy Using Products' directive defines the requirements for the environmentally-sustainable design of many products including street lighting. The result being that mercury vapour lamps are being phased out from April 2015 when replacement bulbs will no longer be manufactured. Councillors had previously been circulated with the results of a lighting survey undertaken by E-ON. The Clerk provided paper copies at the meeting. The report showed price comparison for conversion to 42 watt and also LED. Pricing was also provided for the costs of maintenance and energy consumption for these 2 upgrade options. Council queried the listed missing street light 8 and Councillor O'Leary said he thought there were 2 street lights in Back Lane. The Clerk said she would check E-ON's listing. Council have 19 out of 21 street lights as mercury vapour. Council asked the Clerk if it would be possible to purchase remaining stocks of mercury vapour after April 2015 and the Clerk said she would explore this option. The Clerk said she would also be taking advice and seeking a comparative quote from Aylesbury Mains.

**13/122 Finance**

- a) To receive report of payments received since the last meeting.  
The Clerk had circulated the cash flow spreadsheet updated since the last meeting, with the updated payments and receipts tables. The Clerk reported payments received as follows:

Description of payment received	Amount
Precept, 2 <sup>nd</sup> installment	£5,853.00
Bank interest	£4.94
NCC grass cutting grant	£280.73
<b>Total</b>	<b>£6,138.67</b>

- b) To receive report of bank balances and reconciliation for the period.  
The Clerk had previously circulated the bank reconciliation. Bank balances were reported as follows, with cheques outstanding of £554.63

To 1 November 2013	Amount
Current a/c	£500.00
Reserve a/c	£23,707.64
Total in a/c's	£24,207.64

- c) To approve the following payments made since the last meeting:

Date	Chq	Payment to	Description	VAT	Total inc VAT
18/09/13	770	HMRC	Employee tax liability, P7		£38.60
					<b>£38.60</b>

- d) To approve the following payments, including an additional payment to Scaldwell Club which the Clerk had omitted from the agenda:

20/11/13	771	R&G	Grass cutting *1	£125.13	£750.85
20/11/13	772	E-ON	Street light elec. supply 01/07/13 – 30/09/13 *2	£8.95	£187.93
20/11/13	773	E-ON	Street light maintenance Quarter end 30/09/13 *2	£11.78	£70.68
20/11/13	774	Alicia Schofield	Expenses up to end Oct.		£111.05
20/11/13	775	Georgina Carter	Batteries, cat scarer, chq re-issue, 767, £5.20 *3		£11.18
					<b>£1,131.69</b>
20/11/13	776	Scaldwell Club	Contribution towards firework display *4		£100.00
					<b>£1,231.69</b>

- e) Draft budget 2014/15: To consider sources of income, general expenditure, project expenditure and possible value of precept required.

The Clerk passed to Councillors a spreadsheet showing a budget but with queries for 7 lines, There was general discussion regarding the lines of query and Council answered specific questions from the Clerk regarding requirements for training, playing field repairs and maintenance and bus shelter/notice board allocations.

With additional information the Clerk will complete the draft budget and circulate to the Chair and Vice-Chair for initial comment prior to presentation to full Council.

### 13/123 Highways:

- a) To receive progress report for new warning sign requested  
The Clerk reported that Northamptonshire Highways had placed the order for the new sign and it was expected end of December/early January. Council wish to be consulted on the location for the new sign prior to installation so the Clerk will ask Ian Boyes if this can be done.
- b) To agree any actions with regard to overhanging vegetation for warning sign for bend  
The overhanging vegetation has been cutback. Council thanked Dylan Lewis for his help in ensuring this happened.

c) To consider any reports raised since the last meeting and agree any actions. None.

**13/124 Crime/NHW: to receive reports since the last meeting and agree any actions**

No crime or ASB reported for the months of September or October.

**13/125 Reports from Councillors: to receive reports and agree any actions**

Councillor O'Leary reported the notice board for the village hall had been put up..

Councillor Curtis said loud music had been heard from the scaffolding company. After some discussion it was agreed in the first instance that Councillor Curtis would have a word with them as they may not be aware the music was carrying.

Councillor Vinton proposed, and Council supported, a vote of thanks to Dylan Lewis for his report to Council. Council appreciated his time in looking after the interests of the village.

**13/126 Newsletter: to agree any articles for the next edition of the newsletter**

DDC arrangements for Christmas recycling and waste collections

Tree planting to be undertaken at the playing field

WWI centenary commemorations and asking for ideas

**13/127 To receive requests for items for the agenda for the next meeting.** None.

**13/128 Date of next meeting**

a) To note the date of the next meeting, Wednesday 22 January 2014.

b) To note and agree the dates for 2014: 19 March.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

<b>Minutes Reference</b>	<b>Statutory Provision</b>	<b>Reference to Council's Decision within the Minutes</b>
<b>*1</b>	Highways Act 1980, s.96, Open Spaces Act s.15, Public Health Act 1875, s 164 and amendments, Local Government Act 1972, s.214	
<b>*2</b>	Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3, Highways Act 1980, s.301	
<b>*3</b>	Public Health Act 1875, s. 164 and amendments, Local Government Act 1972, s.111.	13/062 b)
<b>*4</b>	Local Government Act 1972, s.145	13/094 b)