

BOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Boughton Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Butchers Lane, Boughton, on Monday 17th March 2025 at 7.00p.m.

In Attendance:

Councillors: Cllr John Shephard (Chair of the meeting), Cllr A Awan, Cllr K Fletcher, Cllr Rosie McDonnell, Cllr Carolyn Penny, Cllr S Phipps, Cllr Tracey Redwood, Cllr Jonathan Sambrook

Apologies: Cllr Nasir Chatha, Cllr A Gibson, Cllr R Adams

Members of the Public: 12

25/3309 - Welcome

Cllr John Shephard ("the Chair") welcomed everyone to the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council.

25/3310 - Apologies for Absence

Cllr N Chatha gave apologies for the meeting. The apologies were accepted.

25/3311 - Declarations of Interest (on Agenda items only)

There were no declarations of interest

25/3312 - Approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17th February 2025

***Resolved:** to accept the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Council on 17th February 2025 as a true and accurate record. The minutes will be signed by the Chair.*

Action: Chair

25/3313 - Public Open Forum Session

Several parishioners confirmed they had attended the FCM to discuss traffic calming in the village, Cllr Shephard provided an update.

Cllr Shephard confirmed that Planning Condition 25 meant that the Parish Council (PC) need to agree to traffic calming to ameliorate extra traffic once the road opens next year. He confirmed that WNC are urging the concept of a 20mph limit in the village, and they have produced traffic modelling to show this limit will encourage drivers to take other routes, this may have attracted scepticism, but it is what the modelling says. The PC have requested a trial of the 20mph limit and requested confirmation on where the 20mph signs will be and we are still awaiting a response to our enquiries. The PC have instructed Sterling Maynard, Traffic Consultants, who were also instructed at the beginning of the planning process in 2020. It was their view at the time that nothing could be done. No agreement reached and the issue was deferred until now. The comment today is the same, they don't see how the speed limit would affect volume. We await the best offer from WNC as to the 20mph limit. When the final offer is received we will consult with the parish either via a meeting or a referendum. In the meantime, Malcom Sanderson from Howard Lane has canvassed 93/262

households in the village and reports dead heat about those who do and do not want a closure in Moulton Lane with most saying both is necessary.

Helen Chappell advised they have only canvassed some roads and there are still areas that need to be canvassed to get proper picture across the whole of the village, they are working hard to ensure all roads are covered but at the moment the statistics are just what we have so far. Helen said traffic management should preserve and enhance the Conservation Area where possible as stated in the Plan as some of the houses in the Conversation Area have been built without foundations. Helen requested we ensure consideration is given to water splashing against cottages in the village which is damaging the stonework. Cllr Shephard confirmed that if there are ongoing issues in relation to the state of the road in relation to properties then we need to look at that, however in relation to traffic planning and calming WNC's view as to their sole brief is to ameliorate the volume of traffic caused by the new road.

Another resident raised concerns about the "cannabis factory" discovered by the Police in a neighbouring house in Vyse Road and wanted to know if they are entitled to any information about this. Cllr Shephard confirmed we have not made any enquires enquiries as expect the matter is currently with the Police and unsure what information they would wish to share at this stage, we will however share any information we receive.

A resident wanted an update in relation to the flooding and water situation at the Obelisk, the Clerk agreed to request an update now that works have started there.

A local resident, Craig agreed to share the report produced by Malcolm Sanderson who is unable to be at the meeting today. He confirmed as above that just under 100 houses have been canvassed so lots have people have been involved. They have looked at 10 questions with the 11th one looking at a potential link road to Boughton Lane being included. Spent 10-30 minutes with each resident discussing the issue, it is the thing that concerns residents the most and they are concerned the Parish Council are not giving it the level of attention it needs. Some residents have questioned the binary choice where there are other options and lots of questions around that, also could we look at both closing Moulton Road and the 20mph limit. Craig advised that when speaking to residents it seems quite extreme shutting Moulton but stopping the road to Boughton Lane would stop the rat run and he wanted to know if Sterling Maynard could look at that, it would be less extreme and not cut off the village connection to Moulton. He confirmed there have been some measure of support for a 20mph zone and about 50% for Moulton Lane closure. The canvassing will continue but that is the general perception at the moment but there are concerns when they hear that the road could open as early as July 2025 and residents are unsure how effective as a parish, we can be in stopping that happening until a solution is found.

Cllr Shephard accepted that scepticism is driven by the delay in dealing with this matter when we have been in discussions with WNC for 4 years but can understand the views expressed. Cllr Shephard confirmed that the PC have put forward all the suggestions mentioned, and they have been discussed with WNC. The partial closure mentioned was the first option of WNC but after they carried out modelling, they said it didn't work and in fact increased Moulton Lane volume.

Lorraine McEllin confirmed that the main issue on Vyse Road at the moment is speeding traffic and volume. There are currently directional signs directing traffic through Humfrey Lane and out of the village and she is unsure why this is, this caused a lot of traffic to come through the village on Saturday, but no one was informed why the directional signs were up and why. Lorraine questioned why a traffic camera van cannot be used on each side of the road leading to Moulton Park to slow

the traffic down and stop those flying through, even a camera van once a week or once a month would help to slow the traffic, it is difficult enough with cars on the pavement at Vyse Road without speeding traffic.

Cllr Shephard confirmed that he will consult with Helen Howard who works with the Speed Panel and ask her if she would consider taking this matter to the speed panel.

25/3314 – Planning Applications for Comment:

2025/0759/FULL – Ulverscroft, Vyse Road, NN2 8RP – 2 Storey Atrium & garage conversion

Resolved: *To comment we are concerned that the height of the roof appears to be greater than the overall current height and would therefore object to it. We refer to the Boughton Village Design Statement guidelines paragraph I and paragraph L.*

Action: Clerk

25/3315 – CIL

(a) Cllr Phipps reported there are no updates in relation to discussions with bidders.

(b) Cllr Shephard confirmed that Boughton Academy had made a funding request in relation to play equipment. It was requested that they put the request in in the usual way.

(c) Cllr Shephard reported that he met with Buckton Fields resident, Tom Chapman and First Port manager John O'Dell with new manager James Lo. Mr Chapman is requesting play equipment for two areas on public open spaces which he feels need upgrading. Both sites were visited and seemed appropriate. A bid will be forthcoming which would need to be from the owner of the land (expected shortly to be Buckton Fields Management Company Ltd) or its representative First Port. Mr Chapman is in contact with the management company and is canvassing residents. The company is expected also to canvass for volunteers to be appointed directors, giving the Parish Council a representative body to deal with in relation to Buckton Fields Phase 1 (the development comprising the 376 dwellings known as Buckton Fields East).

(d) Allotment update – Cllr R Adams was not present so this matter will be carried forward until the April agenda.

25/3316 – NWRR

Cllr J Shephard confirmed Paul Ghattaora from Sterling Maynard was present at the WNC meeting with Parish Councillors last month and had intended to attend the meeting tonight to discuss again but put him no as not yet had a response from WNC. Paul's initial comments are that he doesn't see how modelling can predict the significant reduction that it does, he will try and get to the bottom of that and speak to the modeller.

Cllr Penny is concerned that residents haven't been briefed and may not have a full understanding of how much traffic we are expecting based on those modelling figures, she feels if they had the background and understanding of the figures, they may not give the answers we would expect.

Cllr Shephard confirmed we would put something out prior to any meeting once we know what is being proposed. It was agreed there will be a need to act quickly and Cllr Penny shared a briefing note she has prepared and discussed in relation to holding an open day for residents with Councillors. Different traffic proposal options were discussed and Cllr Shephard confirmed that if

the option desired by residents is Moulton Lane, then we can push to obtain that. It was agreed that the Parish Council need to be ready legally to contest WNC's position if we do not agree with it and discussion around holding a village hall meeting and/or a referendum was discussed. Councillors discussed their views on whether they agree with a 20pmh speed limit and/or a road closure with some preferring a 20mph zone instead along with other speed restrictors.

Cllr Shephard confirmed that it is open to the PC to say to WNC now that we are satisfied that closing Moulton Lane will do the trick and are also satisfied that the 20mph limit will not achieve anything. We could request their agreement to that now however we have always said we would consult the parish before making a decision.

After discussion it was agreed that the parish consultation will be a two stage process, firstly a note will be distributed around the whole parish via the website. A meeting will then be held at the Village Hall to see if there is a substantial majority in favour of one particular option, if so, that is the answer from the Parish, if not then we may have to take the matter to a referendum.

Resolved: Cllr Shephard to circulate a draft document in the next few days for the website for discussion.

Action: Cllr Shephard

Resolved: Cllr Phipps will meet with Malcolm Sanderson, or Craig in his absence, together with members of the 2022 Task and Finish group.

Action: Cllr Phipps

25/3317 – Buckton Fields

(a) Community Centre – Cllr Shephard reported on the site meeting with Taylor Wimpey which Cllr Sambrook also attended. They confirmed that the space inside is smaller than they hoped but it will have a nice patio area which will increase capacity for use.

(b) Management Company – Cllr Shephard reported there is no further progress to report at this time

25/3318 – Street Lighting in Spring Close

The Clerk confirmed that without the numbers from the posts on Spring Close we cannot liaise with National Grid about putting streetlights onto them.

Resolved: Cllr Shephard confirmed he will liaise with the homeowner and obtain the numbers of the posts

Action: Cllr J Shephard

25/3319 - Boughton and Pitsford Quarry

Cllr Phipps raised concerns that there are lorries in and out constantly and on Saturdays at the Pitsford Quarry carrying out an aggregate business. They are working on phase 2 of the quarry which can be heard on Butchers Lane. There were discussions around the correct hours of operation, Cllr Redwood advised that planning permission says 7am start but they are starting prior to 6am and are operating 6 days a week.

Resolved: Cllr Phipps agreed to speak to the Quarry Manager to try and resolve this before discussing further with the Planning Team.

Action: Cllr S Phipps

25/3319 – Governance

- (a) Parish Council Elections – Cllr Shephard requested Councillors to stay behind after the Full Council Meeting to complete and hand in their nomination forms.
- (b) Pocket Park – Discussion over whether to appoint a Representative, either from the Parish Council or appointed externally, to represent the Parish Council. It was decided to take no further action until after the elections were complete and a new Councillor may wish to take up that role

25/3320 – Permissive Footpath

Clerk advised that the Agreement had been signed and returned, Wellers Law Group will now complete this matter. Cllr Phipps confirmed the footpath signs are in but currently covered up and the gate has arrived, just waiting for approval to install it.

25/3321 - Finance/Legal

- a) The Parish Clerk confirmed invoices in respect of the proposed payments have been examined, verified and certified by the RFO.

Resolved: to approve the cheque payments made between Council meetings and the proposed cheque payments for 17th March 2025: -

Boughton Parish Council PAYMENTS (AWAITING AUTHORISATION) LIST

17 March 2025 (2024 - 2025)

Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
130	Payroll processing	17/03/2025		NatWest Current Acc.		Payroll Services	Natalie Green & Co	S	560.00	112.00	672.00
131	Village Hall Hire	17/03/2025		NatWest Current Acc.		Village Hall Hire - Meetings	Boughton Village Hall	Z	30.00		30.00
133	Website hosting & support	17/03/2025		NatWest Current Acc.		Website hosting (01-04-25 to 3	Parish Council Websites Ltd	S	228.00	45.60	273.60
136	Salary (net)	17/03/2025		NatWest Current Acc.		Clerk Salary March 2025	Maria Sadler (Mat cover) P.	X	1,591.75		1,591.75
135	Office Consumables	17/03/2025		NatWest Current Acc.		Microsoft Licence	Microsoft Ltd	X	12.36		12.36
132	Parish Walking	17/03/2025		NatWest Current Acc.		Kissing Gate - Permissive Footp	Secure a Field	S	664.90	132.98	797.88
138	Office Consumables	17/03/2025		NatWest Current Acc.		Clerk Mobile Phone	Talk Mobile Ltd	X	4.95		4.95
134	Parish Walking	17/03/2025		NatWest Current Acc.		Signs for Permissive Footpath	MG Signs	S	836.19	167.24	1,003.43
137	Maternity Pay	17/03/2025		NatWest Current Acc.		Clerk Maternity Pay March 2025	Ciara Wanstall	X	929.74		929.74
Total									4,857.89	457.82	5,315.71

- b) The Reconciliation Report for January 2025 has been approved by the Verification Officer and will be signed at the April 2025 meeting when he returns. The Reconciliation Report for February 2025 will also be reviewed on his return in April 2025, a copy of which can be found below:

Boughton Parish Council

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____
Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Approved by: _____ Date: _____
Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

A	Bank Reconciliation at 28/02/2025		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2024		369,998.80
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2024 - 28/02/2025		160,343.66
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2024 - 28/02/2025		530,342.46
			76,088.50
	Cash in Hand 28/02/2025 (per Cash Book)		454,253.96
B	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 31/01/2025	0.00	
	NatWest Current Account 28/02/2025	200.00	
	NatWest Reserve Account 28/02/2025	99,143.43	
	NatWest CIL Reserve Account 28/02/2025	357,259.33	
			456,602.76
	Less unrepresented payments		2,348.80
			454,253.96
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
	Adjusted Bank Balance		454,253.96
	A = B Checks out OK		

25/3322 - WNC Councillor's Report on matters arising

Cllr Shephard reported that the WNC transport plan covering the period to 2030 in detail and 2045 in outline had been approved by the council but it contained no proposal to take forward the northern orbital road during the plan period.

25/3323 - Urgent Matters notified to the Chair before the meeting

Discussion around celebrating VE Day, after concern it will be held on a Saturday and therefore may not be well attended, it was decided not to proceed.

25/3324 To review items for discussion at future meetings

None

25/3325 Note the next Parish Council Meeting

Full Council Meeting - Monday 14th April 2025, 7.00pm at the Village Hall.
Annual Parish Meeting - Monday 28th April 2025, 7.00pm at the Village Hall

The meeting closed at 2115

Chair Date: 2025

DRAFT