

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEWTON & NOSS PARISH COUNCIL
held on 12th March 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 Eschbaecher (Clerk) Mrs McDonough
Cllr Mumford and 12 parishioners were present for part of the Meeting

APOLOGIES: P C Nolan and PCSO Lawrence

POLICE REPORT

Three undetected crimes had been reported:-

- i. Overnight 19 February: A Boat had been dragged out of the water and the outboard motor stolen.
- ii. 13 February: Power Tools had been stolen from a property on Yealm Road.
- iii. Between 24th-26th February: Building stone had been stolen from outside a property on Court Road.

OPEN FORUM

Planning application – Primary School – new building: A number of concerns were explained and noted, in particular the impact on the neighbouring properties and the perceived effect on the use of other public buildings. The Architect summarised the plans and answered queries. *[Min.49.5 refers]*

The Swan - Concerns were raised about the extent of the Licensing Application submitted by Punch Taverns and the possible detrimental effect on residents. *[Min. 45/09 refers]*

U3A Environment Group – Referring to the recent Open Meeting which had been addressed by a Co-op representative, the Group had put forward the point that the Co-op should endeavour to sustain local shops rather than enter into competition with them. Concerns about delivery lorries and parking had been discussed because the new shop was expected to attract more custom. *[Min. 56.4 refers]*

41/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE No apologies for absence as all Councillors had been present.

42/09 PREVIOUS MINUTES The Minutes of Meetings held on 12th and 26th February were confirmed and signed.

43/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

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

Mrs Hinchliffe by virtue of being a Governor of the Primary School, the Chairman and Mr Brown as members of the WIC Hall and Newton and Noss Village Hall Committees respectively, Mr Buckland being a member of the Post Office Steering Group, and Mr Matthews being a nearby resident of the Primary School.

44/09 URGENT BUSINESS

In accordance with Standing Order 15, it was agreed that the following item required immediate action and should be discussed.

45/09 THE SWAN INN

An application for a new premises licence had been submitted to SHDC with a closing date of 2nd April. Whilst there was no objection in principle, elements of the application gave cause for concern, particularly live music both inside and outside the premises. It was suggested that written objections should be sent to the SHDC Licensing Manager, the Environmental Health Department, and Police Inspector Chivers. It was agreed that **Mr Matthews** should draft a letter of representation for approval by the Councillors and submission by 2nd April.

46/09 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILS

46.1 Report from Cllr Mumford:-

- i) **Healthcare for the elderly** - The proposed arrangements between DCC and Shaw Healthcare had fallen through because the terms and conditions would have been too costly.
- ii) **Collaton-Butts Park Link** - Cllr Mumford had written to Tor Homes to ask for a more rapid decision about the use of their verge for the footpath.

- iii) **Highways** - There had been problems with flooding at Middlecombe which were in hand. He would flag up the problems with flooding and mud between Netton and Stoke.
- iv) **Transport Provision** - The School bus transport to Holbeton was a private arrangement, not DCC.

46.2 Butts Park Crossing - The Health and Safety Department had raised concerns about the "build out" creating an obstruction. Efforts had been put in hand to work around the concerns. **Agenda April**

46.3 Collaton - Butts Park Link - Approval of the planning application was expected by 14th April. Tor Homes had been slow to consider the request for permission for the path to cross their land. Verbal agreement had been reached regarding the removal of the handrail. Revised tenders were awaited. **Agenda April**

46.4 Transport - Mr Matthews had spoken to the Chairperson of the Primary School Governors. The School would write to the parents of Noss children to ask if they would use a transport service to the School. **Agenda May**

46.5 Report from Cllr Cooper:-

- i) **B3186 drainage problems** - Cllr Cooper had met Mr Allen from SHDC Drainage Department on 3rd March at Broadmoor Farm when it had been decided that it was a DCC matter. DCC had been asked to clear the drains.
- ii) **Riverside Road East** - Cllr Cooper and Mr Allen visited Riverhaven and Riverview as it had been noted that there were no drains for surface water from the newly surfaced driveway. This would be taken up by SHDC.
- iii) **DPD Land** - Cllr Cooper had attended a meeting about land for development. A few people had already come forward. However, apart from Collaton, there were no new plots of land being offered.
- iv) **Co-op** - The Design Panel would meet on 17 March to review the draft plans. Cllr Cooper had met James Carter who had agreed that the grass area outside Dillons would be an appropriate site for the temporary shop whilst the store was redeveloped. **Agenda April**
- v) **Car Park at The Green** - Cllr Cooper had asked SHDC to request Tor Homes to return the title to SHDC.

46.6 Tennis Courts - The letter dated 26 January from SHDC was reconsidered. Mr Cooper and Cllr Cooper had attended a players meeting on 9th March to discuss a proposed Tennis Club. A letter read out from Mrs Dawn Robinson dated 11th March indicated an intention to form a club and suggested proposals for the management of the courts.

Cllr Cooper had met with an officer from the SHDC Landscape & Leisure Dept.; he had suggested that SHDC might be prepared to undertake the refurbishment and then lease the courts to the Tennis Club - **Cllr Cooper** would discuss this in more detail with Ken Carter. It was agreed that there should be a further meeting with the Tennis Club to discuss the best way forward

RESOLVED: To support in principle the formation of the Tennis Club with the aim of preserving and protecting the courts for the benefit of the community in perpetuity. (Vote: all in favour) **Agenda April**

46.7 Play area maintenance - Following receipt of a detailed assessment of maintenance items, the Clerk had been unable to accept an invitation to a briefing session at Follaton House. However, it was understood that Alex Whish would arrange a site meeting to discuss the 2009/10 maintenance programme required at both play areas and any enhancements which the Parish Council would wish to include if funding was available. SHDC had allocated up to £10,000 to repair and replace the old equipment. **Cllr Cooper** and **Mr Stitson** would attend. Concerns remained about flooding at Noss play area as reported to SHDC in January. The Clerk would ask for an investigation into the cause. **Agenda April**

46.8 National Litter Campaign – The Clerk had received a letter from SHDC on the day of the Meeting, offering to provide some manpower to tidy certain areas. Although there were no areas with a significant litter problem, a couple of persistent trouble spots would be suggested – head of the creek at Bridgend and Noss Hard.

47/09 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

47.1 Cllr Cooper reported that notification from Highways concerning access to the proposed development site was awaited. **Agenda April**

48/09 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS – None had been received.

49/09 PLANNING

49.1 Meeting with Gary Streeter M.P. - Following the meeting, Mr Streeter had written to SHDC asking for details concerning the conduct of the Appeal of The Green House application. The Clerk would draft a letter of complaint to the Planning Inspectorate in consultation with Cllr Cooper.

A meeting with senior planning officers would be arranged to discuss specific concerns about recent planning decisions; therefore, a preparation meeting of the group would be required. Although Mrs Jary hoped the Parish Council would take the lead with contributions from the RYDA, Cllr Cooper and residents, it was agreed that she should be asked to organise the next meetings. **Agenda April**

49.2 Design Panel - 17 March to consider the Co-op proposals. Cllr Cooper and Mrs Marchant would attend.

49.3 Village Design Statement - It was agreed that a design document should be prepared in due course and would be an accurate appraisal of the age of our buildings. A VDS would be a useful reference point for the planners who currently did not appear to take into account that some applications were not in keeping with the surroundings. A portfolio of photographs had been prepared by Mr Jary and Mr Marchant as a starting point.

49.4 SHDC planning decisions were noted:-

- i. **Coombe Willows, Foundry Lane.0039/09/F** Small extension. Approved.
- ii. **50 Noss Mayo.0026/09/LB** Listed Building consent for internal alterations. Approved.
- iii. **Blue Shutters 2378/08/LB.** Retrospective application for alterations. Approved.
- iv. **Arqiva Transmitting Station, Noss.0008/09/F.** Installation of additional 0.6m dish at 18m above ground level on existing 32.5m transmitting mast. Approved.
- v. **Lime Kiln.2366/08/LB and 2367/08/F.** Restoration of kiln, conversion and extension of outbuildings to single dwelling with garage/ working holiday let. Withdrawn.

49.5 Newton Ferrers Primary School DCC ref. 2786/2009 - Construction of single storey building for extended schools provision.

Referring to her reports at previous Parish Council Meetings since October 2008, Mrs Hinchliffe explained the background and reasons for the application. The design of the existing building was far from ideal and additional space was required for a variety of educational uses, e.g. music lessons, some Network courses for which existing halls were unsuitable, school meetings, and before/after school clubs – there was funding for “wrap-around care” at the start and end of the school day; the clubs were a popular and important service for working families and were over-subscribed. There were no child-minding facilities in the village.

There were time constraints within which the project should be started otherwise the grant funding could be lost.

Cllr Mumford would make enquiries as to whether there was any flexibility within the time scales for funding.

It was noted that letters of objection had highlighted concerns over perceived threats to the viability of the Playgroup, Village Hall, and WIC Hall. Other comments and discussion referred to the need to support and retain the popular school, the budget constrained design and its setting and whether there was a need for an additional building; design quality should not be compromised. Mrs Hinchliffe replied that there was no intention to impact on the existing community halls. The topography of the school grounds and construction style of the existing school had presented design and siting difficulties; the original idea had been a Portacabin which would not have required planning consent. After discussion, it was agreed that the impact of the proposals and requirement for the space needed clarification. The Architect would erect a pole so the roof level of the proposed building could be checked. It was suggested that it would be helpful if the Governors could publish an open letter to clarify their intentions and the reasons for the application.

RESOLVED: A site meeting would be held on 17th March, commencing at 5 Archer’s Court (to check the neighbours’ objections) and visiting the school. The planning decision was delegated to those Councillors present at the meeting and eligible to vote. (Vote: 10 in favour 1 abstention Mr Brown was not present)

Agenda April

49.6 70 Court Road 0093/09/F - Alterations to the front and extension to rear of dwelling. No objections had been raised by the Working Group so the Clerk had replied accordingly.

49.7 The Greenhouse, Bridgend 0196/09/F - Construction of an erosion prevention wall.

Decision: No objection.

49.8 Post Office, Newton Hill 0048/09/F - Resubmission of plans to extend the trading area. The plans were explained and the intention to provide 100% disabled access was noted.

Decision: No objection. (Vote: 9 for, 3 abstentions)

49.9 Collaton - Butts Park link path 0271/09/F - As submitted by the Parish Council.

Decision: Support.

49.10 The Haven, Yealm Road - The owner had indicated that an application had been lodged but plans had not been received. It was agreed that if the deadline for responding arose before the next Council meeting, a site meeting and EGM would be called.

50/09 VILLAGE PLANS

50.1 2004 Parish Plan review - Two reports had been received – Community Services and Business. The Housing section did not need updating. Once all review reports had been submitted, the Working Group would consider them. (The Chairman, Mr Buckland, Mr Carter and Mr Matthews).

Agenda April

As previously discussed, the Village Design Statement remained outstanding.

50.2 Emergency Plan - Mr Carter and Mr Brown had attended a useful training event in Yealmpton and would refine the Parish Emergency Plan for consideration by the Council.

Agenda May

51/09 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

51.1 Glen Cottage, Riverside Road East – An invitation to the unveiling of the Blue Plaque on 23rd March had been extended to all Members.

51.2 Swan Inn – Licence application - (*min 45.09 refers.*) The situation regarding the shuttering in the Conservation Area would be monitored.

52/09 NEWTON AND NOSS NETWORK – The Clerk had nothing to report.

53/09 GRANT REQUEST

53.1 Yealmpton Youth Club had not responded to the request for the names and numbers of young people from the Parish who attended the Club. Therefore, it was agreed that this request could not be considered.

54/09 SPORTS PAVILION

54.1 Lease/Licence – A reply from SHDC was awaited.

54.2. Tenders – More information from the Architect concerning costings was awaited.

55/09 MAINTENANCE

55.1 Doctor's Steps - Mr Carter and Mr Young would look at re-siting the seat. **Agenda April**

55.2 Private land: clearance request; junction Passage Road/Noss Hard - There had been no opportunity to speak to the landowner. **Agenda June**

55.3 Handrails - The Swan Steps handrail was awaited. **Agenda April**

55.4 The Malthouse and Leas Path - Payment of the invoice from Garden Services was authorised: £505.

55.5 Noss Hard - Mr Young and Mr Carter would look at Noss Hard and report in April. **Agenda April**

55.6 Annual Village Clean-up – This idea would be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting.

55.7 Other areas for consideration - Bridgend was referred to. The Clerk had been assured by Mr Steve Bryant that resurfacing of Stoke Road, etc. was a priority.

56/09 MEETINGS ATTENDED

56.1 Harbour Authority – The main items of Mr Carter's report concerned the condition of Wembury Steps which he had inspected with Robin Toogood and the County Engineer; repairs would be temporary to cover the summer period. The bottom part of Kilpatrick Steps would be cleaned and repaired. Steps on the right hand side of the Yealm Steps quay had also been repaired. The Mooring Holders elected had been John Leonard, Andrew Matthews and Martin Mears.

56.2 Halls - Mr Young reported that the WIC AGM was imminent. Mr Brown reported a series of performances had been planned by the Village Hall.

56.3 Primary School - Mrs Hinchliffe indicated that the new Executive Head and new Head of Teaching roles were working well in Mrs Sealey's absence on Adoption Leave.

56.4 U3A Environment Group – A report on the recent meeting to discuss sustainability issues surrounding food production and distribution had been sent to the Chairman because the meeting had referred to local issues concerning the proposed redevelopment of the Co-op. One of the concerns had been the sale of newspapers in conflict with an agreement with the Post Office - Mr Hallett had raised this issue direct with the Co-op management. Other topics had centred on the impact of deliveries and lack of parking for the shops.

56.5 Sustainable Communities Act – The Chairman had attended a meeting with Cllr Cooper but had nothing noteworthy to report

57/09 TREES

57.1 Rose Cottage, Bridgend – Following the removal of a large wooded area which was considered important in the landscape, a Tree Preservation Order had been served to protect the remaining trees on the site. It was disappointing to note that the felling had first been reported to SHDC in early December.
RESOLVED: To support the Tree Preservation Order. (Vote: All in favour)

57.2 Holy Cross Churchyard – There were no objections to TPO tree surgery which was necessary.

58/09 ADMINISTRATION

58.1 Annual Parish Meeting – Final arrangements were agreed. Apologies were received from Mrs Hinchliffe and Mr Carter.

58.2 Purchase of office equipment - The purchase of a printer and scanner were authorised: £69.97.

58.3 Website update - Mrs Hinchliffe and Mr Brown would review the matter with Mrs McDonough in due course.

58.4 Asset Inspections - To be reviewed at a later date.

Agenda June

58.5 Issues for future consideration were suggested – visitor information board at The Green, a map of walks, and a review of buildings which should be considered for listing. It was also suggested that certain views should be preserved.

59/09 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.60/09.

60/09 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Alliance & Leicester Current Account balance at 1.3.09	£	376.45
Nationwide Building Society Capital Fund Closing balance as at 10.3.09	£	49,009.57
Nationwide Building Society Gratuity Fund Closing balance as at 10.3.09	£	14,396.07

The foregoing balances were credited to the Current Account on 13.3.09 pending appropriate reinvestment.

The following cheques were authorised totalling £ **5,887.25**

Garden Services	To replace lost cheque 868	46.50
R Wooderson	Cleaning: Newton Voss and steps	76.70
J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss & Popes Quay	43.50
J Eschbaecher	Net salary	1,116.45
J Eschbaecher	Expenses: postage and stationery	23.18
S McDonough	Balance of net salary from 8 th January to date	602.06
P C World (J Brown)	Office equipment – scanner and printer	69.97
WIC Hall	Hire: 12.2.09	15.00
Garden Services	As agreed: Leas Path and The Malthouse – improvements	505.00
King UK Limited	Bleach for Noss Voss	81.33
Byways & Bridleways Trust	Annual subscription	35.00
Vantech Media	Website: annual hosting fee	85.00
South West Water	Tap: Pillory Hill	9.59
F T I Renzi	Grant: Village Hall: replacement flooring for Playgroup	345.00
J Young	Contribution to Chairman's expenses 2009	150.00
J Eschbaecher	Contribution to office expenses 2009	350.00
<i>Network payments:-</i>		
J Thorne	Part honorarium in lieu of hours worked	114.00
Mount Batten Centre	Lottery: Safety board training 14.3.09	840.00
J Johnson	Tutor fee: Watercolour WC6	300.00
N.F. Sailing School	Petrol costs: collection of Oppies from Fareham	88.97
Devon County Council	Hire of School: Autumn Term 08	620.00
Devon County Council	Hire of School: Spring Term 09	170.00
A James	Tutor fee: Upholstery UP3 for 5 sessions of 10	200.00
