

## North Cerney Parish Council

### MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 at 7pm at The Memorial Hall, North Cerney

**Present:** Councillors Mark Tufnell, Adam Stoten, David Barrell, Neil Brown, Clare Cannock, Cathy Martin and Barry Koch as the RFO and Councillor Paul Hodgkinson for both County and District Councils

**Presiding:** Councillor Mark Tufnell

**Clerk:** On holiday

**Apologies:** Councillor Jonathan Dryland (on holiday) and the Clerk, Sarah Treadwell-Jones (on holiday)

#### 1. Minutes and Matters Arising:

The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025 at All Saints' Church, North Cerney are approved and signed.

There were no matters arising which would not be dealt with during the meeting.

The item relating to Updated Standing Orders would be addressed when the Clerk returns from holiday.

#### 2. County and District Council issues – Councillor Paul Hodgkinson

This item was taken after item 3 as Councillor Hodgkinson had been at an earlier Parish Council meeting.

On behalf of the Council the Chair congratulated Councillor Hodgkinson on his return as County Councillor at the election on 1<sup>st</sup> May. Councillor Hodgkinson had been appointed to Cabinet in the new administration which would be run by the Liberal Democrats in conjunction with the Green Party. He continues to serve in Cabinet on the District Council which remains controlled by the Liberal Democrats.

The various options for council reorganisation in Glos were noted and there would be a public consultation which would be submitted to Government by November. A decision would be made in the early New Year.

The junction between the Whiteway and the Welsh Way was discussed as it is becoming a hazard for road users. Councillor Hodgkinson agreed to contact the landowner, Gordon Ford, about the hedge which blocks visibility of the sign and road junction.

An update was given on the flooding research work being undertaken by Glos Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG). A request was made to include the Churn Valley in any discussions taking place in Cirencester and down stream.

#### 3. Financial Matters

Barry Koch, RFO, confirmed that Sue Power as Internal Auditor had reviewed the Annual Governance Statement and was satisfied with it. The RFO recommended to the Council that the Statement be approved.

Councillor Brown proposed and Councillor Barrell seconded that the Annual Governance Statement and Annual Accounting Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 be approved. They were then signed by Councillor Tufnell as Chair along with the year-end bank reconciliation. Councillor Tufnell proposed and Councillor Brown seconded that the reconciliation statement and the following items of expenditure be approved.

A&B Fencing – Woodmancote project	£184.80
Jonathan Dryland – repayment of expenses for Woodmancote project	£479.96
Denise Ewbank - repayment of expenses for Woodmancote project	£198.00

Justin Cowdrey – to be clarified by the RFO at the next meeting	£285.00
Hammersley Flowers – event planters	£85.44
GAPTC – training course for the Clerk (£45 x3 sessions)	£135.00

Councillor Tufnell as Chair signed the reconciliation statement.

The updated list of assets was presented to the meeting by the RFO and would be circulated to the Councillors after the meeting.

An additional funding request had been made to the Council and Councillor Stoten proposed and Councillor Cannock seconded that Councillor Martin be reimbursed for part of the costs of providing roses to the refurbished Memorial Hall entrance way in the sum of £300. Councillor Martin thanked the Council, noted that there would be a celebration of 100 years of the Memorial Hall on the weekend of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> June requesting support from the community and then had to leave due to ill health. The Council wished her a speedy recovery.

#### **4. Woodmancote Playground**

It was agreed that the updated and revitalised community space at Woodmancote be renamed “Woodmancote Community Park”. In his absence considerable thanks were given to Councillor Dryland and also Denis Ewbank for their work in completing the works on time and organising the formal opening. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to CPRE suggesting that the Park be considered for an award, and Councillor Hodgkinson noted that the “Unsung Hero Award” could be applied for using the district Council’s website.

In his absence the report from RoSPA was discussed along with Councillor Dryland’s report which had been submitted prior to the meeting. Councillor Barrell agreed to assist with various minor tasks required.

#### **5. Community Speed Watch and Crime Prevention**

No new issues were reported.

#### **6. Highway Issues**

Councillor Brown noted that there is a speed issue leaving the village of Woodmancote just past the house owned by Alex Murray. He wondered whether a sign could be put up asking road users to “heed their speed” and Councillor Hodgkinson suggested that it would be best to approach Alex Murray direct as such a sign would not require formal District or County Council approval. Councillor Hodgkinson raised the issue of the “pinch point” in North Cerney near the school and by the Bromford houses as it remains difficult for the emergency services to pass through. In the past the PCSO had spoken with residents but it was agreed that the best course of action would be explain the parking issues in the Churn News. Councillor Hodgkinson also agreed to speak with the Fire Officer when he meets him as part of his new role at County Cabinet Portfolio holder (Public Health, Communities and Fire).

#### **7. Planning Applications**

There were no applications.

The only decision received from the Local Planning Authority related to confirmation of conditions associated with an agreed development at Scrubditch Farm.

#### **8. Correspondence**

It was noted that the GAPTC Conference and AGM is to be held on 12<sup>th</sup> July should any Councillor wish to attend.

#### **9. Any other business**

Councillor Dryland had agreed to attend the GAPTC summit on 4<sup>th</sup> June.

Councillor Cannock agreed to attend the public meeting on Flooding and River Pollution to be chaired by Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP on 27<sup>th</sup> June.

Litter picking would be organised when the verges have been cut and suggestions would be included in Churn News.

**10. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August and the following dates were agreed for future meetings:

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – the Annual meeting

Venue – North Cerney Village Hall

Time – 7pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed: .....

Date: .....