

**Clerk's Report**  
**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**1. Silent prayer.**

**2. Apologies for absence:** Councillors Paul Greenland.

**3. Declarations of Interest.**

(a) Councillors to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest in any items on the agenda:

(b) Councillors to declare any other interest in any items on the agenda.

**4. Minutes -** To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024.

**5. Open Forum**

**6. Matters Arising.**

**6.1 MUGA 6-monthly inspection report**

11/9/24            Will Bentall.

Report forwarded to councillors. To note.

**6.2 Crown & Cushion – update:** Councillor Ginn

**7. RoSPA Play Safety Inspection Reports – update and quotes.**

**8. Mandene Gardens ‘play area’ and Dutton Gardens ‘greenspace’:**

13/9/2024            Residents of Mandene and Dutton Gardens

Email forwarded to councillors.

**9. Winchfield greenspace.**

- Management responsibility / grass and tree maintenance.

**10. Community Right to Buy- update:** Councillor Ginn.

**11. Reading Room**

- Cleaning contract.
- Blocked drain from veranda (adjacent RR Cottage).

**12. Reading Room Cottage – update.**

- Minutes of PC / RR Committee sent to councillors.

**13. Mowing Specifications for cemetery and churchyard –** document development required.

**14. RFO's Financial Statements and Budget Review:**

*Financial Reports August and September 2024.*

*Budget Review August and September 2024.*

**15. Payments for Approval**

*To be circulated to Councillors:*

*Full List of Payments for October 2024*

**16. Conclusion of Audit 2023/24 - to note, published.**

**17. Draft Budget 2025/26.**

**18. Highways & Rights of Way**

- Any repairs or maintenance needed.
- LHI bid 2024/25 – result – Councillor Catmur.
- LHI round 2025/26 – Expressions of interest – by 11/10/24.
- Proposed meeting with Local Highways Officer:  
16/9/2024            Simon Dixon, LHO, CCC.  
Information sent to councillors.

## 19. Correspondence and Consultations

### 19.1 Banner on lychgate for F4 (Friendship, Fellowship, Food & Faith) Church services:

30/9/24 from the church.

You may be aware of the F4 (Friendship, Fellowship, Food & Faith) Church services we started back in January and so far have proved to be a success amongst the young families of the Bluebell Benefice.

We have a (temporary) banner to welcome people that we used at our last service in June - see photo attached - and would love to be able to place this on the Lychgate the week leading up to the services. In this case the week commencing 7th Oct for the next service.



### 19.2 HDC Local Plan Engagement - 18<sup>th</sup> September to 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024:

<https://consult.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/kse/>

### 19.3 Lithium Batteries Safety Campaign: update 1st October:

30/9/24 Ron Bailey, parliamentary researcher.

#### Resumé of email - Update 30/9/2024 - Lithium Battery Safety Campaign.

- The Private Members Ballot for Bills in the House of Commons took place on Thursday 5th September
- Two days before the Ballot the Government published its own Product Safety and Metrology Bill which covers many of the issues in our Bill - so no MPs who were successful in the Ballot would adopt our Bill.
- Government's own Bill not due to be introduced for some months and it was the profile of the issue that sped it up. You were all part of that, so thank you.

#### Lithium-ion Battery Safety Bill

- Introduced in the House of Lords by Lord Redesdale - successful Reading on 6th September.
- This Bill covers all the issues in our Bill: Clause 4 deals with independent certification; Clause 5 with disposal; Clause 6 with chargers and conversion kits.
- This Bill is slightly wider - Clause 2 deals with selling online and Clause 3 [focuses on] proper consultation before large scale battery storage systems are constructed.
- Many [councils] have expressed the wish that this is covered by the Bill.

#### Action Requested

- The government minister in the House of Lords in charge of both Lord Redesdale's Bill and the Government Bill is Baroness Jones of Whitchurch.
- It is vitally important that she is made aware of the sense of feeling in support of Clauses, 4, 5 and 6 (and 3, if you wish to) of Lord Redesdale's Bill – either to get it passed or to ensure that its clauses are put into the Government's own Bill.

Please write to the Minister, Baroness Jones, at [jonesmag@parliament.uk](mailto:jonesmag@parliament.uk) urging her to either support Lord Redesdale's Bill or to slot it into the Government's own Bill.

### 19.4 Highways and Streetlighting Contracts for CCC - Stakeholder surveys – 2024: end date 31/12/24.

Information sent to councillors.

## 20. Planning Applications:

None.

**21. HR Committee Update** – (see separate Clerk’s Report for this agenda item).

*Confidential - In line with the legislation below\*, this item will be closed to the public.*

**22. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting:** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 which will commence at 7.30pm.

*\*Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960*

*(2) A body may, by resolution, exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings; and where such a resolution is passed, this Act shall not require the meeting to be open to the public during proceedings to which the resolution applies.’*

End of Report

**NB.** All notes in **red** have been added since the formal publication of the Agenda.