

Councillor Curtis said she would speak with the manager to make him aware of the issue and to see if something can be done to better control the noise.

13/119 d) Councillor Vinton spoke with John Wiggins but he was only able to help in relation to WW2, not WW1.

14/7 Tree management works, policy and procedures

a) To receive a progress report from the Tree Warden, Dylan Lewis.

b) To consider the report and to agree any recommendations or actions arising.

Items a) and b) were considered together. Dylan advised consideration be given to carrying out an inspection. The Council need to define the area and therefore the trees to be included within the inspection. Dylan said he would contact a number of consultants to ascertain their availability to undertake inspection and their prices. He also suggested the Council might like to develop a method for assessing the condition of non Parish Council trees in the wider environment, for example, those overhanging public areas such as the Green. The assessment to incorporate: a) risk, and b) an appropriate methodology by which the landowner would be approached. Dylan said he could prepare a system/proposal for the Parish Council to consider. Council thanked Dylan.

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

Dying willow in Back Lane. The tree is to be taken out by NCC. The Clerk was asked to push for the work to be done soon.

Cherry tree on the grass verge, Old Road. The Clerk had emailed Councillors following her phone conversation with Mr Gunnett regarding his request to have the cherry tree cutback to prevent interference with the overhead line to his house and the placement of hardcore to improve the waterlogged state of the grass verge. The Clerk queried the ownership of the land. Ownership of the land had not been established but it was assumed to be DDC's. The Clerk was asked to report back to Mr Gunnett that he should contact DDC. Dylan Lewis referred to a residents planning application for a driveway and further referred to reports from this time in 2011 which outline the position and which lead to the assumption the land is owned by DDC. This information is to be passed to the Clerk/Council.

14/8 Playing field

a) To receive update report from the 'Friends of Scaldwell Playing Field' and agree any actions.

There will be a spring clean on Sunday 23 March and an easter egg hunt is being organised for Saturday 19 April. The paperwork in the shed for the volunteers is being updated and guidance is to be provided outlining what is expected of the volunteers. The replacement cat scarer is not working. For now, another is not to be acquired and the matter will be reviewed at the next working party meeting as part of the overall discussions regarding the sand pit. There was general discussion regarding neighbouring dogs escaping/scaring children in the playground. Georgina Carter will make enquiries and report back as she knew someone who had volunteered to have a word with the owners. The next meeting of the working party is scheduled for the 10 March.

b) To consider the Risk Assessment reports received since the last meeting and agree any actions. No actions.

c) To consider the 'Wicksteed' annual playing field inspection and agree any actions.

The inspection report had been previously circulated. Nothing was identified as High or Medium High and thus requiring immediate attention so with this in mind it was agreed the report would be fully considered and appropriate actions agreed via the forthcoming working party meeting.

- d) To receive a progress report regarding the planting scheme for the Woodland Trust pack and arrangements for undertaking the planting work.
Dylan Lewis reported meeting with Georgina Carter and Michelle Wharton to discuss the planting areas. It was suggested a small area be planted initially to allow all to get an impression of what the overall scheme would look like. Dylan Lewis agreed a plan would be passed to Council to allow approval for the planting scheme intended. The planting is to be maintained by the volunteers. There was discussion regarding planting to the front of Mrs O'Neil's window and this was thought to be a good idea.

14/9 Planning applications

a) **To receive report on progress:**

DA/2013/0733, works to trees in a conservation area, the Hollies, High Street. Approved 14 November 2013.

DA/2013/0956, works to trees in a conservation area, Isham End, Old Road. No DDC decision yet.

b) **To consider and agree a response to planning application DA/2013/0995, Listed building consent, removal of a car port, The Old Fox, High Street.**

It was agreed Council would support the application.

14/10 Correspondence

- a) Consultation, West Northants Joint Core Strategy, Proposed Main Modifications.
Council agreed no response would be made. The Clerk is to circulate the guidance notes received so all are aware of the proposals. Overstone Leys is put forward to receive an additional 1.500 homes.
- b) Consultation, River Nene Regional Park, Integrated Management Plan.
Council agreed no response would be made.
- c) DDC email 27 November, communication with parishes.
Councillors did not wish to receive DDC website training.
- d) DDC email 22 November, initiative to tackle dog fouling. Council agreed they did not need to take part in this initiative at the present time.
- e) Consultation, Steering Group for the draft Neighbourhood Plan for Brixworth.
With Councillor Parker present there was general discussion regarding this consultation. The Clerk had already emailed seeking to speak with someone. Council agreed the Clerk should seek clarification to gain some context regarding the reference to 'new' and also ascertain the boundary for the Plan. Councillor Parker said he was soon to attend a meeting of the Steering Group and would carry the same message/enquiries.
- f) To receive other items of correspondence (*for information only*)
1. Consultation, DDC, Draft Corporate Strategic Plan 2014-2017. The Clerk was aware the deadline for the consultation had now passed, but the information had been circulated to the Councillors in advance of the meeting to allow them to make individual response if they wished. .
 2. Best village competition and churchyard awards scheme, Northants ACRE.

14/11 WW1, Centenary Commemorations for 2014

To consider ideas for commemorations and agree any actions.

Councillor Randall said the PCC had not discussed the issue as yet but she would report back in due course. A brass commemorative plaque is located in the church. There was suggestion of a possible joint event.

14/12 Finance

- a) To receive report of payments received since the last meeting

Description of payment received	Amount
Bank interest	£0.65
Total	£0.65

- 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 no cheques outstanding

To 31 December 2013	Amount
Current a/c	£500.00
Reserve a/c	£21,811.37
Total in a/c's	£22,311.37

- c) To approve the following payments made since the last meeting.
Council approved the following payment made:

Date	Chq	Payment to	Description	VAT	Total inc VAT
16/12/13	777	HMRC	Employee tax liability P8&9		£77.20
Total					£77.20

- d) To approve the following payments.
Council approved the following for payment:

Date	Chq	Payment to	Description	VAT	Total inc VAT
22/01/14	778 779	Scaldwell village hall	Room hire (13/14) *1		£120.00
22/01/14	779 780	E-ON	Street light maintenance Quarter ending 31/12/13 *2	£11.78	£70.68
22/01/14	780 781	Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	Playground inspection *1	£9.00	£54.00
22/01/14	781 782	CPRE	Annual membership *1		£29.00
22/01/14	782 783	Miss Alicia Schofield	Salary £620.56 & expenses £88.84 for Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec 2013		£709.40
22/01/14	783 784	HMRC	Employee tax liability P10		£38.60
					£1,098.88

- e) To consider and agree the budget and value of the precept request for 2014/15
The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a draft budget and supporting information with regard to the tax base for 2014/15 and the letter from DDC that no grants will be awarded as had occurred for 2013/14. The Clerk had annotated the budget to show the calculations and assumptions for each line. Council reviewed the budget line by line. The £1,300 allocation to the playing field entrance was moved, with £1,000 allocated to the street lighting upgrade and £300 allocated for tree inspections/work. Council agreed the budget with the amendment and Council agreed to a precept request of £11,944. Due to the increase in the tax base for 2014/15, the value of the precept could increase from last year whilst the band D charge remains the same.

14/13 Highways:

- a) To receive progress report for new warning sign requested. It was agreed the Clerk would arrange for Council to meet with Ian Boyes to agree the exact location for the new warning sign.
- b) To consider any reports raised since the last meeting and agree any actions. None.

14/14 Crime/NHW/Police: to receive reports since the last meeting and agree any actions

No reported crime or ASB for the months of November and December.

14/15 Reports from Councillors: to receive reports and agree any actions

Councillor Randall said the ground to the front of the post box was very muddy. Council discussed the possibilities for dressing the ground and rough chipping was thought the most appropriate. Both Dylan Lewis and Councillor Long said they might have some that could be used. Council agreed to try using the chipping and hoped this would remedy the problem.

Councillor Alcock referred to the Green to the front of his property and the vehicle damage being caused to the edges. The suggestion of placing stones to the edge was discussed and also the possibility of placing matting to strengthen the sides but allow the grass to grow through. Council agreed the matter should be given further consideration and the condition of the Green kept under review. Councillor Alcock also spoke of the condition of the memorial seat. Councillor Long said she thought a good clean with a wire brush would improve its appearance and Council thought this could be undertaken as part of the spring clean.

Councillor O'Leary reported village hall access problems during maintenance but the matter was being resolved. He also reported his attendance at the Neighbourhood Plan session with Nick Bowles MP. He said a Neighbourhood Plan could not stop development but could influence it. Having a plan in place would also allow a higher Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). He recommended Council give serious consideration to the possible benefits and need for a plan in Scaldwell. It was agreed the matter would be further considered. The recently advertised briefing session being organised by Spratton Parish Council was suggested as a good source for gaining additional information and it was agreed representatives should attend. Councillor Long and O'Leary expressed an interest, alongside the Clerk.

14/16 Newsletter: to agree any articles for the next edition of the newsletter

Seeking volunteers for tree planting at the playing field.

Request to drivers to care and to try and avoid damage to the edge of the Greens

Ideas to be sought to commemorate the WW1 centenary

14/17 To receive requests for items for the agenda for the next meeting. None.

14/18 Date of next meeting

a) To note the date of the next meeting; Wednesday 19 March 2014

b) To agree meeting dates for the remainder of 2014: 21 May (AGM and APM), 16 July, 17 September and 19 November

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Minutes Reference	Statutory Provision	Reference to Council's Decision within the Minutes
*1	Local Government Act 1972 s.111	
*2	Parish Councils Act 1957 s.3, Highways Act 1980 s.301	