

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEWTON & NOSS PARISH COUNCIL
held on 12th February 2009

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

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr Cane (SHDC) Mr Lomax (RYDA) Mrs Eschbaecher (Clerk) Mrs McDonough
Cllr Mumford and 14 parishioners were present for part of the Meeting

APOLOGIES: Mr Tubb

Cllr Basil Cane, SHDC Chairman, was welcomed to the meeting.

POLICE REPORT

P.C. Nolan was not present. No incidents had been reported since the January meeting.

OPEN FORUM

Planning applications:

- i) **The Post Office, Newton Hill** - Mr Hallett representing Revelstoke Trust, spoke of the planned extension.
- ii) **Crispins, Bridgend** - A number of concerns were noted about the proposed development of Crispins and its impact on the surrounding area.
- iii) **Greenhouse** - The development was proceeding and concerns about planning procedures were noted.
- iv) **Design Panel Meetings** - Mrs Marchant introduced herself and was thanked for accepting the invitation to represent the Parish Council at future meetings.
- v) **Riverhaven** - The Architect summarised the revised plans submitted. Cllr Cooper raised parishioners' concerns about drainage.

Highways:

Mr Hallett commented on the poor condition of Stoke Road. Cllr Mumford had raised the issue again with DCC.

Bridgend Quay - drainage:

Mr Prosser commented on poor drainage at the bottom of Stoke Road near Quay Cottage. As drainage concerns had been reported to South West Water in 2007, it was agreed that the malfunction would be reported to the Company again.

20/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE The reasons for absence were noted.

21/09 PREVIOUS MINUTES The Minutes of Meetings held on 8th and 26th January 2009 were confirmed and signed.

22/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting; none were recorded save for Mr Brown's interest in the Village Hall by virtue of his position on the Committee.

23/09 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILS

23.1 It was agreed that items concerning the County Council would be deferred until later in the meeting when Cllr Mumford was present. (*Min. 27/09 refers*)

23.2 Report from Cllr Cooper - The Boundary Review decision had been put back. Allocation of sites under the DPD provided for 400 houses in the rural areas of the South Hams. Newton and Noss would have 15 houses by 2016, excluding any exception sites.

1/02/09.....Chairman

23.3 Tennis Courts - SHDC had confirmed Cllr Cooper's report of January that the condition of the courts had been assessed as poor, the estimated cost of repair being £30,000. In addition, Cllr Cooper had obtained a separate and detailed inspection report which costed desirable repairs at £16,000. It was difficult to make an informed judgment without more information about the extent of the more costly option so **Cllr Cooper** would ask for an explanation.

Members agreed that the courts were a well used asset which should not be lost but 2009/10 would be a difficult year for spending commitments, with no specific allowance made for the courts.

The other consideration was maintaining income in the absence of a collection and booking point in Noss. There had been an encouraging response from regular players to the Clerk's note in the Parish Magazine – they would be encouraged to form a group.

MrStitson would make enquiries about the Tennis Ladder.

Agenda: March

23.4 Meetings on 23 February:-

- 9.15am Sustainable Communities Act - the Chairman agreed to attend.
- 7,00pm SHDC Parish Cluster Meeting. Decision taken not to attend as the Boundary Review decision had been deferred.
- Yealmpton Emergency Planning meeting - Mr Brown agreed to attend.

Agenda: March

23.5 Car Park at the Green – A representative from Tor Homes had been seen taking photographs of parents using the car park at school collection time. Agreed: to take no action unless Tor Homes attempted to take enforcement measures.

24/09 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

24.1 Rural Housing Award - £125 had been received from the Community Council via the CHWG. It was confirmed that this should defray the postage costs of the Housing Needs Survey 2008 (£242).

24.2 Development currently proposed - Cllr Cooper reported that the matter was with Highways (DCC).

25/09 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

25.1 Devon Home Choice - The Chairman and Mr Brown had attended a meeting and had welcomed the Devon Wide Choice Based Lettings Scheme; this related to Devon only and was not countrywide.

26/09 PLANNING

26.1 Tidal Waters Development - RESOLVED: To write to the Ombudsman in support of the owners of 43 Noss Mayo. [Vote: all in favour]

26.2 Co-op plans - Referring to the recent public exhibition of the proposed plans for redevelopment, public feedback was discussed. Concerns related to the design of the north and south elevations, the massing effect and the position of affordable housing - should it be on site or elsewhere subject to viability? **Cllr Cooper** would talk to the Co-op about a potential alternative trading site during the build.

26.3 Meeting with Gary Streeter M.P. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Mr Brown and Cllr Cooper would attend.

26.4 Appeal decisions -

- i) **Lavender House, 16 Perches Close 0547/08** - Noted that the Appeal had been allowed.
- ii) **27 Yealm Road, 2186/07** - Erection of hard standing in breach of planning controls. The Appeal had been dismissed.

26.5 Co-option – Mrs Marchant had accepted the invitation to represent the Parish Council at Design Panel Meetings.

26.6 Arqiva Transmitting Station, Noss 0008/09/F - Installation of additional 0.6m dish at 18m above ground level on existing 32.5m transmitting mast.
Decision: no objection.

26.7 50 Noss Mayo 0026/09/LB - Listed Building consent for internal alterations.
Decision: no objection.

26.8 Coombe Willows, Foundry Lane 0039/09/F - Small extension.
Decision: no objection.

26.9 Post Office 0048/09/F - Extension to shop and Post Office. The plans had been withdrawn for amendment.

26.10 Crispins, Bridgend 0089/09/F - Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of a replacement.

Decision: Objection in line with the response to the previous application. The proposal contravened several planning policies and the design was inappropriate for the prominent location. [Vote: all in favour]

26.11 Mount Howe, Court Road.0093/09/F Installation of replacement uPVC windows.

Decision: no objection.

The Meeting was adjourned for a short break and to allow the Architect to explain the differences between the approved drawings and the retrospective application for Riverhaven.

26.12 Riverhaven 0178/09/F - Retrospective application for amendments to planning approval 0560/08/F for demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with a new three bedroom dwelling and associated landscaping. Application received 10 February. Excavation and construction difficulties on the western side had necessitated emergency measures to safeguard the Donkey Path and public sewer and was a departure from the approved scheme. Objections from Mr Studd were noted. The Architect agreed to pass on concerns about the lack of drainage at the lower end of the drive but there had been no provision in the approved application.

Decision: There would be no objection provided the neighbours' privacy was not affected, the windows were recessed/set back from the outer edge of the balcony in line with the approved drawings, and the fence on the western side was set back slightly so the handrail was on the boundary line. [Vote: 9 in favour 1 against 1 abstention]

26.13 Court Road 0093/09/F - Alterations to the front and extension to rear of dwelling. The application had been received on 10 February so more time was needed to consider the proposals.

RESOLVED: To delegate the decision to the Planning Working Group. [Vote: 10 in favour 1 abstention]

27/09 COUNTY COUNCIL

Cllr Mumford reported on the following:-

27.1 Boundary Review- The decision on unitary Government had been put back by at least 5 months. Possibility of County Council Elections in June this year. There were significant concerns over some aspects of road maintenance.

27.2 UCR256 Hewsters Hill – Copy correspondence had been received concerning the inappropriate use of the lane by motorised vehicles. Cllr Mumford suggested that options to resolve difficulties experienced by residents could include an application for a Traffic Regulation Order or a Magistrates Order. Difficulties were expected from either option; publicity could lead to increased use.

Mr Taylor outlined the Parish Council's previous decision to support the signing of the five Byways in the Parish, but only at some future date to show sensitivity to the residents; there had been no question of downgrading. Following complaints in the autumn, thick vegetation had been cleared by the landowners.

RESOLVED: No action at present. A letter of explanation to Mr Matthews. The Police would be asked to check noise levels of motorcycles. [Vote: unanimous]

27.3 Butts Park Crossing – The matter had been referred to Health and Safety.

27.4 Disabled Bay – A letter from Devon County Council was read - a disabled bay had been requested to assist the tenant of the Tilly Cottage but would be open to any disabled driver with the appropriate badge. Because there was ample parking space in the immediate area, it was RESOLVED: To support the request for a disabled bay outside Tilly Cottage. [Vote: 10 in favour 1 against]

27.5 Transport Provision – As previously discussed, there were concerns about the safety for pedestrians using Bridgend Hill going to and from the School. **Mr Matthews** would obtain more facts. **Agenda: March**

27.6 Collaton-Butts Park Link - Mr Taylor presented the plan which would be submitted to SHDC for approval. A revised tender from the contractor was awaited. **Agenda : March**

27.7 General conditions of highways:-

- i) B3186 Collaton - The gullies had been cleared recently. Suggestion made to increase the maintenance cycle and for DCC to take up matters with the adjacent landowners.
- ii) Stoke Road – DCC had scheduled to repair the surface this year.
- iii) Parsonage Road - Blocked drains had been reported to DCC.
- iv) Cleaning schedule - It was suggested that general cleaning should be carried out more frequently between October and March and DCC should be more forceful with landowners.

28/09 VILLAGE PLANS.

28.1 Parish Plan 2004 to be updated in consultation with parishioners and perhaps mentioned at the APM.

29/09 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

29.1 UCR 256 Hewsters Hill: use by vehicles – Minute 27.2 refers.

29.2 Glen Cottage, Riverside Road East - Plan shown as to where the blue plaque would be placed. Press release prepared by Mrs Franklin passed around. Invitation to attend Chairman's unveiling at noon 23 March 2009.

29.3 Digital TV switchover – It was agreed that presentations might be made at a Thursday Lunch Club followed by a separate presentation in Newton Ferrers on the same day. If possible, a date would be announced at the Annual Parish Meeting.

29.4 Plymouth City Council - An invitation to meet with PCC to explore the advantages of a small sub-regional unitary council would be accepted. Mr Matthews and Mr Brown would attend.

29.5 South West Planning Aid - It was agreed that the invitation to attend a planning training event would be accepted.

29.6 Plymouth City Council's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment - Notes for information had been received from Mr Hogg.

29.7 Senior Council for Devon - It was agreed that the invitation to become a member would be accepted.

30/09 NEWTON AND NOSS NETWORK

30.1 Update - The Clerk reported the following:-

- i) Funds to carry forward to the stand alone Network as of 1 April 2009 were estimated at approx £1500.
- ii) Sailing:- 8 Optimists had been collected that day [funded by the Lottery: (1) and DCC (7)]. A launch ceremony was planned to include an abseil down St Peter's Tower and a barbecue. A committee had been organised to take the sailing forward with volunteers being trained to oversee the sailing (Lottery funded).
- iii) Adventure Club:- £1,000 had been agreed by the Ivybridge Youth Centre to help initial funding of a qualified youth worker. There was a possibility that the new school building might be used for holiday activities.

30.2 Constitution – It was agreed that the Vice-Chairman and Mr Brown would represent the Parish Council on the Committee.

31/09 GRANT REQUESTS

31.1 Village Hall – A letter from the Chairman was read. Full financial details had been received and a contribution of £300 towards replacement of the Playgroup flooring had been requested.
RESOLVED; To grant £300 as requested. [Vote 10 in favour 1 abstention]

31.2 Yealmpton Youth Club - Before considering the request for £100, more information regarding names and numbers of youngsters from the Parish who attended the Club would be requested. **Agenda: March**

32/09 SPORTS PAVILION

32.1 Ownership - Following the site meeting with Mr Kennerley in November, his reply was read. In response to his suggestion that the lack of clarity over ownership should be formalised, it was noted that the Parish Council had always insured and maintained the building. It was agreed that the Parish Council should confirm ownership and invite SHDC to prepare a draft lease/informal licence for the site.

32.2 Planning consent for the proposed extension had been granted. The Chairman had invited the Architect to prepare costings and invite tenders. Potential sources of funding were discussed; a small sum might be available from the Police Fund. **Agenda: March**

33/09 MAINTENANCE

33.1 Doctor's Steps – The bench seat situated at bottom of the steps had been disposed of for health and safety reasons. Mr Taylor had retained the plaque. The Chairman, Mr Carter and Mr Taylor would investigate a replacement to take advantage of the view if possible. **Agenda: March**

33.2 Private land clearance request: junction Passage Road/Noss Hard - The Chairman had looked at the area with John Allen. There might be potential storage for Regatta Boats if the landowner agreed. **Agenda: March**

33.3 Other areas for consideration - The gravel build-up in Noss Fountain (water chute) had been reported to SHDC, DCC and the Environment Agency for clearance. Rubbish clearance and tidying of Noss Hard and tidal rubbish at Bridgend would be discussed at the next Meeting. The Chairman suggested having an annual Village clean-up along same lines as the Harbour Clean-up. **Agenda: March**

33.4 **Handrails** - The Swan Steps handrail had been ordered.

Agenda: March

33.5 **The Malthouse and Leas Path** - Improvement work had been completed; the invoice was awaited.

34/09 MEETINGS ATTENDED

34.1 **Harbour Authority** - The main items reported by Mr Carter concerned safety improvements to the pontoon and inspections of Axworthy, Kilpatrick and Wembury Steps. The steps from Yealm Quay to the beach were in a poor state. Mooring Holders Elections would take place on 11 March.

34.2 **Halls** - Stage lighting at the Village Hall would be installed shortly. Decorating and repairs had been completed at the WIC Hall and it was hoped that the Lease would soon be finalised.

34.3 **Primary School** - During Mrs Sealey's absence on Adoption Leave, a Strategic Executive Head would be shared with Ilsington School, with an operational Head from the existing teaching staff. A planning application for the new building was being prepared.

34.4 **U3A Environment Group** - Sustainable Energy grants were available for biomass boilers for public buildings. The U3A was working to progress this opportunity, with a particular interest in the high energy costs of the Primary School.

35/09 ADMINISTRATION

35.1 **Parish Council Representation** - The current RYHA term would end in March.

RESOLVED: RYHA Reps until March 2012 would be Mr Carter, Mr Tubb and Mr Brown. (Vote: all in favour)

35.2 **Annual Parish Meeting** -. Arrangements were agreed. Refreshments – Mr Stitson. Display panels - Chairman and Vice Chairman. Items for display:- logos, map of Parish assets, plans for Butts Park-Collaton link and Sports Pavilion, 10 point target list. Reports from – Police and Chairman of Newton & Noss Network. A speaker from the Magistracy had been agreed. Reference to be made to plans for a Digital Switchover Speaker.

35.3 **Transfer of funds to current account** - As previously discussed, closure of the two Nationwide Savings Accounts was authorised.

36/09 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS Cheque payments were authorised and signed in accordance with the schedule prepared by the Clerk, checked by Mrs Hinchliffe and listed in the Financial Statement Min. 37/09

37/09 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Alliance & Leicester Current Account balance at 1.2.09	£ 3,203.47
Nationwide Building Society Capital Fund	£ 47,104.29
Nationwide Building Society Gratuity Fund	£ 14,084.71

The following cheques were authorised totalling **£ 3,029.89**

R Wooderson	Cleaning: Newton Voss and steps	79.65
J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss & Popes Quay	45.25
J Eschbaecher	Net salary	1,054.33
S McDonough	In lieu of hours worked to date (on account)	200.00
Xtremity	Lottery grant funding for Optimist dinghy	965.00
J Leonard	To replace missing cheque no.815	40.00
SLCC	Book: Local Council Clerks Guide	11.40
T Taylor	Re Collaton/Butts Park path – mileage	40.80
Access Technology	Website maintenance Sep-Feb 09	207.00
Information Commissioner	Data Protection annual renewal	35.00
C.P.R.E.	Annual subscription	29.00
J Young	Refreshments for Meeting 12.2.09	7.67
DCC	Footpath inspection sheets	3.68
<i>Network payments:-</i>		
J Thorne	Part honorarium	72.00
South Hams CVS (C Smith)	Membership fee	20.00
Staples (C Smith)	Stationery	19.11
A James	Tutor fee: Upholstery UP3 for 5 sessions of 10	200.00

