

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEWTON & NOSS PARISH COUNCIL

held on 12th November 2008

PRESENT: Mr Buckland Cllr Cooper Mr Cooper (Vice-Chairman) Mr Hussell
Mr Taylor Mr Tubb Mr Young (Chairman)

ALSO PRESENT: Mr Lomax (RYDA) Mrs Eschbaecher (Clerk)
Cllr Mumford and 7 parishioners were present for part of the Meeting

APOLOGIES: Mr Brown Mr Carter Mrs Hinchliffe Mr Matthews Mr Stitson

POLICE REPORT

P.C. Nolan outlined the following which had been reported since the last Meeting:- two thefts (a trailer and a purse) and two burglaries (in both cases a laptop computer and a flat screen television had been stolen) which had been reported since the last Meeting. Several burglaries had been carried out in neighbouring parishes and were under investigation. Parishioners were asked to report any suspicious activity to the Police central number **08452 777 444** and lock away any items which could be used to force an entry.

Following concerns reported to the Police, special patrols had been undertaken and a number of motorists had been stopped on suspicion of drink/driving offences; the checks would continue.

Members were reminded of the forthcoming Police Liaison meeting at Yealmpton Community Centre: 1st December.

OPEN FORUM

Planning applications:

- i) **51 Yealm Road** – Part demolition and alterations to the existing dwelling to form two dwellings. The applicants' outlined the proposals; their comments were noted. *[Min.171.5 refers]*
 - ii) **Shadow Cottage, Revelstoke Road** – Extension and ancillary work. Comments concerning the adverse effect of the proposals on the neighbouring property were noted. *[Min.171.10 refers]*
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164/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE The reasons for absence were noted.

165/08 PREVIOUS MINUTES The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th October were confirmed and signed.

166/08 PROPOSAL TO VARY THE AGENDA

166.1 RESOLVED: That consideration of items concerning employment and the Clerk's salary review were confidential and should be considered In Committee at the end of the Meeting. [Vote: all in favour]

167/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

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

Mr Tubb declared a prejudicial interest in item 7. concerning pharmacy provision and dispensing arrangements and left the Meeting during consideration of this issue.

168/08 COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILS

168.1 Cllr Mumford referred to the following items for information:-

- i) Pillory Hill drainage: The owners of "Greystones" were responsible for an underground gully because it crossed their garden. The drain was located in the road and DCC had agreed to enlarge the gully pot drain grid to reduce the frequency of blockages. It was noted that the DCC Lengthsman cleaned the drain fairly regularly.
- ii) Hewsters Hill: The adjacent landowners had agreed to undertake maintenance work to clear the path.
- iii) Disabled parking bay in Riverside Road East: A bay could be provided but would not be enforceable. This would require further consideration. **Agenda: December**
- iv) Puslinch: Following hedge cutting, DCC had been asked to clean the road – no progress had been made.

- v) Butts Park crossing: Following further research by DCC, it had been concluded that the average speed within the 30mph zone was too high so a build-out would not be appropriate. Therefore, alternatives were under consideration to slow the traffic and provide a safer crossing with enhanced visibility for both pedestrians and drivers.
- vi) Cllr Mumford had offered grants to assist with the replacement flooring for the Playgroup and new Optimist dinghies for the School and wider community use.
- vii) Footpath to link Yealmpton – Brixton: the options were under consideration but would be subject to agreement by the Kitley Estate.

168.2 Collaton/Butts Park Link – Estimates had been invited from three contractors and replies were awaited. The Clerk was in discussion with Tor Homes regarding the removal of the handrail which was obstructing the path and information to support the planning application was being prepared. The Working Group would meet again on 17th November.

168.3 B3186 – There were two items under consideration:-

- i) Layby south of Collaton - In Mr Brown's absence, the query about the layby could not be discussed.
- ii) Enlarged opening south of Broadmoor Farm – Following a query from Highways concerning road safety and the apparent lack of planning controls, the Clerk had asked SHDC Planning to reconsider the facts concerning the landowner's action to create an open space so near to the bend.

168.4 Highways patching – It was noted that work was due to be completed before April but this date could not be guaranteed:- Bridgend Hill, Stoke Road, Pillory Hill/Creekside Road.

168.5 Report from Cllr Cooper - A Planning Inspector may have visited The Green House; if so, Cllr Cooper would ask why notification had not been received. Revised legislation had come into force concerning permitted development rights.

168.6 Parish Cluster Meeting – Mr Cooper reported:-

- i) The SHDC Dog Warden would visit Butts Park to assess whether bins should be provided. A note in the Parish Magazine would remind dog owners that the litter bins could be used for double wrapped waste.
- ii) Commercial glass collection was uneconomic but still under consideration by SHDC. Skips for mixed glass were also being investigated.
- iii) Second homes had received leaflets re waste services but the Data Protection Act placed restrictions on SHDC's actions.
- iv) The street cleaning service had been reduced to a half day once a fortnight which was inadequate.
- v) An improvement in the efficiency of the grass cutting service was expected in 2009.

168.7 Recycling in Noss – As requested, SHDC had removed the two recycling bins but it was noted that the litter bin would remain beside the skip to receive plastic bags, etc.

168.8 Sandbags – SHDC had advised the Clerk that empty bags could be supplied. Members debated the feasibility of having sand stored locally where bags could be filled as required. The Clerk would assess the level of need for consideration at a future date.

168.9 South Devon Coastal Local Action Group – The Chairman and Vice-Chairman would attend the forthcoming meeting concerning funding opportunities, with a particular interest in the Sports Pavilion extension.

168.10 BT kiosk at The Green – Mr Matthews had asked for the Parish Council's authority to obtain an electricity supply number and enter into an Agreement to pay the annual electricity charge, estimated to be approximately £50. The disconnection charge would be several hundred pounds but the electricity supply might be required in the future. RESOLVED: To accept the liability and authorise Mr Matthews to proceed with the purchase of the kiosk from B.T. [Vote: all in favour]

169/08 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

169.1 Working Group – It was agreed that the Group should meet to review the NNPC Housing Policy and, if possible, report recommendations to the Council on 11th December. Comments on the review would be invited from Mr Hogg (CHWG) and Mrs Wilcox (School Governors).

169.2 Group Members were confirmed as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Cllr Cooper, Mr Brown, Mr Buckland, Mr Matthews and Mr Hussell.

170/08 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS The following notifications had been received:-

170.1 Ageing Well in Devon (DCC & Devon Primary Care Trust) – The document was passed to Mr Tubb but the Parish Council would not be represented at the forthcoming Public Meeting.

170.2 Communities & Local Government: Code of Conduct for Members & Employees. The document was returned to the Clerk without comment.

170.3 Pharmacy provision – proposed options for future dispensing arrangements.

RESOLVED: To support the retention of the existing arrangements (option 1) with a copy to Gary Streeter M.P. and an email to the Clerk's database to stress the importance of the consultation and the closing date for responses.

[Vote: 6 in favour 1 abstention]

171/08 SHDC PLANNING DEPARTMENT

171.1 Consideration of applications – The Clerk's report had been circulated to all Members and was read to the Meeting. Because the current system had its faults, the pros and cons of the three options were considered.

Option 2 was favoured – an informal Working Group would meet monthly or as required and agree recommendations for consideration by the full Council. It was envisaged that this system would improve efficiency and the quality of decisions made and save time at the formal Council meetings. Open Forum would remain as an opportunity for parishioners to approach the Council informally. Cllr Cooper suggested that when significant applications were under review by the SHDC Design Panel, the Parish Council should be represented; it was understood that a parishioner with professional expertise was prepared to undertake this role. **Agenda: December**

RESOLVED: To adopt this option for a trial period of six months, the first meeting to be held on 8th December, open to any Members with an interest in planning.

171.2 Conservation Area Appraisals – An update had not been received.

171.3 SHDC Decisions – None had been received.

171.4 Revelstoke, Stoke 1992/08/F – New stable block and yard with new entrance onto the highway.

Decision: No objection.

171.5 51 Yealm Road 2014/08/F – Part demolition and alterations to existing to form two new dwellings. There were concerns about the visual impact of the flat roof when viewed from Noss but the applicants had consulted their neighbours and adjusted their plans accordingly. The provision of a bin store and the proposed hardstanding for a vehicle(s) was also queried.

Decision: No objection in principle but there were concerns about the visual effect of the flat roof; as a planning condition, the provision of an adequate bin store needed clarification as the drawings were considered to be unclear on this point. [Vote: 5 in favour 2 abstentions]

171.6 The Lodge, Beacon Hill 2040/08/F – Extension, loft conversion and replacement garage.

Decision: No objection.

171.7 Vine Cottage, Riverside Road West 2021/08/LB – Acceptable replacement of original kitchen wall, i.e. to mark its position.

Decision: No objection.

171.8 Camellia Court, 28a Court Road 2065/08/F – Resubmission of 0139/08 for removal of condition 4 of 1573/07 to create one dwelling and two holiday cottages.

Decision: Objection – the accommodation did not meet SHDC standards for permanent occupation and parking provision was inadequate. [Vote: 3 in favour 2 against 2 abstentions]

171.9 SHDC Planning Legislation – In answer to a Member's question concerning the rules relating to Change of Use (e.g. from a residential dwelling to a holiday rental), Cllr Cooper would enquire.

171.10 Shadow Cottage, Revelstoke Road 2066/08/F – Extension to dwelling and ancillary work. It was suggested that this proposal was overbearing in its scale and the drawings did not reflect the adverse effect on the neighbouring property; the roof-to-ceiling glazing was not favoured; the impact of the proposals could be reduced by lowering the roof.

Decision: Objection - adverse effect on the neighbouring property and overbearing on the site.

[Vote: 6 in favour 1 abstention]

171.11 Lisnagarvey, 93 Yealm Road 2081/08/F - Replacement of flat roof with pitched roof.

Decision: No objection.

Cllr Mumford joined the Meeting; his report is minuted as 168.1.

172/08 SPORTS PAVILION

172.1 Meeting with SHDC – As requested by SHDC, it was agreed that the Clerk would arrange a meeting with Mr Kennerley to review the position of both Councils in relation to the maintenance and use of the sports ground. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Clerk and Cllr Cooper would attend. **Agenda: December**

3/11/08Chairman

172.2 History - It was confirmed that the Pavilion had been built with volunteer labour circa 1980, mainly by Ron Finch; funds for the materials had been raised locally. The Parish Council had always insured the building but SHDC had not charged ground rent. Although SHDC cut the grass and hedges, the cricket pitch was maintained by the Cricket Club members.

172.3 Sports Pavilion Proposed Extension – It was noted that the planning application had been submitted.

172.4 Security – The current security arrangements were considered to be adequate.

173/08 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED The main items received had concerned:-

173.1 The Green – Regarding the ownership of the car park by Tor Homes, the County Solicitor had confirmed that no public rights had been established. It was believed that the services of a private company to monitor the use of the car park might be under consideration. It was agreed that no action should be taken but the situation would be kept under review.

173.2 Inter Parish Quiz 2009 – The Newton & Noss team had beaten Kingston in the Final. As the Committee had a surplus in the account, the annual request for financial support was unnecessary.

174/08 FOOTPATHS

174.1 Hewsters Hill – As reported by Cllr Mumford, the adjacent landowners had agreed to undertake maintenance work to clear the path.

175/08 MAINTENANCE

175.1 Inspection Report – The Working Group's report and recommendations had been circulated to Members prior to the Meeting. RESOLVED: To obtain quotes for items 1 to 6 as identified in the report. [Vote: all in favour] Items requiring particular consideration were:-

- i) Axworthy Steps: inspected at low tide. The lower steps to the foreshore were very slippery and covered in weed. There were several outhauls so the steps were used, but no handrail on the lower section; to be queried with RYHA.
- ii) Kilpatrick Steps: There were 9 outhauls attached to the 50 yards of land owned by the Parish Council but ensuring all NNPC mooring fees were collected fairly was both difficult and time-consuming. In a conversation with the Chairman, the Harbourmaster had confirmed the view expressed by the outhaul owners that the additional charge was an unfair burden. It was agreed that the time spent checking outhauls, issuing invoices and collecting the fees was counter-productive and made the charges uneconomic to administer.
RESOLVED: With immediate effect, the annual charges should not be collected but the Parish Council reserved the right to reverse the decision at a later date.
- iii) Kilpatrick Steps: The roadside bank bordering the highway but identified as NNPC land was collapsing, possibly because vehicles had parked too close to the edge. It was suggested that some posts or a barrier should be provided to prevent parking and further erosion. **Agenda: February**

175.2 Collaton Cross – RESOLVED: To invite Mr Leonard to replace the Perspex window which had been stolen.

175.3 Popes Quay – Stage 1 had been completed, mainly pointing, repairing cracks and joints, and concreting to strengthen the footings. RESOLVED: Payment of Mr Hockaday's invoice was authorised: £2,410. [Vote: all in favour]

175.4 Handrails

- i) Swan Steps – Two letters had been sent to Punch Taverns; no response had been received.
RESOLVED: To ask Mr Allen and Mr Serpell to proceed to install a rail in two sections, in accordance with the quotation received. [Vote: all in favour]
- ii) Newton Voss steps – the Chairman would report to the next Meeting. **Agenda: December**

176/08 TREES

176.1 Broken Way (Pumping Station) – The dead/dying Elms had been removed.
RESOLVED: Payment of the Protree invoice was authorised: £2,350. [Vote: all in favour]

176.2 Consents granted by SHDC – The following were noted –

- i) Woodlands, Revelstoke Road – removal of dead Pine, and
- ii) Land near Voss Cottage, Creekside Road – removal of three dead Elms.

177/08 NEWTON & NOSS NETWORK

177.1 Clerk's Update – The final Report and Financial Statement would be submitted to "Awards for All" by the end of November as previously agreed. The Teenage Adventure Day had been very successful despite poor weather. It was hoped that a Steering Committee could be formed to fundraise and arrange future activities; a Parish Council representative would be useful. **Agenda: January**

177.2 Payments – Four payments from Network and Lottery funds were authorised as listed in the Financial Summary.

178/08 MEETINGS ATTENDED

178.1 Harbour Authority – Mr Tubb reported that despite the generally poor weather during the summer, the boat nights had been in line with the number anticipated.

178.2 Primary School – The Clerk read a report from Mrs Hinchliffe which clarified in detail the school roll:- 86.58% lived within the catchment area. Of the remainder, only two children were attending Newton Ferrers rather than their own local school and one of those had strong family links with the village. Other comments were noted re new governors, collaborative working with Ilington School, and the success of the firework event which had raised £2,000+.

179/08 GRANT REQUESTS

179.1 The Samaritans – RESOLVED: To donate £100. (LGA 1972 s.137)

179.2 Citizens Advice Bureau – RESOLVED: To donate £50.

180/08 ADMINISTRATION

180.1 Budget Committee – The Committee would meet on Thursday 4th December. **Agenda: December**

180.2 Council records – RESOLVED: To request permission for storage facilities at the Plymouth & West Devon Record Office. [Vote: all in favour]

180.3 Meetings in 2009 – RESOLVED: Meetings should continue to alternate between the WIC Hall and Tilly Institute in 2009. Although the Village Hall was considered to be more spacious, Members were not in favour of a move from the Tilly. The Annual Parish Meeting would be held on 24th March in the Village Hall. The April Meeting would be held on Wednesday 8th April.

180.4 Employment: Clerk vacancy – RESOLVED: Three applicants would be interviewed by the Chairman, Mr Brown, Cllr Cooper, Mrs Hinchliffe and Mr Matthews; they were authorised to offer the position, if appropriate, after consulting the remaining Council Members. [Vote: all in favour]

180.5 Clerk's annual salary review – RESOLVED: To increase the Clerk's salary in line with the SLCC/NALC recommended pay scales – SCP33 - an overall increase of 2.45% backdated to April 2008. [Vote: all in favour]

181/08 APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

Cheque payments were authorised and signed in accordance with the schedule prepared by the Clerk, checked by Mr Hussell and listed in the Financial Statement Min.182/08.

182/08 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

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| Alliance & Leicester Current Account Balance at 1.11.08 | £ | 17,523.35 |
| Nationwide Building Society Capital Fund | £ | 47,104.29 |
| Nationwide Building Society Gratuity Fund | £ | 14,084.71 |

The following cheques were authorised totalling **£ 8,201.42**

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| Royal British Legion | Donation and remembrance wreath | 100.00* |
| R Wooderson | Cleaning: Newton Voss and steps | 73.75 |
| J Allen | Cleaning: Noss Voss/Pope's Quay | 41.75 |
| J Eschbaecher | Net salary and backdated salary increase | 1,408.30 |
| J Eschbaecher | Expenses: stationery, postage and mileage to Ivybridge | 33.03 |
| Audit Commission | External Audit fee 2007/08 Accounts | 470.00 |
| Garden Services | Grass cutting: The Green and various maintenance | 211.00 |
| Protree Limited | Broken Way – tree maintenance | 2,350.00 |
| B Hockaday | Popes Quay – maintenance work | 2,410.00 |
| J Young | Harvest Festival expenses | 16.24* |
| WIC Hall | Hire for meetings on 9 th October & 11 th December | 30.00 |
| South Hams District Council | Collaton link path – planning application fee | 167.59 |
| Samaritans | Donation | 100.00* |
| South Hams CAB | Donation | 50.00 |
| <i>Network payments:-</i> | | |
| J Thorne | Part honorarium in lieu of hours worked | 171.00 |
| TTS Group (S Bradford) | Active Tots equipment | 137.51 |
| Devon County Council | Active Tots: hire of school for 2 extra sessions | 20.00 |
| Dynamic Adventures | Awards for All: Teenage Adventure Day – activities provision | 411.25 |

*s.137 payments: £216.24 Total to date: £2,958.74
