

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEWTON & NOSS PARISH COUNCIL
held on 12th July 2007

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

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr Mumford Mrs Eschbaecher (Clerk) Mr Allen

APOLOGIES: Mr Buckland Mr Young Mr Lomax (RYDA)

POLICE REPORT

No incidents had been reported to the Clerk and none were raised.

It was noted that PC Richards had relinquished his role as Neighbourhood Beat Manager and news of his replacement was awaited. Inspector Chivers had replaced Inspector Williams at Ivybridge.

OPEN FORUM

South West Water : Proposed replacement of the rising main

Details of the project were discussed with the Estates Surveyor and Project Leader for South West Water, and the Site Agent for the Contractor (Black & Veatch Limited). The pipeline between the Pumping Station and the Treatment Works would be replaced by a new plastic pipe 6" – 8" in diameter. Work would take three to four months and commence in the autumn at the T.W. end; work within the village would last approximately seven weeks but disruption would be kept to a minimum. Members agreed that to take advantage of low tides, some night working would be unavoidable. The final route and start date were dependent on the licence application and the results of an ecology survey into dormice activity at Bridgend but the Clerk would be kept informed.

The design was based on capacity projections for 2012 but it was felt that the figures should be checked to take account of modest development plans over the next twenty years – a letter would be sent to the Project Leader. Some temporary traffic management might prevent congestion on Widey Hill – the Clerk would contact DCC.

120/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE The reasons for absence were approved.

121/07 PREVIOUS MINUTES The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th June were confirmed and signed.

122/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare interests in the items to be discussed during the course of the Meeting and the following were recorded:-

Mrs Hinchliffe declared a personal interest in item 5. as owner of land adjoining Bridgend Hill.

Mr Tubb declared a personal interest in item 12. relating to payment for the electrical work carried out at the Sports Pavilion; he left the Meeting during consideration of this item.

123/07 MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

123.1 Items outstanding – For confirmation in September: Vice-Chairman and Youth Liaison co-option.
Agenda: September Meeting

123.2 Annual Risk Assessment – As new regulations included a detailed appraisal of all financial controls, this task was allocated to Mrs Hinchliffe, Mr Matthews and the Clerk.

124/07 COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILS

124.1 The main items of Cllr Mumford's report concerned:-

i) **Parking restrictions** – The yellow lines appeared to have been successful but SHDC would be asked to add all the lines to the regular sweeping schedule to prevent leaf debris from obscuring them. The Police and Traffic Warden would be asked to monitor parking at Yealm Steps where there had been more disregard for restrictions than usual.

ii) **Street Lighting** – Members were asked to consider whether street lights should be either reduced or turned off.
Agenda: September Meeting

iii) **DCC Locality Budget** – It was anticipated that a grant of approximately £900 would be available in the current financial year. The Clerk would invite detailed applications for consideration – capital projects with matched funding would be preferred. The Sports Pavilion was suggested as a possible project. **Agenda: October Meeting**

124.2 Bridgend Hill – pedestrian safety – Reference was made to a road in Yelverton where lines had been painted down one side for the benefit of pedestrians. **Cllr Mumford** would make enquiries about the suitability of this idea for the hill and **Mrs Hinchliffe** would take some photographs. It was noted that although there was a pavement around the layby at the top of the hill, it was often blocked by growth due to lack of maintenance by DCC.

Agenda: September Meeting

124.3 Widey Hill – The DCC Highways Engineers were aware of the drainage problems and the damaged road surface at the midway junction (caused by SWW contractors' vehicles) which required a permanent repair. Maintenance and improvements were in hand. *[Open Forum refers]*
It was noted that tarmac at the top of the hill had been damaged.

124.4 Cllr Cooper reported a £250,000 deficit in the waste collection budget. A weekly collection of organic waste during the summer months was under consideration by SHDC.

125/07 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

125.1 Rural Housing Trust - The Chairman and Cllr Cooper had met Moira Constable on 11th July, and their full report was noted. Mrs Constable had been very enthusiastic about making some positive progress in the Parish and had offered to discuss the Parish Council's ideas with the SHDC Planners. A Housing Seminar for Parish Councils had been organised by the RHT and would be held in the Village Hall in Noss on 2nd November.

125.2 The Way Forward – A comprehensive discussion concerned local housing needs, the various development sites available and the constraints of the current planning regulations. It was recognised that a modest development at Butts Park was the option most likely to succeed as Mr Harris was the only known landowner not looking to make a financial gain.

RESOLVED: To continue discussions with the Rural Housing Trust with a view to progressing a small pilot development; although Butts Park would be the main focus, other sites should also be considered. *[Vote: unanimous]*

125.3 Seminar: Community Land Trusts – The Chairman and Cllr Cooper would attend on 19th September.

126/07 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

126.1 Conservation Area Appraisals – John Allen would copy the documents for each Member. **Agenda: September Meeting**

126.2 SHDC Draft Licensing Policy – The document had been circulated but no comments had been suggested.

126.3 Local Development Framework – Development Plan Documents had been received for Affordable Housing, Development Control Core Policies and the Rural Areas.

RESOLVED: An additional Meeting would be held on 26th July to consider the Parish Council's formal responses.

126.4 NHS Foundation Trust – The document was passed to Mr Tubb. **Agenda: September Meeting**

127/07 SHDC PLANNING DEPARTMENT

127.1 Village Design or Access Statement – For a decision at the next meeting. **Agenda: September Meeting**

127.2 Island House, Bridgend 1409/07/F Summerhouse - re-submission of 0558/07 for a new position.
Decision: No comment.

127.3 6 Newton Close 1420/07/F Extension to dwelling.
Decision: No comment.

127.4 Length of building works – It was noted that the RYDA had invited comments from the Development Control Manager concerning the time taken to complete some building projects and the general inconvenience caused to nearby residents. A reply was awaited.

128/07 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED The following items concerned:-

128.1 Exeter City Council – Regarding the Council's application for unitary status and the Parish Council's open letter, a response from DCC was read.

128.2 Noss Mayo Pumping Station – Following a minor discharge in February/March, the Clerk had written to the Environment Agency. An officer had visited the site and confirmed that the discharge from the manhole on Bridgend Quay had had a “minor effect on the watercourse and surrounding land”. Records had been checked and the Clerk had been assured that there had been no deterioration in water quality during the previous 18 months.

128.3 TPO at 25 Noss Mayo – Permission had been granted by SHDC to fell one Bay tree.

128.4 TPO at Voss Cottage – Permission had been granted by SHDC to fell one Elm tree.

128.5 South Devon & Dartmoor Community Safety Action Plan 07/08 would be circulated.

128.6 Devon Association of Parish Councils – John Young had been elected to the DAPC Committee.

128.7 Vitalise – RESOLVED: To decline the request for financial support.

129/07 COMMUNITY LEARNING – NEWTON & NOSS NETWORK

129.1 Update – The autumn programme was being finalised and two enrolment evenings would be held. The proposed computer workshops depended on the availability of the appropriate software. Additional subjects offered were sketching, painting, cane work, pottery and upholstery.

129.2 Payments to be authorised – RESOLVED: To authorise a payment of £500 to Stuart Shaw, tutor for the two digital photography courses.

130/07 FOOTPATHS

130.1 Donkey Path – Mr Buckland’s revised drawing was circulated for consideration; the concrete blocks had been replaced by poured concrete as recommended by Mark Wilson. Although a short handrail at the lower end had been included on the drawing, it was suggested that it might be more appropriate for the Mr Derry and Mr Studd to agree the design and materials and organise this aspect to suit their particular requirements.

RESOLVED: The Clerk would send the drawing with a covering letter to each of the five interested landowners. Once their approvals had been received, tenders would be invited for further consideration.

130.2 Footpath Inspection – Public safety issues were noted which the Clerk would refer to DCC’s Footpath Officer, namely the depth of the top step to Cellars Beach, possible subsidence at the top of Axsmith’s Hill and a large number of heifers grazing on the path near Borough Farm. It was noted that one of the gates and fencing had been removed near the Tea House which had improved public access.

130.3 Handrail: Newton Hill – A quotation was still awaited.

Agenda: September Meeting

130.4 Court Road (adjacent to the Briar Hill boundary) – It was anticipated that the landowner would repair the damage to the edge of the footpath.

Agenda: September Meeting

131/07 MAINTENANCE

131.1 Sports Pavilion – Additional work had been required to ensure the safety of the electrical installation, full details of which had been received by the Clerk. Shower 5 had been disconnected but the remainder had tested as functioning correctly. An installation and test report had also been received.

RESOLVED: To authorise a cheque to James Baldwin for £933. [Vote: all in favour with one abstention]

RESOLVED: Promotion of the facility needed some thought.

Agenda: October Meeting

131.2 Vegetation - RESOLVED: Garden Services would be invited to attend to various locations where cutting and tidying was required.

131.3 Tree Warden’s training expenses – RESOLVED: To authorise a cheque to Chris Woodd-Walker for £29.20.

131.4 Damaged notice board – Mr Leonard would repair the board at Butts Park.

131.5 Andrew Yonge seat in Court Road – The friends of Andrew intended to replace the seat.

131.6 New seats – The RYDA had offered to provide two new seats in addition to the five being installed at Noss Green. The Clerk would accept.

132/07 EMERGENCY PLAN

132.1 Vulnerable List – The Chairman reported that there were plans to reinstate the local Road Stewardship Scheme which had been organised previously by the PCCs. Penny Gingell was the contact for Newton.

133/07 MEETINGS ATTENDED

133.1 Harbour Authority – There were no items reported.

133.2 Village Hall – The Chairman reported some progress with the proposed stage lighting and it was noted that 120 replacement chairs were required (approximate net cost £3,000). **Agenda: September Meeting**

133.3 Ivybridge & District Association of Parish Councils – In Mr Young's absence, Mr Cooper would represent the Parish Council at the forthcoming AGM.

134/07 ADMINISTRATION

134.1 Current Account signatories – RESOLVED: To delete Mrs Roe's name. Mr Stitson would be added to the list. [Vote: all in favour]

134.2 Office equipment – The Clerk had purchased a new Phillips 170S computer monitor as previously authorised.

135/07 APPROVAL 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.136/07.

136/07 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Alliance & Leicester Current Account	balance at 1.07.07	£	9,402.82
Portman Building Society Capital Fund	30 days' notice	£	44,780.33
Portman Building Society Gratuity Fund		£	11,432.82

The following cheques were authorised totalling	£	4,263.06
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R Wooderson	Cleaning: Newton Voss and steps	71.50
J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss/Pope's Quay	40.50
J Eschbaecher	Net salary	953.84
J Eschbaecher	Expenses: postage and computer monitor	126.95
Garden Services	Grass cutting: The Green – May	45.00
C Woodd-Walker (Tree Warden)	Tree identification course – mileage	29.20*
River Yealm Harbour Authority	Cleaning: WCs Yealm Steps – interim a/c 2007	376.00
British Telecom	Clerk's telephone	59.04
British Telecom	Bishop's Court telephone	62.19
S Shaw	Tutor: Digital Photography DP1 & DP2	500.00
J Baldwin	Sports Pavilion: electrical upgrade	933.00
<i>August payments:-</i>		
R Wooderson	Cleaning: Newton Voss and steps	71.50
J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss/Pope's Quay	40.50
J Eschbaecher	Net salary	953.84

s.137 payments: £29.20 [Total to date: £ 1,789.03]

