

# Nether Alderley Parish Council

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November 2024

5<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## Meeting Summons

Dear Councillors

I hereby give notice that the Parish Council Meeting will be held at the Glass House Alderley Park.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 1.30pm**

All members of the Council are hereby summoned for the purpose of discussing and resolving upon the business to be transacted at the Meeting as set out hereunder.



David Naylor  
Clerk to Nether Alderley Parish Council

# Nether Alderley Parish Council Meeting

## Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024

### AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. **To receive Declarations of Interests**
  - 2.1 To declare disclosable pecuniary interests (Councillors with disclosable pecuniary interest(s) must leave the room for the relevant items).
  - 2.2 To declare interests conflicting with the Nolan principles/non-pecuniary interests.
  - 2.3 To allow Councillors to consider amendments required to their Declaration of Pecuniary Interest forms.
3. **To consider and approve Applications for Dispensations**
4. **To resolve to approve that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting** held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024 as a true and accurate record.
5. **Public Presentation**

To adjourn the meeting to receive representation from members of the Nether Alderley Parish.
6. To resume the meeting.
7. **The Parish Hall Renovation - Cost and Funding Report. Enclosure 1 in the Agenda Documents Pack.**

A report from the Clerk regarding:

  - The final projected contract outturn cost
  - The cost incurred to date
  - The remaining cost up to the contract end date
  - The Council funds to meet this cost
  - The resultant surplus less the Council's general running costs from January – March 24 and the Council's prudent general reserve for emergency purposes of £20,000.

We know that there is a need for more York stone flags at the Hall's front entrance and a balustrade around the Hall's rear exit pathway. There is also the potential need to fund energy costs during the construction. These energy costs were included in the tender costings but were moved to contingencies unbeknown to the Council. They were not, however, monitored at the progress meetings and then all contingencies were moved into the projected contract outturn. This has left the Council blindsided and now with the potential need to fund them. The Clerk has circulated an estimated cost of electric used to date but this is likely to be more than doubled by Gas usage from December to the end of the contract.
8. **Parish Hall Renovation Progress.** An update will be provided at the meeting reflecting the Site Progress Meeting held on the morning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December. The kitchen has been stripped of paint and largely rendered with its breathable lime plaster. The repairs to the roof timbers (discovered on 25<sup>th</sup> November) are being carried out. The new gas supply with Crown Gas and Power is now live and the electricity supply is also live from the same company. A new smart meter will be installed.

Copies of the Progress Reports presented to the Site Progress Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December will be available to discuss and display on the AV system. A copy of the Site Inspection Report 20 carried out on 3<sup>rd</sup> December is attached in **Enclosure 2 in the Agenda Documents Pack.**

The Table of meetings is shown below: Site visits (which all councillors can attend) are usually held weekly on Tuesdays at 9.00am except on Site Progress meeting days when they will precede the Site Progress Meeting.

The Site Progress Meeting dates are shown below.

- Site Progress Meeting 06: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025, 10:00 am
- There may be a February meeting to be announced if necessary

- 9. VAT.** As reported at the last meeting, the Clerk has signed up through the Government Gateway for VAT Registration, Making Tax Digital and Opting to Tax just on the Parish Hall. The Council is still awaiting the confirmation of the OPT to tax approval and the outcome of the routine review of the first VAT claim for June. An update will be provided at the meeting. Vat Claims have been made and have been paid by HMRC into our banks account for July, August, September and October. November's claim is attached for approval in **Enclosure 3 in the Agenda Documents Pack.**

**10. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget Report and Draft Budget 2025/26. Enclosure 4 in the Agenda Documents Pack.**

The Clerk has produced a 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget Report and a Draft Budget for 2025/26 for discussion. He is also seeking a meeting later this month to make any changes to the 2025/26 proposed Budget and to consider the precept for 2025/26. These will be finalised and approved at the January 14<sup>th</sup> Council meeting and the precept for 2025/26 will need to be notified to Cheshire East Council (CEC) before the end of that week. The deadline for notification is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025. CEC has notified notified our tax base for 2025/26:

*Cheshire East Council is due to fix its Taxbase for the financial year 2025/26 by Resolution of the Council on the 11th December 2024. The taxbase for Nether Alderley is likely to be:*

*2025/26 Taxbase 670.54*

*Previous year's taxbase and precept was:*

*2024/25 Taxbase 662.32*

*2024/25 Precept £59,662*

*2024/25 Band D Equivalent £90.08*

*2025/26 Precept if Band D Equivalent is kept the same £60,402*

Each £1 rise of the NAPC precept in 2025/26 would raise £670.54

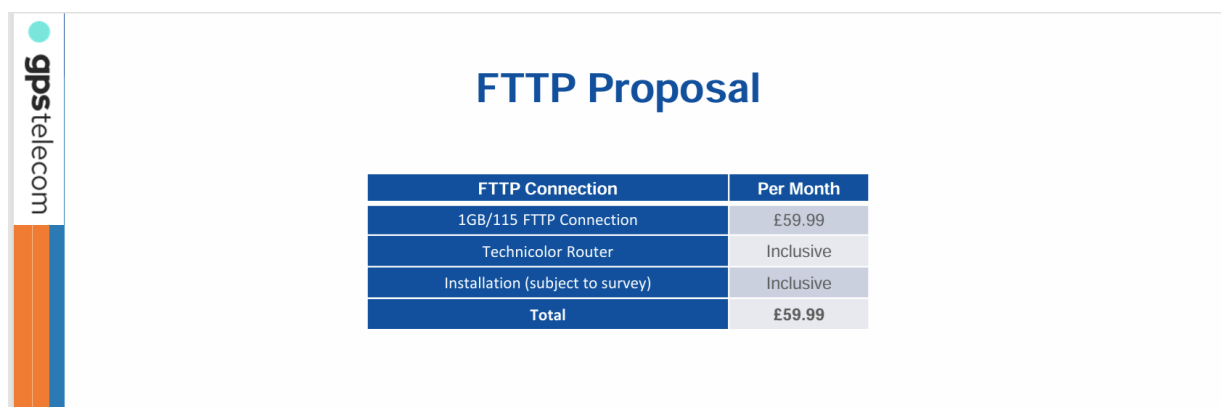
Members are asked to consider appropriate spending areas to include within the 2025/26 Budget.

**11. Finance Schedule (Appendix A)**

- 11.1 **To note receipt of income, as listed in schedule (A1)**
- 11.2 **To approve items for payments as listed in schedule (A2)**
- 11.3 **To approve direct debit/standing order as listed in schedule (A3)**
- 11.4 **To consider and approve the Clerk's expenses as listed in schedule (A4)**

**12 Crown Gas and Power Electricity Contracts. Copies are enclosed in Enclosure 5 in the Agenda Documents Pack.** The supplier was supplied through a comparison company Simplelite in order to provide the best option for the Council. Crown Gas and Power has very good reviews and has been very responsive, easy to contact and should provide a competitive efficient service for the Parish Council. The contracts are both fixed price for one year.

**13 Potential Broadband Supply Company.** This is a recent proposal from gps telecom. The Clerk will source others from BT, Talk Talk etc., for comparison. Openreach have started work on identifying the best linkage point into the Full Fibre Community Scheme created in 2021.



The image shows a slide titled 'FTTP Proposal' from 'gps telecom'. It contains a table with the following data:

FTTP Connection	Per Month
1GB/115 FTTP Connection	£59.99
Technicolor Router	Inclusive
Installation (subject to survey)	Inclusive
<b>Total</b>	<b>£59.99</b>

**14 Money Movements** to stay with the Financial Services Compensation Scheme FSCS £85,000 limit. NAPC's Current Bank holdings amount £150,183.52 with further money moving in from grants, JMC and Vat Reclaims. However funds are moving out each month as we near the end of the renovation contract.

The Council has three accounts with different banks, The Nat West, Unity Trust and the Skipton Building Society. It is possible and appropriate to use these three accounts to keep within the FSCS. The Unity Trust Bank is quick and easy to withdraw from into our current account or transfer in from our current account by Cheque but carries a £28 withdrawal fee. We will be closing the Skipton account but it would be appropriate to keep it open until the end of the contract to provide a secure and good interest rate for some of our funds. You will recall that this account has to be in a Councillor's name. However, it has the necessary security measures in place by requiring two Councillor signatories to carry out any transaction or change the mandate. Also, withdrawals can only be made into our current account.

**15 Neighbourhood Planning (NP) Progress.** The Clerk had submitted the final versions of the NP and the Design Codes to Cheshire East Council's Neighbourhood Planning Team with a summary and actual copies of the Section 14 responses which have been addressed in this final NP version. The response from Cheshire East requires another piece of work alongside the NP, Design Codes and the Summary of section 14 responses before the documents can start the Section 16 consultation carried out by Cheshire East Council prior to the submission of the documents to the inspector. These documents are: the Basic Conditions Statement and Consultation Statement. Examples of other plans in the borough which have such documents are in this link: <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/planning/neighbourhood-plans/completed-neighbourhood-plans.aspx>. Local Examples: [Alderley Edge NDP - basic conditions statement \(PDF, 828KB\)](#) and [Alderley Edge NDP - consultation statement \(PDF, 21MB\)](#)  
Cllr Gleave suggested making contact with the planning consultancy Asteer Planning:

Contact Jon Suckley Managing Partner [Jon.suckley@asteerplanning.com](mailto:Jon.suckley@asteerplanning.com). which the Clerk has done this but is still awaiting a response. The Clerk has also increased the NP allocation in the remaining Budget for January to the end of the year to £2000 to help to fund that work. See **Enclosure 1 in the Agenda Documents Pack**

**16 Further update from the Parish Hall Marketing Group** - to be reported and discussed at the meeting.

**17 Further update on Hall Letting Charges** - to be reported and discussed at the meeting.

**18 Improving the Parish Council’s Social Media presence** – The Clerk has updated twitter into a paid account and joined Instagram. The issue remained that the accounts needed to be in the Council’s name rather than the Clerk’s because he was retiring in at the end of April. Cllr. Connor would research this.

**19 Progress in adopting .gov.uk suffixes to our emails and our website URL.**

The Parish Council Domains Helper Service Team have offered support in this process. The following are links to: [Approved Registrars](#) and [Aubergine Website](#). We will need some Office 365 Licenses potentially [365 for Business](#).

The Clerk has contacted HCI data Ltd for the purchase of a .gov.uk URL, i.e “name.name@netheralderley-pc.gov.uk” and www. [netheralderley-pc.gov.uk](http://netheralderley-pc.gov.uk) but they are not taking on any new clients at the Moment. He will use another on the [Approved Registrars](#) List

The Clerk has requested [AXON](#) (the supplier who was appointed at Bollington when the Parish Clerk was Town Clerk) to discuss our IT options and provide an indicative quote. This has been received and is detailed in **Enclosure 6 in the Agenda Documents Pack**.

**20 Planning Applications** Cheshire East Council (CEC) has launched a new On- Line Planning System (click on this [link](#) to access it. CEC is avoiding emailing the weekly planning list because they can now be searched via the above link and planning consultations can also be posted against each application.

Application No.	
Proposal	
Location	
Response Deadline	

No Applications to Date. This Will be updated before the Council

**21 To consider any other Planning matters including decisions on Planning Applications:**

No Applications to Date. This Will be updated before the Council Meeting

**22 Report from Cllr. Anthony Harrison** Cheshire East Chelford Ward Councillor which includes Nether Alderley.

**23 Items Raised at the Last Meeting**

- Footpath obstructed with ferns and bracken from Monks Heath towards Macclesfield - needs attention. Still be done - referred to CEC

**27 Councillor items for the January Meeting:**

The removal of leaves and the clearing of overgrown footpaths continues to be a problem.

**28. To confirm the next Council meeting is:**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024**  
**1.30pm at the Glass House Alderley Park**

# APPENDIX A

## Nether Alderley Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024

### Schedule of Receipts and Payments

#### A1. Receipt of Income - Month of November

##### Current Account:

£99,965.00 (5<sup>th</sup> November) Public Works loans including a £35 arrangement fee

£164,539.79 (13<sup>TH</sup> November) Section 106 Payment from Cheshire East Council (CEC)

£6,000 Greener (19<sup>th</sup> November) Communities Grant from CEC for all LED Efficient Lighting the Parish Hall £17,587.63 VAT Reclaim for October ( 27<sup>th</sup> November

Reserve Account £0.55 Interest Payment 30<sup>th</sup> November)

Skipton BS Interest is annual in March Only

Unity Trust Bank interest is Quarterly and will be known and paid at the end of December

#### A2. Invoices for payment

Ch.	Provider	Total Cost	Net of VAT	Service Provided	VAT	Power
1809	David Naylor	£888.47	£883.15	Salary & Expenses	£5.32	H
1810	Norman Moore	£1,350.00	£1,350.00	Burial Ground maintenance	£0.00	A
1811	KPS Architects	£4,853.16	£4,044.30	RIBA Work Stages 5 & 6. (sixth of six installments of £4025.40 plus travel cost of £18.90 plus VAT)	£808.86	E
1812	Curtain Services	£1,914.00	£1,595.00	Blinds for the Parish Hall 50% payment	£319.00	H
1813	HMRC	£616.36	£616.36	TAX & NI	£0.00	H
CHAPS	B&E Boys	£149,016.85	£124,180.71	Hall Contract Valuation 8	£24,836.14	E
1814	Currie & Brown	£353.56	£294.63	Site Progress Meeting & carry out Valuation 8	£58.93	E

Note that Cheque 1796 (9/10/24) £504.00 including £84 VAT was not received by PKF Littlejohn our External Auditors . The Clerk has sent them a copy of the letter correctly addressed with the Cheque inside. However it has still not been found or cashed. The Clerk will issue a replacement cheque for signing at the meeting and ask the bank to cancel 1796. The Clerk hopes to sign up for Bank Line with Natwest to avoid this in future.

**A3. Direct Debits/Standing Orders for approval**

<b>Provider</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Net of VAT</b>	<b>Service Provided</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Power</b>
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None - Energy Direct Debits are taken on 15 of the

The Clerk will provide an update at the Meeting regarding EDF Energy. There has been no contact for many months or request to pay any outstanding costs. They seem unwilling to provide a bill based on the readings sent to them and seem to have cancelled our contract..

**A4. Approval of the Clerk's expenses/salary: Power H**

Travel 116 Miles @ 45 pence per mile = £52.20

Phone Sim monthly £11.00 plus £1.83 VAT = £11.00

Cartridge Discount £17.48 plus £3.49 VAT = £20.97

**Total £78.85 plus £5.32 VAT = £84.17**

Plus, Salary - Contracted 65 hours @ 15.58 per hour = £1012.70 Gross less £405.00 Tax = £607.70

Plus Backpay 65 hours \* 63 pence per hour 8 months April – November = £327,60 less £131.00 Tax = £196.60

**Total including expenses = £1,340.30 less £536 Tax = £804.30**

Plus = £78.85 expenses + £5.32 VAT **£884.47**

Signed.....  
**Chairman of Meeting**

Signed.....  
**Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer**



## **Parish Council Powers for Expenditure and Activity**

### **Note that the Parish Council has adopted the Power of Competence**

#### **Audit**

[Audit Regulations 1996]

I

#### **Benches**

Power to provide and maintain roadside seats and shelters [Parish Councils Act 1957, s.1]

K

#### **Burial Grounds, Cemeteries and Crematoria**

Power to acquire, provide and maintain [Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9 and 10]

A

#### **Power to agree to maintain monuments and memorials**

Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970, s.1

B

#### **Power to provide and maintain and Power to contribute towards expenses of cemeteries**

Local Government Act 1972, s.214

Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977 (no 204) C1 Memorials (16 (1) (a) and 16 2 (b))

C

#### **Bus Shelters**

Power to provide and maintain shelters

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953, s.4

Parish Councils Act 1957, s.1

D

#### **Crime prevention**

Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s31, Crime and Disorder Act 2000

Q

#### **Community Centres**

Power to provide and equip community buildings [Local Government Act 1972, s.133]

E

Power to provide buildings for clubs having athletic, social or educational objectives

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19

F

Power to provide a range of recreational facilities [Local Government (Misc Provisions) Act 1975 s19]

G

#### **General Administration/Running Costs**

Subsidiary powers of local authorities – to facilitate, or conducive or incidental to, the discharge of functions  
LGA 1972 s111

H

Parish Hall – public meetings

K

1. LGA 1972 s 142 “ arrange for the delivery of lectures and addresses and the holding of discussions on such matters - provision of information etc relating to matters affecting local government
2. s133 ‘Power to provide buildings for public meetings and assemblies or contribute towards the expenses of providing such buildings’
3. LGA 1972 S111

**Litter bins** Provision of litter bins [Litter Act 1983, ss 5, 6]

L

**Neighbourhood Plans** [Localism Act 2011 Sch 9]

R

#### **Research and collection of information**

Power to carry out research [LGA 1972 S 141]

M

**Parish Plans** [LGA 1972 S 141]

J

#### **Section 137**

Local Government Act 1972. Power of Local Authorities to incur expenditure for certain purposes not otherwise authorised. Power to do something that will benefit the community where there is no other specific power covering the action; Set at £8.12 per elector in 2019/20. Expenditure must be commensurate with the benefit

N

**Websites** Local Government Act 1972 s142

P

**Life-saving appliances** – Power to provide life-saving appliances (e.g. life belts, defibrillators)  
[Public Health Act 1936, s234]

S