

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEWTON & NOSS PARISH COUNCIL

Held on 8 July 2010

PRESENT Mr. Cooper Mrs. Hinchliffe Mr. Stitson Mr. Taylor Mr. Buckland
(Vice Chairman)
Mr. Matthews Mr.Tubb Cllr Cooper

ALSO Mrs. McDonough
PRESENT (Clerk)
3 parishioners were present for part of the Meeting

OPEN FORUM

Newton Ferrers Primary School- the Chair of Governors, Mr. Paul Mears, thanked the Parish Council for their input in respect of the School Federation proposals. Their Open Forum Meeting had gone ahead. Although questions in writing had been received, nobody had attended the Meeting in person. Consultation had finished at the end of June. The Governors had held a meeting and decided to proceed with the School Federation process with effect from September.

Speeding- a parishioner raised further concerns regarding speeding in the Parish, particularly through the narrow stretches of Stoke road. Drivers did not appear to appreciate the need to take care of pedestrians. Various options were put forward including more signs, speed bumps and a “drawn pavement”. It was agreed to consider the matter further once Cllr Mumford arrived.

Police- apologies had been received from P.C. Batchelor and P.C.S.O. Sid Lawrence who had been conducting the Community Day in the Parish. The following crimes had been reported:

J1/10/564: A Domestic incident Force policy dictated non disclosure of information.

J1/10/604: Between 1830 hours on the 1st July and 0800 hours on the 2nd July a motorcycle was stolen from an address in Newton Ferrers. Enquires were ongoing.

The outcome of the Community Action Day had been good. The vast majority of the community questioned stated that speeding along Parsonage Road was their main concern. They still needed to analyse the full results. PS Teakle would email Plympton Traffic unit to assist them in monitoring the speed, as well as officers from Ivybridge including PC Batchelor and PCSO Sid Lawrence. They had also been liaising closely with the Harbour Master and so far Marine crime was still at its lowest level for a long time.

195/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Reasons for absence were noted from Mr. Young, Mr. Hussell, Mr. Brown and Mr. Carter. In the absence of the Chairman the Meeting was chaired by the Vice Chairman

196/10 PROPOSAL TO VARY THE AGENDA- Pursuant to Standing Order 15, **RESOLVED:** that matters relating to the County Council and Stoke Road highways issues should be considered upon the arrival of Cllr Mumford and Allotments upon the arrival of the representative from the National Trust. (*VOTE: Unanimous*)

197/10 MINUTES – The Minutes of the 10 June Meeting were amended at Min 165.10 to reflect Mrs. Hinchliffe’s name in place of Mr. Matthews and at Minute 176/10 to reflect the Chairman reported rather than Mr. Matthews. The Minutes of the 10 June Meeting were then confirmed and signed as a correct record.

198/10 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED

Members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. The following interests were declared- Mr. Stitson and Mr. Tubb in respect of the Regatta Grant application (members of the Regatta Committee) and Mr. Matthews in the item relating to Twinning (Twinning Committee member).

199/10 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS

199.1 County Councillor’s report –Cllr Mumford had advised that he would be late. (*Min 196/10 refers*).

Highways-

199.2 Stoke Road (*Min 196/10 refers*)

199.3 Disabled Bay request, Court Road- a further request made for a Disabled Parking Bay outside 12 Court Road, Newton Ferrers was considered. The Parish Council Members had sympathy for the applicants’ position but felt unable to support the application. **RESOLVED:** The application for a disabled bay outside 12 Court Road would not be supported. An application for a Disabled Bay to the rear of Holy Cross Church would be supported. (*Vote: Unanimous*).

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Mr .Matthews requested HGV usage of Wright's Lane and Court Road be placed on the Agenda for September.

199.4 Collaton-Butts Park Link –

i) Progress report- Tor Homes had confirmed agreement to Transfer the verge outside 1 Butts Park to the Parish Council by letter 9 June and that they would be instructing their solicitors to prepare the documentation. To date the legal department at Devon County Council had not received the Transfer from Ashfords Solicitors. The Clerk had been advised by Tor Homes that they would contact Ashfords to progress matters.

Members felt strongly that there should be advisory signs by the crossing warning of a pedestrian crossing point. **RESOLVED:** To request DCC Highways Department for advisory pedestrian signs for the Collaton/Butts Park path crossing. *(Vote: Unanimous)*

Cllr. Mumford had been very helpful in securing a £20,000 staged payment from DCCC under the funding agreement subject to there being a suitable undertaking from Tor Homes to allow the path across the verge.

ii) Authorisation of payments - an invoice from E.G. Hingston & Son had been received for the supply and erection of fencing and gates. The invoice was £360.43 more than the original quotation. The quote had not reflected the sums due for materials for pedestrian gates i.e. hanging posts, latch posts and hanging kits. The Vice Chairman reported that the latches on the gates required adjusting as they were not locking properly. The **Vice Chairman** would speak to the contractor about this.

RESOLVED: To authorise payment of the invoice from E.G. Hingston & Son dated 6 July 2010 in the sum of £5972.23. *(Vote: Unanimous)*

iii) SDCLAG- amendments to the funding contract proposed by SDCLAG were considered. Mr. Matthews and the Clerk had met to discuss the amendments. It was agreed that whilst, technically, the Members could refuse to accept amendments to a contract which had already been entered into, in practise the amendments did not affect the Parish Council. SDCLAG had already confirmed that the Parish Council had satisfied the procurement process. **RESOLVED:** To authorise the Chairman to sign the letter from SDCLAG dated 14 June 2010 confirming that the Parish Council had read and understood the amendments to the funding contract. *(Vote; Unanimous)*

199.4 District Councillor's Report- Cllr Cooper advised that Tor Homes were due to meet with the landowner the following day to progress the affordable housing project for the village. It was hoped that the project would be proceeding by the end of the month.

Midas Homes had put in an objection to the SHDC Development Plan Documents.

199.5 Noss Play Park-

i) Progress report – it was hoped the Contractor would be starting the drainage work shortly.

ii) Play Park Working Group- Mrs Hinchliffe gave a report of the progress made following meetings of the Play Park working group on 15 and 29 June 2010. It was hoped that the first phase of an application for funding through Groundwork: Community Spaces would be submitted shortly. The Newton & Noss Network as a Community Body had offered to assist. Consideration would need to be given as to whether the Network or the Parish Council would be best to serve as the "accountable body" in view of the potential to reclaim VAT. Two recommended Landscape Architects would be coming out to talk to the group on a preliminary basis. There had been great enthusiasm for a Community Orchard following conversations with representatives from Brookings Down Wood.

200/10 PLANNING –current applications received would be considered at the Meeting on 22 July.

201/10. ADMINISTRATION

STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL STANDING ORDERS- the review of both sets of Standing Orders was progressing. **AGENDA SEPTEMBER**

202/10 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED The main items received concern:-

202.1 Memory Cafes- a request from Brixton Parish Council to attend a meeting of the Newton & Noss Parish Council to discuss entering into a pilot scheme to set up Memory Cafes/Support Group to support people with dementia and their carers was discussed. It was agreed the **Clerk** would invite members of Brixton Parish Council to a Meeting from September onwards.

202.2 Newton & Noss W.I. - a suggestion made by the W.I. for them to donate and plant bulbs on the Green together with possible seat replacement to mark their 90th Birthday was considered.

RESOLVED: To support. *(Vote: Unanimous)*

.3“Empowering Communities in Devon- A Local Perspective”-no Members were available to attend.

202.4 Ivybridge and District Association of Parish Councils-the **Vice Chairman** agreed to attend the AGM and Ordinary Meeting on 21 July.

203/10 ALLOTMENTS-

203.1 Allotment Group- Mr. Simon Garner, National Trust Ranger, attended the Meeting. He advised that, unfortunately, there was no suitable National Trust Land to accommodate Allotments. The

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National Trust had however assisted Wembury to set up Allotments and Mr. Garner confirmed that he would be happy to give advice based upon this experience.

Mr Taylor arrived at 8pm

Mr. Garner further advised that the National Trust could provide advice and assistance with respect to play trails.

The Clerk reported that the working group now comprise Mr Nigel Garland, Ms. Arlene Boehm, Cllr.Cooper, Mr. Brown and the Clerk. One member of the working group had made alternative arrangements. Contact had been made with parishioners who had previously expressed an interest in holding an allotment to see whether someone could step in to the working group to assist. There had been no response to date. Ms. Boehm had prepared draft documents for the budding Allotment Association, Mr. Garland having prepared a draft layout. Both had gone to some effort to do so.

There had been no response to the request for land from the article in the Parish Magazine. This appeared to leave the potential option of asking SHDC for use of their land by Noss Play Park or part of Butts Park Playing Field.

203.2 Community Orchard - the offer of potential assistance from South Devon AONB for a Community Orchard Project was considered. Mr. Stitson and Mrs. Hinchliffe had both spoken to members of the Brookings Down Wood Committee. The idea had been greeted with enthusiasm. It was suggested that a sub group of interested parishioners get together to push the idea forward in coordination with the plans for the Play Park. Mr Stitson would speak further with representatives from Brookings Down Wood. **Agenda September**

204/10 COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT

204.1 Cllr Mumford was thanked for his help in securing a staged payment from DCC with regard to the Collaton/Butts Park Project.

204.2 Budget changes- Cllr Mumford referred to the impact of budget changes.3.5 million was to be taken out of schools' budget with immediate effect. The Government's intentions following the spending review, the demise of the Regional Development Agency and its replacement, what localism would mean and how it would influence policy would be key issues and needed clarification.

204.3 Primary School- Cllr. Mumford had secured funding for the Young Enterprise Scheme which the Primary School had embraced. He hoped the scheme would continue subject to funding.

204.4 Highways

i) **Pedestrian safety and speeding-**the concerns raised by a parishioner in open forum regarding speeding and pedestrian safety in the village were raised. Cllr. Mumford felt further signs would make little difference. A virtual path had been looked at two years ago but there was insufficient space on the "narrows" of Stoke Road. Speed bumps in Ermington had had an adverse effect elsewhere. Cllr. Mumford felt speed checks to be the best option. Community Speedwatch had been outlined in a Parish Magazine article but there was not thought to have been any response. There would need to be sufficient committed people interested to take the scheme forward. It was agreed the **Clerk** would make contact with P.C. Batchelor for further information which would then be passed on to the concerned parishioner.

ii) **Collaton/Butts Park link-** Cllr Mumford confirmed that he would raise the request for advisory signs for the pedestrian crossing with the Highways Department.

205/10 FOOTPATHS AND SEATS

205.1 Footpath Inspection- some forms were passed to Mr. Taylor from the annual inspection. It was agreed that the rest of the forms would be passed in at the next Meeting. Mrs. Hinchliffe advised that a stile was broken on the coast path near the Old Tea House.

205.2 Asset Inspection – no further forms were passed in.

205.3 Footpath Booklets- Mrs. Hinchliffe advised that the arrangements for the sale of the booklets produced by the Parish Council had been raised during the audit. The booklets were sold by Tubbs the Chemist and the Post Office. Last year the printing costs had been paid for by the Parish Council and then reimbursed by Tubbs the Chemist. **RESOLVED:** Future arrangements for the printing and sale of the Footpath Booklets would be made independently of the Parish Council (*Vote: 7 in favour, 1 abstention*).

A vote of thanks was given to Mr Tubb for his assistance.

205.4 Donkey Path- it was agreed to take no further action to secure a handrail on the lower section of the path given the response of the landowner.

205.5 Public seats- work on the public seats had not yet been completed.

206/10 MAINTENANCE

206.1 Malthouse, Doctors Steps, Broken Way (Pumping Station), Big Slip Quay – two invitations to quote had been made, with one being received totalling £233. RESOLVED: To authorise Garden Services to carry out the maintenance work at the Malthouse, Doctors Steps, Broken Way (Pumping Station) and Big Slip Quay.

206.2 Bridgend— it was agreed no action would be taken in respect of tidying the riverside wall areas from the slipway by Crispin's to the Malthouse at present.

206.3 South West Water – Members were made aware of further concerns expressed by parishioners following the pump failure at the Pumping Station, Pillory Hill on 14/15 June 2010. It was agreed **Mr. Buckland** would prepare a letter to be sent to SWW on behalf of the Parish Council enquiring whether there was any Telemetry Monitoring of the Pumping Station in operation and seeking an undertaking that the Parish Clerk will be put on notice if there were any further failures of the pumping station.

206.4 Trees – The Parish Council considered four quotations received from arboricultural consultant/decay analysis specialists to prepare an updated report in respect of the trees at The Green, Newton Ferrers. The quotes varied from £190 - £464.13. RESOLVED: To accept the quotation from Mike Woolley in the sum of £220 plus VAT in the interest of preserving continuity (Mr Woolley having prepared previous reports in respect of the same trees). The **Clerk** would ask the consultant for advice about the tree roots passing under the footpath outside the WIC Hall.

206.5 Other areas for consideration- no other areas were raised.

207/10. TWINNING- a report of the Twinning Ceremony in Trebeurden was given by Mr. Matthews. RESOLVED: The two framed copies of the Twinning Agreement would be passed to the WIC Hall and Newton & Noss Village Hall to be displayed. (*Vote: Unanimous*)

The bill for the Parish Map, its framing and the Devon Flag had amounted to £176.75 being £26.75 over the payment authorised by the Parish Council. RESOLVED: To increase the payment authorised to be made in respect to the framed Parish Map and Devon Flag for presentation at the Twinning Ceremony to £176.75.

A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Matthews for all his work undertaken on behalf of the Parish.

208/10 U3A ENVIRONMENT GROUP- the group had made a request for the Parish Council to be the responsible financial body in respect of funding arrangements with SDCLAG for renewable energy feasibility surveys of community buildings. Application forms and collation of any outstanding monies from the Community Buildings in respect of the difference between the funding and project costs would be the responsibility of the U3A. RESOLVED: The Parish Council would act as the accountable body in respect of the U3A Environment Group's Renewable Energy Feasibility Study Surveys of Community Buildings. (*Vote: Unanimous*)

209/10. GRANT REQUESTS-

Newton & Noss Regatta- RESOLVED: to make a payment of £50 to the River Yealm Regatta Committee in respect of financial assistance towards the Regatta Fireworks Display. (*Vote: 6 for, 2 abstentions*)

210/10. MEETINGS ATTENDED: Brief reports were made in respect of the following:-

210.1 Harbour Authority- Mr. Matthews reported that there were less people around this season.

210.2 Halls- there were no reports.

210.3 Primary School-the Primary School had been advised that there were to be 100 compulsory redundancies to be found from the Children and Young Peoples' Services. The Schools Technology Grant for this year had been cut by 50%. The School had been advised that if monies had already been spent then the monies would be recovered from revenue. 100% of Key Stage 2 had achieved Level 4 and above in the SATS results. A Jazz Concert had been held at the weekend with a childrens' workshop beforehand. Two pupils had gone up to play Hockey with Year 7 at Ivybridge. Money raised from the Open Day and art exhibition would be used for to pay for the Theatre trip to see Alice in Wonderland. School Federation was to proceed.

211/10. 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 Minute 212/10

4/8 July 10.....Chairman

212/10 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Alliance & Leicester Current Account :

Total balance at 1.07.10

£32,525.34

The Gratuity Fund is held within the Current Account:

£16,396.07

The balance includes receipt of a Hedge Cutting Bond of £3000 from Devon County Council

The following cheques were authorised totalling:

£

7,259.37

CHEQUES DRAWN 8 JULY 2010

Chq No	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
1165	WIC Hall	Hire NNPC Meeting 8 July	£20.00
1166	WIC Hall	Hire NNPC Meeting 22 July	£20.00
1167	J Allen	Cleaning:Noss Voss & Popes Quay June 10	£44.80
1168	S McDonough	Net salary- June	£939.83
1169	Garden Services	Grass cutting;The Green May10	£32.00
1170	R Wooderson	Cleaning:Newton Voss & steps June 10	£79.00
1171	Ricoh Capital Ltd	Photocopier lease 29/7/10-28/10/10	£145.31
172	S McDonough	Reimbursement of postage expenses	£6.20
173	EG Hingston & Son	Fencing and gates:Collaton/Butts Park Link	£5,972.23
		Total	£7,259.37

The Meeting closed at 8.55pm

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