

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF NEWTON & NOSS PARISH COUNCIL

Held on 9 June 2011

PRESENT Cllr Cooper Mr. Cooper Mr. Hussell Mr. Carter Mr. Gough

Mr. Taylor Mr. Matthews Mr. Tubb

ALSO

PRESENT

Mrs. McDonough
(Clerk)

31 parishioners were present for part of the Meeting

OPEN FORUM

Point Bungalow-five representatives from Robert Seymour & Associates, the architects responsible for the plans for Point Bungalow, gave a presentation on the proposed development following a request by Mr. Dean Kinsella SHDC Development Control Officer. A full set of plans were available to view, together with being available on the Planning Portal. Questions were raised and responded to regarding height, roof finish, size, decking, glazing, access and the impact on the Conservation area. Cllr. Cooper advised that the application had gone to the SHDC Planning Committee.

Newton Voss- a parishioner raised concern regarding the frequency and quality of the work being undertaken by the firm responsible for cleaning the Voss. Whilst an extra clean in May had been undertaken, the Clerk would raise the concerns with the contractor.

Planning- a parishioner raised objections in respect of the planning application for 17 Yealm Road, in particular the increase in height of the garage and pitched roof would lead to loss of light.

Former Chairman- a letter of thanks was read out from Mr. John Young for the gifts presented following his retirement from the Parish Council.

Police Matters- PC Robert Batchelor had sent apologies.

Jl/11/370: 21st - 22nd May 2011 a boat had its outboard engine stolen whilst moored on the river.

Jl/11/383: 16th - 22nd May 2011 a boat had its outboard engine stolen. The boat was on land at the time.

Jl/11/397: 6th - 27th May 2011 a boat had some weights stolen used for anchoring nets.

Jl/11/405: 21st May - 28th May 2011 an outboard engine was stolen from a boat moored on the river.

Jl/11/419: 29th May - 30th May 2011 a boat was damaged.

Jl/11/420: 29th May 2011 - 30th May 2011 a boat had its outboard engine stolen whilst moored on the river.

Jl/11/430: 4th - 6th June 2011 a boat trailer was stolen.

Enquires were on-going. There had been a rise in Marine Crime especially over the weekend of the 21st May - 23rd May. Police were patrolling the area especially at night to try to catch / deter the criminals responsible. Parishioners were asked to call the police immediately on 999 if they saw or heard anything suspicious or they believed a crime was taking place. Boat owners were asked where possible to remove outboard engines or try to secure the engines in such a way that made it very difficult for thieves. This could help the Police to deter the criminals.

154/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – apologies for absence were noted from Cllr. William Mumford.

155/11 MINUTES –The Minutes of the 12 May Meeting were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

156/11 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED - Members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. Mr. Hussell declared an interest in matters relating to the Yealm Yacht Club by virtue of being a member. Mr. Matthews referred to the fact that all Members of the Parish council were Members of the Yealm Yacht Club, some being previous/current officers of the Club.

157/11 PROPOSAL TO VARY THE AGENDA –

RESOLVED: that items relating to consideration of quotations for hand rails for the Donkey Path should be considered in Committee. (*Vote: Unanimous*)

RESOLVED: that items relating to consideration of quotations for spring maintenance should be considered in Committee. (*Vote: Unanimous*)

158/11. COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS

158.1 County Councillor's Report- Cllr Mumford had sent a written report;

i) **Council reorganisation**-Good progress was being made with the reorganisation of the Council into the two key streams of activity People & Place.

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ii) **Rural Broadband**-Devon County Council had won the bid for Rural Broadband. Full details were to be found at www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk. Devon had been placed at the very front of the queue to deliver this vital piece of infrastructure.

iii) **Highways**- Cllr. Mumford would shortly be meeting with the new Highways team for the area and would be flagging up the backlog of concerns as well as the requests for grit bins.

158.2 Winter Highways-

i) **Grit Bin**- DCC Highways Department had confirmed that a grit bin for Hillhead had been requested but not ordered. It was agreed that the top end of the corner by the Old Slaughterhouse would be an appropriate site but that debris would need to be removed. Mr. John Allen offered to speak with the resident to obtain her views.

ii) **Salt Spreader**- it was agreed that it was not necessary to investigate the purchase of a salt spreader for the Parish nor the Snow Warden Initiative Scheme.

158.3 Highways- following a report made to DCC regarding ice difficulties caused by a spring at Clannicombe in the winter, the Highways Department had advised that drainage money would only be spent on higher classification of roads. Only existing problems on unclassified roads would be dealt with. There was now one DCC Lengthsman covering the whole of the South Hams.

158.4 Collaton-Butts Park Link – Mr. Cooper confirmed that he would press the contractor for an estimate for further latches and infill. The transfer of the verge outside 1 Butts Park was still to be completed. Tor Homes had now stated that they wished to inspect the condition of the boundary wall-having advised that they would do this in April 2009. Mr. Cooper expressed concern the diluted effect of the path opening and publicity caused by the delays. It was agreed that the kerb for the path outside 1 Butts Park should be raised to prevent cars parking and blocking the path.

158.5 District Councillor's Report-there was no report.

158.6 SHDC Asset Transfer- the response from Tor Homes confirming their refusal to transfer Dillon's car park was noted. Tor Homes had confirmed that they had not raised any objections to non residents using the car park and saw no reason why this should not continue provided the community use the car park in a considerate manner. The working group agreed to meet the following Monday to begin investigating the proposed transfer of SHDC land assets in detail.

158.7 Village Housing Initiative- further details received for the hedge banks were considered. It was suggested that the hedge banks should be raised to 1.8-2.0m high. **Cllr Cooper** agreed to raise this. The plans were not expected to go to Committee. The letter of objection sent on behalf of the RYDA had saddened some Members of the Parish Council.

158.9 Noss Play Park-

i) **Funding** Mrs. Hinchliffe had advised that the Play Park Improvement Group had successfully passed Stage 2 of the Community Spaces Funding Application. Mr. Alex Wish, SHDC Landscape & Leisure, had suggested concluding the proposed reversion of the lease from SHDC back to the Parish Council as soon as possible, which would make things easier for delivery of the open space works and play space. Mrs. Hinchliffe had advised that the funding bid was on the basis that SHDC own the land.

ii) **Fencing**- Mr. Wish assumed replacement of the fence along the lane side on the play space boundary to be part of the overall improvements that it would be funded from the overall capital for the whole project, using part of the £10k capital from the District. He had suggested that given the hedge was establishing well and the way the ground steeply rises from the play space, there may not be a need to fence it at all. Mrs. Hinchliffe had referred to the requirement to have a fence, SHDC were breaking the covenant to maintain stock proof fencing, and suggested that they should be looking to reinstate/help with funding. The fence had not been removed for the hedge planting-it had fallen down as it was rotten. The fence had not been costed in the plans for the improvements.

158.10 Butts Park Playing Field- no update had been received from SHDC relating to application for designation as a Queen Elizabeth II field and potential funding opportunities. **Cllr Cooper** would speak with Landscape & Leisure Department.

158.11 Allotment Group-Mr. Gough gave a report of the meeting on 6 June. There were approximately 15 people still interested in allotment gardens. The difficulty securing suitable land remained. A suggestion was put forward that in the absence of any other suitable land, that a portion of the Butts Park playing field be allocated to comply with the Parish Council's obligation to provide allotments. Cllr. Cooper advised substantial funding was available for "Grow Your Own" which could provide additional benefits for the playing field area. **Mr. Matthews** confirmed that he would speak with a parishioner who had advised that he may have land available. The Allotment Group were to prepare a letter putting forward their proposals for the Parish Council's consideration.

159/11 PLANNING:

159.1 17 Yealm Road 37/1135/11/F- Resubmission of householder application 37/0168/11/F for extension and alteration to existing dwelling. Mr. Mathews and the Vice Chairman had been on a site visit, seeing it from both the neighbouring property and on the site itself. Mr. Hussell had been on the site visit in respect of the previous application. Mr. Gough had viewed the site from the road. A letter of objection had been received from the owners of a neighbouring property. **DECISION: Objection:**

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1. The applicants had made some effort to resolve the objections, but the issues, with particular reference to loss of light and overshadowing had not been addressed.

2. Loss of view from the War Memorial in an AONB area.

The Parish Council suggested that should the applicants wish to proceed with extending/enlarging their property then

they may wish to consider doing so at the rear. *(Vote: 7 in favour of objecting, 1 abstention)*

159.2 12 Perches Close 37/1273/11/F- Householder application for provision of rear balcony to upper ground floor. DECISION: No Objection: Comment- some members felt unable to comment without a site visit. Insufficient time to do so before deadline. *(Vote: 4 in favour, 4 abstentions)*

159.3 Revelstoke, Noss Mayo 37/1326/11/F- Resubmission of householder application 37/2713/10/F for two storey side extension and detached underground garage. DECISION: No Objection. *(Vote: 7 in favour, 1 abstention)*

159.4 Point Bungalow, Noss Mayo - it was agreed that the Parish Council's position in respect of the planning application remained. Members felt that it was a lovely building but that it was proposed for the wrong place. Whilst the plan for a one storey building was good, Members had concerns about the excessive glazing and the decking. Some Members did not like the mix of stone, timber and glazing in that situation. A letter would be written in these terms to the architects thanking them for coming, Members welcoming the time and effort taken by their firm in order to engage with the local community.

160/11 ADMINISTRATION

160.1 End of Year Accounts- the accounts had been amended to make reference to a dormant savings account which held a nil balance. The Council considered the outcome of the internal audit. There were no matters arising from this year's testing to draw to the attention of the Council

160.2 Bishops Court- it was agreed to undertake a review of the Licence arrangements with Yealm Medical Centre once the service charges had been finalised.

160.3 Standing Orders- it was agreed **Mr. Matthews** would review the revised first edition of NALC Standing Orders for Local Councils and report back to the Council as to whether the Parish Council Standing Orders needed to be updated.

160.4 Councillor Responsibilities- The Vice Chairman had agreed to form part of the working group looking into the potential transfer of SHDC land assets. Mrs. Hinchliffe had clarified that her Co option to the working group for Noss Play Park be for the duration of the Noss plays park project only. Mrs. Hinchliffe preferred not to be Co opted on to the Accounts Inspection working group. RESOLVED- To co opt Mr. John Young on to the Sports Pavilion Working group. *(Vote: Unanimous).*

.5Parish Council Vacancies- the vacancies had been advertised. SHDC Returning Officer had been advised of the Parish Council's proposed course of action to fill the vacancies.

161/11 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED The main items received concern:-

161.1Waste Core Strategy—no response was considered necessary to be made to the public consultation on the Waste Core Strategy Issues and Options Report ([www.devon.gov.uk/wastecorestrategy/issues and options](http://www.devon.gov.uk/wastecorestrategy/issues_and_options)).

161.2 Consultation on Regulations under the Sustainable Communities Act 2007- no response was considered necessary to be made to the consultation.

161.3 Broken Way- correspondence from neighbouring residents regarding maintenance of the area was considered. The Parish Council had resolved to take no further action with respect to the trees at Broken Way/Pumping Station at their Meeting on 10th March 2011. The Parish Council had no plans to update the Management Plan for the area nor to engage a contractor to clear the undergrowth. The Parish Council noted a nearby resident had suggested that he may be prepared to consider undertaking the maintenance of the area outside his own property. It was agreed to write to the residents to advise that the Parish Council were not in a position to authorise them to conduct any maintenance work as they did not own the land. The Parish Council nevertheless had no objection should they wish to proceed with undertaking the work proposed. This would not however include any tree felling.

161.4 Swan Inn- a request to use Pope's Quay for an entertainment event was considered. The Parish Council were prepared to grant their request to hold their proposed Salsa event on Pope's Quay on this occasion conditional on the Parish Council being shown that the Swan Inn had obtained adequate Public Liability Insurance (a minimum limit of £5 million) with the dancers also having a policy to cover their activities. If there were a lot of complaints from parishioners following the event, the Parish Council would not be able to support such events in the future.

161.5 U3A Environment Group- a letter from the U3A dated 26 May 2011 clarifying the difference between the Yealm U3A Environment Group and the Newton & Noss Environment Group was noted. It was agreed a letter of thanks would be sent to Mr Colin Smith for clarifying the position.

.6Memory Cafe-the terms of reference agreed by the Steering Group were noted.

161.7Dog fouling- a letter from a parishioner regarding problems along Riverside Road East and West was considered. It was agreed that a letter would be written expressing regret for the problems

with dog fouling along Riverside Road West. It was understood Mr Malcolm Orchard, from South Hams District Council (Street Scene- Dogs) had visited the parishioner following a report from the Clerk. Whilst the Parish Council appreciated his concerns, they agreed that it would be disproportionate to the problem to support CCTV, to photograph errant dog owners, in a public place. The Clerk had put a note about the dog fouling problem in the Parish Magazine for July.

162/11 FOOTPATHS

162.1 Definitive Map Review-Mr. Taylor advised that further evidence of use for Kennel Lane and Butts Park would be helpful.

162.2 Devon Tithe Map Project and Tithe Apportionment Transcription by volunteers- a number of offers of help had been received following a request for a volunteer from the Parish to transcribe the apportionment details.

162.3 Kiln Quay Slip- access to the foreshore was considered. It was agreed **Mr. Matthews** would make enquiries into ownership of the road/footpath from the entry to the Leas path to the foreshore.

162.4 Footpath Inspection- arrangements for the annual footpath inspection were made, Mr. Taylor requesting completion by 28 July.

162.5 Asset Inspection- it was agreed Members would advise the Clerk which assets they would inspect, with completion by 8 September.

163/11 MAINTENANCE

.1 Revelstoke Railings- the contractor had not made contact despite being pressed for a response.

163.2 Parish Notice boards- Mr. John Young had offered to make wooden signs for the notice boards for the cost of a letter/ number template, universal Sub-Base, Guide Bush and Cutter totalling £66.85. A quote had been received from a sign maker for £273.75. **RESOLVED:** To accept the quotation from Mr. John Young for making wooden signs for the parish notice boards. (*Vote: Unanimous*).

163.3 Routine Spring Maintenance- RESOLVED: to authorise payment of the invoice for maintenance work for the Doctor's Steps and Leas/Cinder Path £135. (*Vote: Unanimous*).

163.4 Public Tap Pillory Hill-Mr. Taylor confirmed the tap was now working. The invoice for emergency repairs to the tap had not been received.

163.5 Newton Voss- It was agreed to ask the contractor to review the condition of the Voss on a weekly basis. **RESOLVED:** to authorise payment for the additional clean in May. (*Vote: unanimous*)

163.6 Other areas for consideration: Collaton/Butts Park Link- a parishioner had noted that the Chicory had been cut back from the verges. The Council was advised that DCC had been advised about the Chicory and its designation as a Special Verge. It was agreed to obtain quotations for trimming back the overgrown hedges on the section running behind the Devon Bank by Collaton- the **Chairman** and **Vice Chairman** would speak with local contractors.

164/11 GRANT REQUESTS

.1 Ivybridge & District Community Transport Association- It was agreed the Clerk would ask for confirmation as to whether residents from the Parish used the service.

.2 Yealm Yacht Club- a request for financial assistance of £2000 for repairs to the Club quay was considered. Account was taken of the support given to local children both as Cadets and for Community sailing. **RESOLVED:** To agree, in principle, to making a contribution of £500 to the Yealm Yacht Club quay fund conditional on the project proceeding and upon being presented with an invoice on completion. (*Vote: 5 in favour, 1 against, 2 abstentions*).

165/11. MEETINGS ATTENDED: To receive brief reports regarding the following:-

.1 Harbour Authority- Mr. Carter reported that the Harbour Master would be leaving at the end of the month. Four outboards had been stolen from boats on the river.

165.2 Halls – the Vice Chairman advised that quotes were being sought for the refurbishment of the WIC Hall.

166/11 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS — Cheque payments were authorised and signed in accordance with the schedule prepared by the Clerk, checked by Mr. Gough and listed in Minute 167/11.

167/11 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Alliance & Leicester Current Account : Total balance at 1.6.11
£71575.18

**The balance includes: Hedge Cutting Bond
£3000**

**Grant monies held for Play Park Improvement
£17015**

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Half year Precept

£19622.50

The following cheques were authorised totalling:
£2635.80

Chq No	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
1315	Newton & Noss Village Hall Hire	NNPC Meeting 9 June2011	£20.00
1316	Newton & Noss Village Hall Hire	NNPC Meeting 23 June 2011	£20.00
1317	J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss & Popes Quay May 11	£47.00
1318	M. Hingston	Cleaning: Newton Voss & steps May2011	£124.00
1319	S. McDonough	Net salary-May Clerk; Quarterly Income Tax and National	£965.02
1320	HM Revenue & Customs	Insurance	£717.27
1321	K. Abraham	Independent Internal Audit Service 2010-2011	£190.00
1322	S. McDonough	Expenses: Travel, postage, stationery	£57.01
1323	D. Goodchild	Grass cutting: the Green 4 & 18 May	£32.00
1324	Access Technology	Website maintenance Sept10-Feb 2011	£216.00
1325	M. Hingston	Spring maintenance; Doctor's Steps/Leas Path	£135.00
1326	S. Cooper	Balance of Chairman's Allowance 2011	£112.50
		Total	£2,635.80

**Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 payments: Nil. Total to date:
£150*

In Committee

167/11 HANDRAILS- it was agreed to consider the matter at the first Meeting in July.

168/11.ROUTINE SPRING MAINTENANCE- three quotations for the annual tidying of Big Slip Quay, Noss Hard, Kilpatrick's Steps and the area around the public bench at the Malhouses were considered. RESOLVED: To accept the quotation from M & S Garden Services in the sum of £185.
(Vote: Unanimous)

Mr. Carter agreed to inspect the work on completion.

The Meeting closed at 10.10 pm

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