

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEWTON & NOSS PARISH COUNCIL
held on 8th April 2009

PRESENT: Mr Brown Mr Buckland Mr Carter Cllr Cooper Mr Cooper Mrs Hinchliffe
Mr Hussell Mr Matthews Mr Stitson Mr Taylor Mr Tubb Mr Young (Chairman)

ALSO PRESENT: Mr Lomax (RYDA) Mrs McDonough (Clerk)
5 parishioners were present for part of the Meeting

APOLOGIES: Mrs Hinchliffe Mrs Eschbaecher PCSO Lawrence Cllr Mumford

POLICE REPORT

No police Report had been received.

OPEN FORUM

Planning:

The Council was advised of the revised planning Application which had been submitted in respect of "The Haven".

Highways:

Concerns were raised by two parishioners about the Heavy Goods Vehicles passing up Wright's Lane and along Court Road. It was felt that the roads were unsuitable for HGV use and the difficulties the vehicles experienced in turning right at the top of Wright's Lane was causing damage to property.

60/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were noted.

61/09 PREVIOUS MINUTES The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th March 2009 were confirmed and signed.

62/09 PROPOSAL TO VARY THE AGENDA It was decided not to proceed with the proposal.

63/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. The following were declared:-

Mr Buckland and Mr Matthews having a personal interest in "The Haven" planning application and Mr Hussell and Mr Matthews having a personal and prejudicial interest in the Primary School planning application.

64/09 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS

64.1 Report from Cllr Mumford - Cllr Mumford was not present. Mr Buckland had reported a hole appearing on Newton Hill and within two hours Highways had appeared and filled it in.

64.2 Butts Park Crossing – It was not known whether DCC had agreed to the suggestion of a build-out.

64.3 Collaton-Butts Park Link –

i) It was reluctantly agreed to accept Tor's request for payment of costs re the verge at 1 Butts Park estimated at £500. A cheque for £138 in favour of Michelmores Hughes for the land valuation was authorised.

ii) A request had been made by B.T. for £500 + VAT for a detailed survey of the gallows pole in the verge.

Mr Cooper would meet the representative from B.T. to discuss the matter.

Agenda May

iii) The preferred contractors' revised tenders had not yet been received.

Agenda May

iv) It was agreed that the Daffodils in the verge should be replanted, possibly in conjunction with one of the community groups such as the Yealm Garden Society.

64.4 General condition of highways – Reference was made to the use being made by HGV's to Wrights Lane and Court Road. It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged with Highways and a representative from the Co-op. The Chairman would attend.

Agenda June

64.5 Report from Cllr Cooper - Meeting of the Design Panel - The revised plans for the Co-op had been viewed. Further improvements had been suggested including fewer but bigger apartments. Cllr Cooper had sought advice

from Marchand Petit who felt that one house and three apartments could provide the same if not more revenue than the existing accommodation layout planned. The Co-op would be reviewing matters further.

64.6 Tennis Courts – SHDC might have diverted the funding earmarked for the refurbishment of the courts.

Cllr Cooper would be speaking further to SHDC about the matter.

Agenda May

64.7 Play Area maintenance –

i) SHDC had reported that they had dug down to try and ascertain the source of the flooding in the play area. A layer of clay had been discovered but no evidence of any pipes. It was agreed that South West Water would be asked to investigate the source of the flooding.

ii) The E mail dated 8 April regarding the Devon Play Builder Scheme was referred to. It was agreed that the **Clerk** would complete the Expression of Interest Form by the deadline date of 15 May 2009.

Mr Stitson would talk to young people in the two parishes about their wishes and would look at both play parks in conjunction with the maintenance report prepared by the SHDC.

Agenda May

64.8 Parking enforcement – The reply from SHDC in response to the request for attention this year was disappointing so a representative from the SHDC Parking Enforcement Department would be invited to attend the May Meeting.

Agenda May

64.9 Noss Green – The application for the use of Noss Green for parking 20/30 vehicles for a wedding was considered. Concerns were expressed about damage which could be caused to Noss Green, particularly if the weather on the day was poor.

Agenda May

RESOLVED: **Mr Stitson** would contact the family personally and report. (Vote unanimous)

64.10 SHDC Parish Cluster Meeting – 22nd April. No councillors were available to attend.

65/09 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

65.1 Allotments - Roy Fenner had agreed to co-ordinate requests from Parishioners.

65.2 Annual Village Clean up – This would be deferred for a later meeting.

Agenda June

65.3 Co-op redevelopment – It was agreed that a formal written approach should be made to the owners of Court House, to see if land could be made available for parking. Funding would be considered if agreement in principle was reached.

Agenda May

65.4 The Swan – Sixty representations had been made in respect of the Licensing Application. SHDC had called for a meeting on 30 April and the Parish Council had been invited to respond. **Mr Matthews** would submit the response direct to SHDC.

65.5 Digital Switchover - A talk had been arranged to take place at the WIC Hall on Tuesday 2nd June at 2pm. Payment of the hall hire fee of £30 was authorised.

65.6 At this point Mr Tubb asked that the appreciation for the work undertaken by the Chairman in respect of the Sports Pavilion should be minuted. It was felt that Mr Young had been the driving force behind the recent improvements to the Pavilion and had undertaken much of the work himself.

66/09 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

66.1 Development currently proposed –Cllr Cooper reported that Tor Homes would meeting the landowner on 23rd April.

Agenda May

66.2 SHDC Housing Surgery – A meeting would take place on 16th April at Follaton House. **The Chairman** and **Mr Cooper** would attend.

Agenda May

67/09 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT – BOUNDARY REVIEW

67.1 The further draft proposals to be responded to by 14 May 2009 were considered

Pattern A – Devon Unitary authority comprising the existing County of Devon with no changes to Plymouth and Torbay

Pattern B – Exeter and Exmouth Unitary Authority and a Unitary Authority covering the remainder of the County with no changes to Plymouth and Torbay.

It was agreed that a letter should be sent supporting the status quo in accordance with the Parish Council's last letter.

68/09 SHDC PLANNING DEPARTMENT

68.1 Primary School – Mr Matthews and Mr Hussell withdrew from the meeting whilst this item was discussed. The outcome of the site meeting of 17th March was noted and the subsequent events were considered. Concern was expressed about the ill feeling which had been caused in the two villages by the planning application and in particular the perceived threat to St Francis Playgroup. The Chairman suggested that a letter be sent to the Board of Governors, the Head Teacher and the Acting Head Teacher giving them a vote of confidence for the future, suggesting that a meeting be organised with all interested parties should another planning application be made, and that the School was an essential part of the village.

RESOLVED: To write a letter to the Chair of the School Governors in accordance with the Chairman's proposal. (Vote 6 in favour, 3 abstentions).

68.2 Co-op Plans – The outcome of the Design Panel's meeting had been noted. (*Min 64.5 refers*)

68.3 SHDC planning decisions – The most recent decisions received were noted.

68.4 Applications received – The current applications were considered which included:-

i) **Leaside, 91 Yealm Road 0417/09/F** - Resubmission of 1784/08/F for alterations and extension to dwelling to include excavation of cellar area to provide additional accommodation.

Decision: No objection, but the Leas Path must be kept open and viable at all times. (Vote 10 for, 1 abstention)

ii) **Leaside, 91 Yealm Road 0418/09/F** - Alternative to scheme above for alterations and extension to dwelling to include excavation of cellar to form accommodation.

Decision: No objection but the Leas Path must be kept open and viable at all times. (Vote 10 for, 1 abstention)

iii) **The Haven, 51 Yealm Road 0419/09/F**- Extension and alterations to dwelling to create sub-division of the plot into 2 semi-detached properties.

Decision No objection. (Vote 8 for, 3 abstentions - 2 personal interests)

iv) **Flat 3, Rowden Court 0424/09/LB** - Replacement timber framed windows (Listed building)

Decision: No objection. (Vote 10 for, 1 abstention)

v) **45 Court Road 0392/09/F**- Erection of single storey rear extension with balcony over.

Decision: No objection but the Council would like to see the steel stairs finished in black.

(Vote 9 for, 2 abstentions)

68.5 TPO 21 - Herons Reach, Court Wood – The application to fell/coppice 6 Oaks/1 Beech on the bank above the foreshore was considered. They were important and prominent trees; the Tree Warden had objected to some parts and had suggested a site meeting.

Decision: To support the Tree Warden's objections. (Vote 10 for, 1 abstention)

69/09 VILLAGE PLANS

69.1 2004 Parish Plan – It was agreed that the matter would be deferred.

Agenda May

70/09 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED The main items received concerned:

70.1 Harbour Authority – RYHA had agreed not to contribute to the recent repair of Pope's Quay. Signs restricting vessels to two hours' waiting without RYHA permission would be erected. The Axworthy lower steps would be maintained by RYHA. Mr Carter reported that following preparation of the accounts, £3000 had been saved in Capital Gains Tax. The Harbourmaster had reported that the Sand Bar appeared to be moving south-west.

70.2 South West Water – Water entering the sewerage system would be investigated in 2009/10.

70.3 Tree Planting Scheme 2009 – An opportunity had been offered by SHDC to obtain trees for autumn/winter planting. The Clerk would liaise with Mr Jeremy Spooner and the Tree Warden re possible sites.

70.4 Canoe Storage –

i) A request had been made for permission to construct a canoe rack for the Noss Hard boat park. It was agreed that the decision would be deferred until the Council had had the opportunity of considering the design of the proposed rack.

Agenda May

ii) The Reading Room as a possible storage area for canoes was considered, but the garden was in the process of being developed. The Newton and Noss Network were looking at the possibility of Canoe events. There could be a link to funding being available.

Agenda May

70.5 Commons Act 2006 – An invitation had been received to attend an introductory event at County Hall on 1st May. **Mr Carter** would attend. **Agenda May**

71/09 GRANT REQUEST

71.1 Ivybridge and District Community Transport Association - The annual grant request was considered on the basis that the 2008/09 grant was £110. **RESOLVED:** To grant the request. (Vote: unanimous)

72/09 PARISH ASSETS

72.1 Land Registration – It was considered whether an application should be made to the Plymouth District Land Registry to register Parish Assets. Mr Carter would be meeting with the Harbour Authority to discuss similar plans and it was agreed that the Chairman would represent the Parish Council. **RESOLVED:** An attempt would be made to register, with the Land Registry, Parish Assets following the meeting with the Harbour Authority. **Agenda May**

73/09 MAINTENANCE

73.1 Butts Park sports field - The condition of the two SHDC seats were considered. **Mr Young** would ask Mr Leonard to look at the seats. **Agenda May**

73.2 Doctor's Steps – The seat was considered to be beyond repair. **Mr Young** and **Mr Carter** would look at the site. **Agenda June**

73.3 Handrails – The handrails for the Swan Steps were awaited. **Agenda May**

73.4 Noss Hard – The **Chairman** and **Mr Carter** would report on the condition of the Hard. **Agenda May**

73.5 Other areas for consideration - There were no other areas for consideration.

74/09 MEETINGS ATTENDED

74.1 Harbour Authority (*min 70.1 .refers*).

74.2 Halls - Mr Young reported that there had been much dissatisfaction at the W.I. meeting regarding the school project. There would be a fund raising event in June with a famous awards ceremony theme. Mr Brown reported that the Village Hall was financially in quite a good state, although routine bookings were down. A tranche of bonds were due to be repaid, the balance at Christmas.

74.3 CPRE AGM - Mr Buckland had been unable to attend.

74.4 Planning Group - Mr Cooper reported that the Planning Group was formulating a strategy prior to the meeting with the SHDC Planning Executive and Mr Streeter on 26 June. **Mr Young, Mr Brown** and **Cllr Cooper** would be in attendance. It was noted that although there were 21 Parish Plans in the Appendix to the South Hams Local Development Framework, none had actually been adopted or considered by SHDC in planning matters. It was hoped to address these points with Mr Munday and Mr Robinson from the SHDC Planning Executive at the meeting.

74.5 Devon Association of Parish Councils – The Chairman reported that most of the discussions had centred on the Boundary Committee; he would report further following his meeting with the Boundary Committee on 22 April.

75/09 ADMINISTRATION

75.1 Clerk's Office –**RESOLVED:** The purchase of a desk, chair and computer were authorised. (Vote: unanimous.)

75.2 Overtime – It was agreed that the decision would be deferred to May's meeting.

75.3 Tilly Institute – **RESOLVED:** The Council would pay the Tilly Institute hire costs of £10 per meeting for the planning meetings with Gary Streeter. (Vote: unanimous)

75.4 Display Panels – The School wished to use some panels for the Open Meeting on 21st April. It was agreed that the £10 charge should apply.

76/09 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

In view of the Clerk’s absence, it was RESOLVED: the Clerk should prepare a schedule of payments together with cheques and invoices for Mrs Hinchliffe’s approval, and then obtain signatures from two councillors for the cheques. (Vote: unanimous)

77/09 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Following the Meeting, the cheque schedule was prepared and checked by Mrs Hinchliffe and cheques were presented to two Members for signature.

The following balances had been brought forward at the beginning of the financial year 2009/10:-

Alliance & Leicester Current Account	Balance at bank on 1.4.09	61,451.21	
	Less cheques outstanding	2,718.15	
		58,733.06	
	Less Gratuity Fund	16,396.07	
	Funds available:-		£ 42,336.99

The following cheques were authorised totalling £ 3,942.28

R Wooderson	Cleaning: Newton Voss and steps	76.70
J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss & Popes Quay	43.50
J Eschbaecher	Net salary	1,067.02
J Eschbaecher	Expenses: postage and stationery	24.36
S McDonough	Net salary	415.76
Devon County Council	Stationery and Supplies	62.12
N&N Village Hall	Hire for APM 24.3.09	25.00
Ricoh UK Limited	Photocopier rental + copies	48.32
Society of Local Council Clerks	Clerks' Manual - updates	19.00
Garden Services	Grass cutting: The Green - March	31.00
Devon Playing Fields Assoc.	Annual subscription	15.00
Jewson Ltd	Materials for wall repair/installation of milestone	9.35
N C Warren	Glen Cottage blue plaque: 50% contribution	135.12*
Ivy & Dist Com Transport Assoc	Grant	110.00
HM Revenue & Customs	Tax and N.I. re the Clerk	1,722.03
Michelmores Hughes	1 Butts Park - Valuation fee re new footpath	138.00

S.137 payment:- £135.12

Meeting closed at 9.15p.m.