

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

Held on 28 April 2016

**PRESENT MRS.ANSELL MR. COOPER CLLR.GREEN MR. HUSSELL MR. CARTER
MS. ADAMS MR.PARRY-SMITH MS. LONGWORTH**

ALSO PRESENT; 1 parishioner, Mrs McDonough (Clerk).

OPEN FORUM

Superfast Broadband-a talk was given by Mr. Matt Barrow Stakeholder Engagement Officer, Connecting Devon & Somerset.

Overview:

Connecting Devon & Somerset (CDS) was a partnership which was seeking to bring Superfast broadband to those parts of Devon & Somerset which otherwise would not justify the investment on a commercial basis. Superfast broadband (SFB) was defined for the purposes of the scheme as 24 Mb/s or more-potentially 30Mbps from next year.

Apart from the desire to ensure a reliable high-speed connection across the 2 counties, EU State Aid regulations required delivery of Next Generation Access that provided a step change in connection speeds. County Councils / District Councils / Unitary Authorities / BDUK were all involved.

3 Stages

Stage 1 – 90% Superfast – by end of 2016

Stage 2 – 95% Superfast – by end of 2017

Stage 3 – 100% Superfast – by 2020

Phase 1:

90% of premises covered by Superfast broadband – CDS and commercial rollout. Overall % figures related to CDS & commercial activities. 100% coverage of at least 2Mbps broadband for all premises in the CDS area to be completed by end of December 2016. This involved 318,000+ premises – 26,000 of which were businesses at a cost of £94m (Government £32m; Local Authorities £21m; and, B.T. £41m.)

Mr. Barrow presented a coverage map showing current, announced and indicative deployments and a map showing the CDS area as at March 2016. Theoretically, there was supposed to be coverage for premises up to 1.2km from a fibre enabled cabinet. Between 1.2- 2 km some improvement should be seen. Beyond 2km there could be no coverage. It was accepted that the maps shown during the presentation may not accurately reflect coverage.

Stage 1:

Stage 1 was the largest programme of its kind in England – and possibly Europe.400,000 kilometres of optical fibre was to be laid with 1,500 structures/cabinets to be built covering over 318,000 premises. Projections suggested that to achieve just Stage 1 of the programme would require over 3 Million engineer hours. The programme was attempting to achieve in 5 years what previously took between 50 & 70 years.

Approach and technology

ADSL Broadband- copper from exchange to the premises

Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC)-the fibre connection went to a powered cabinet in the street. The final connection to the premises was on copper.

Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) - the fibre went all the way from the main network to the premises with up to 300 Mbps. This was not applicable to the parish. It was between 10-30 times more expensive and not within the fixed budget.

Current status for Phase 1 as of end of March 2016- 1187 Cabinets were live and accepting orders. There were 280,000 premises connected to live cabinets and 230,000 capable of accessing Superfast.16, 000 businesses had access. Over 82% of Phase 1 was complete.

Phase 2.

The Superfast Extension Programme (SEP) was designed to take total regional SFB availability from 90% to 95%.

There were 2 parallel tender processes which concluded at the end of June-the main tender through BDUK Framework had been unsuccessful and it would now go out through open procurement. Separate arrangements had been made for Exmoor & Dartmoor with a resulting successful bid.

Mr. Barrow presented a map showing published coverage for Parish. He believed the map was wrong. There were in fact three cabinets in the Parish. Phase 1 was a model run by the BT Chief Engineer. The model was designed to give maximum coverage within the budget. The cabinet by the telephone exchange in Newton Ferrers had been done. The cabinet at Wrights Lane was out of programme which resulted in the west side of Newton Ferrers being out of programme. The third cabinet on Stoke Road was not in programme. On CDS information there were 1353 premises in the parish. It was thought 789 lines were connected to one cabinet out of which 566 were capable of getting SFB. He suggested there may have been an error in reporting what had been achieved/ what was intended to be achieved. He advised that he had a call scheduled to speak with the BT project manager for an explanation.

He advised he had received calls from people who were well within 1.2km coverage of an enabled cabinet but were unable to get SFB. Sometimes houses were built and, due to over capacity of the closest cabinet, a line had to be run to a cabinet further away.

Options:

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If premises were not to be connected under Phase 1 then there were further options;

- Phase 2
- Broadband Voucher Scheme-if under 2 Mb/s, £500 was available to buy/install satellite/wireless to bring speeds up to at least 10Mb/s. There were approved providers on the CDS website. This would have no impact on implementation of Phase 2. There was a separate voucher scheme for commercial premises.
- Gain-share- take up had exceeded the 20% requirement for BT to pay some money back to the Local Authority. It had not been decided which areas would be prioritised. Split communities such as Newton & Noss would be a factor.
- Ultrafast- unlikely to apply.
- Phase 3- to result in 100% coverage.

Future action:

- This involved completing Stage1 and the delivery of Connecting Dartmoor & Exmoor phase. They would procure supplier(s) for main Superfast Extension Programme – extending superfast broadband to at least 95% by 2017 for those outside National Parks and examine options for remaining 5% required to achieve 100% superfast by 2020.

Getting Superfast Broadband:

All live cabinets now tweeted via CDS twitter: @dccscbroadband. He suggested people check if superfast broadband was available by contacting their internet service provider and to shop around for the best package - typically prices were around £15 per month. Details for Airband subscription would be out soon

Mr Jeremy Brown, parishioner, suggested there was lack of coverage at Butts Park and Membland. Stoke Road was 1.45 km from the exchange by BT measurement but was mostly up to 7Mb/s. It was suggested parishioners may wish to advise the Clerk of their speed/coverage availability who in turn could advise Mr. Brown. Mr. Brown would be seeing Mr Gary Streeter M.P. regarding some technical issues. Mr. Brown was thanked for all his hard work.

Newton Ferrers and Noss Mayo Police Report March 2016

Newton Ferrers

Between 12th and 26th burglary non- dwelling. Two outboard engines had been stolen from a boathouse CR/020115/16.

Between 13th and 17th burglary non- dwelling. A derelict building had been broken into CR/017275/16.

Between 21st and 25th burglary non- dwelling. Two outboard engines had been stolen from a boathouse CR/020195/16

Noss Mayo

Between 15th and 17th- a theft of an outboard from boat CR/017263/16.

18th - a theft of mobile phone CR/018900/16.

100/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE- there were apologies from Cllr. Blackler, Cllr. Baldry and Mr. Lyndon.

101/16 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 the planning application relating to 7 Court Road by virtue of owning a property opposite.

102/16 DISPENSATION REQUESTS- none.

103/16 MINUTES- the Minutes of the 24 March and 14 April Parish Council Meetings were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

104/16 VARIATION OF AGENDA – RESOLVED: matters relating to quotes for annual maintenance would be considered in Committee. (*Vote; Unanimous.*)

105/16 DISTRICT COUNCIL

Councillors Baldry and Blackler had sent apologies.

106/16 PLANNING

Planning decisions

106.1 The Bower Parsonage Road 3096/15/FUL-application for demolition of existing non-traditional construction dwelling and replacement with 1.5 storey, 3 bedroom dwelling and detached garage. SHDC; Granted.

106.2 The Green 0411/16/TPO- T0770 or (TPO 713) Beech- dismantle in sections to near ground level, stump grind and re-plant. SHDC; Granted.

106.3 Hill Crest, Beacon Hill 0493/16/HHO-Householder application for construction of garden room and kitchenette. SHDC: Granted.

106.4 Parsonage Farm, Parsonage Road 0158/16/LBC- Listed Building consent for replacement windows and internal repairs and alterations. SHDC: Granted.

106.5 80 Court Road 0304/16/HHO- householder application for alterations and extensions to dwelling. SHDC: Granted.

106.7 Rose Cottage, Riverside Road West APP/K1128/D/16/3142688 -householder application for new parking space to side of property. Planning Inspectorate: Appeal allowed.

Planning applications received;

106.8 7 Court Road 1110/16/HHO - householder application for a proposed rear dormer window extension. Mr. Hussell took no part in the debate or vote. DECISION: No objection. (*Vote; Unanimous.*)

106.9 Newton & Noss Neighbourhood Plan.

i) The Housing Needs Survey -came to a conclusion on 30 April. There had been, to date, a 32% return- higher than expected. There had been difficulties with the bid to Locality to fund the Housing Needs Survey. Bids for projects that had either already started or which had been completed, were inadmissible. The application form - which had only received from Locality on Wednesday 13 April stated that they would not accept any bid for a project that started before 30th April. The bid process opened on 19 April for the financial year 16/17. The bids closed for financial year 15/16 on 1st February 2016. A complaint had been made to Locality at this limitation who admitted that a number of other Neighbourhood Plan groups who similarly wanted to press on with their projects had similarly complained. Locality had sought clarification from central Government and the rules would not be relaxed for budgeting reasons. As the contract for Devon Communities Together had been entered into and work already started, the Newton & Noss Neighbourhood Plan would be ineligible to bid for Locality funds for the Housing Needs Survey. This would now need to be funded by the Parish Council, Revelstoke Community Trust and the RYDA. RESOLVED: Newton & Noss Parish Council would settle the invoice from Devon Communities Together for the Newton & Noss Housing Survey, the RYDA and the Revelstoke Trust then being invoiced for reimbursement of their one third share net of VAT element which would be reclaimed by the Parish Council. (*Vote; Unanimous.*)

ii) Co-ordinator-a person had given an indication of being willing to act as co-ordinator for the Neighbourhood Plan but wished to be paid. In order to do so she would need to meet Locality's funding requirements as to being suitably qualified.

iii) Steering Group-there was to be a further meeting in May.It was suggested the housing element of the NP should be a priority, with the environment and health groups continuing in tandem.

iv) SHDC- had advised that South Hams, West Devon and Plymouth Councils had agreed to work on a Joint Local Plan, believing it to be the most efficient and effective way to set out a robust evidence base and a spatial strategy covering the three local authority areas. It would set out the relationship between the city and the surrounding rural areas. Both the evidence base and the development strategy would relate to the whole of the plan area as distinct from the individual local authority areas. Depending upon what form the development strategy took, the plan would still identify housing and employment numbers and policies for some/all of the towns and villages in the parish area. The aim was for engagement with local communities during the summer and submission of the Joint Local Plan for Examination in the winter. This would be an opportunity for Neighbourhood Planning groups to be involved in shaping those parts of the development strategy which would have the most relevance to their plans. The engagement would be an opportunity for the Parish to feed its evidence, policy aspirations and development ambitions into the consultation and creation of the Joint Local Plan. It was also an opportunity to align the Joint Local Plan with the Neighbourhood Planning process and provide the Parish with a clear focus.

SHDC now had dedicated officers who could support Parish work on Neighbourhood Plans- Sarah Packham would be providing administrative support to the process and Alan Storah would be providing additional specialist support in the short term. The existing link officers would continue to provide support but they would need to focus on Joint Local Plan work.

SHDC would be updating the details, resource library and information links on the website and the Neighbourhood Plan Protocol which set out their offer of support to parishes. It was recommended that the Parish be aware of the emerging information and suggested regularly scanning of the the Planning Aid and Locality websites. New guidance had been issued by government in February specifically aimed at Neighbourhood Plan groups. SHDC had offered a workshop at Follaton House Thursday 26th May. 7.00 – 9.00.

To try and take stock of parishes varying requirements Alan Storah would be in contact weeks to go through a questionnaire to check on progress and pinpoint specific requirements for advice or support.

There had been an incident regarding the misuse of Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping. Parishes were reminded to obtain the correct licence (if required) and proper permission before using OS mapping data.

106.10CPRE- had requested organisation members send a letter their local MP, to persuade the Government to rethink their proposed changes to planning that would result in unnecessary loss of countryside. CPRE proposed the Government allow local authorities to set realistic housing targets based on local need, make developers build on the developments for which they already have planning permission before they can have further sites, make building on brownfield land a priority before building on greenfield land, and to have clear commitment to a Green Belt policy that protected the countryside. RESOLVED: To write to Gary Streeter M.P. to support the concerns of the CPRE regarding proposed changes to planning. (*Vote; 6 in favour, 2 abstentions.*)

106.10SHDC Peer review- Cllr. Green had attended the peer reviews which had become heated at times. There had been many complaints regarding the implementation of the changes and the slow Planning Portal which Civica was still looking into.

106.11 Village Housing Initiative- Ms. Longworth was finalising the details for the posters but was keen to have a telephone number for points of contact as well as website addresses.

106.12 59 Yealm Road- it was agreed the Chairman and Mr. Parry Smith should attend the Development Management Committee site visit on Tuesday 3 May. The Chairman would attend the Development Management Committee meeting on 11 May.

107/16 ADMINISTRATION

107.1 End of Year Accounts 2015/2016- the cashbook for year end 31 March 2016 checked by Mr. Carter and Mr. Parry-Smith, the draft annual return (including Statement of Accounts), draft variance explanation, draft reserve schedule and budget comparison had been circulated to Members.

i) RESOLVED: The Council received and approved the accounts for year end 31 March 2016 following the financial year end review by the accounts inspection working group, subject to the internal audit and authorised the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer to sign the same. *(Vote; Unanimous.)*

ii) RESOLVED: The Council received and approved the Statement of Accounts within the Annual Return for year ended March 2016 and authorised the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer to sign the same for submission to the Auditors by 27 May 2016. *(Vote; Unanimous.)*

iii) RESOLVED: To authorise the Responsible Financial Officer and the Chairman to make any recommended amendments to the accounts or section 2 of the Annual Return (Accounting Statement) for year end March 2016 if necessary following the internal audit. *(Vote; Unanimous.)*

iv) RESOLVED: To approve draft variance explanation and draft reserve schedule for year end March 2016. *(Vote; Unanimous.)*

107.2 Pension auto enrolment-DFP Wealth Management had set-up the Pension Scheme with the Peoples Pension. They would continue to work with the Parish Council towards the staging date. The Clerk had confirmed acceptance of the scheme and bound the Parish Council to the terms of the contract. It was agreed to authorise payment of the invoice from DFP Wealth Management (Positive Solutions Financial Services Ltd) for the pension set-up. PBS Accounting Services (Mrs. Michele Hunter) had been set up as the primary point of contact with the People's Pension with regards to scheme administration. It was agreed to set up a Direct Debit Mandate to discharge the employer set up fee charged by the People's Pension Scheme (B & CE Holdings Ltd) in the sum of £300 plus VAT and for the ongoing contributions to the Scheme.

107.3 Events applications;

i) **Wedding- Noss Green.** Mrs.Uzzell had made application for permission to hold her daughter's wedding reception on Noss Green on 30 July 2016. The application had been received and circulated. It was agreed to delegate responsibility for liaising with Mrs.Uzzell regarding insurance and risk assessment matters, to the Chairman and Mr. Parry-Smith, together with the dates to be invoiced.

ii) **The Big Lunch- 12 June 2016.** It was agreed the Big Lunch would be held on Noss Green as a community event. Arrangements would be delegated to the Chairman together with the preparation of the risk assessments.

107.4 Bishops Court-

i) **Alternative storage-** the Secretary of the Reading Room had advised that there was agreement to let the upstairs room to the Parish Council and proposed a rent of £40 per month subject to any extra costs involved on their insurance. It had been suggested that the Parish Council use lockable filing cabinets but some concern was expressed about ceiling height and logistics. It was agreed to accept the offer in principle but subject to investigations about making the room secure by means of a lockable door (for which the Parish Council would meet the costs of installation.)

ii) **Service charges-** Spectrum Housing Association had slightly reduced the service charges for 2016/2017 to £42.39 pm. It was agreed to keep the current standing Order in place until lease termination and then receive a refund for any overpayment.

108/16. COUNTY COUNCIL

Highways/Transport-

i) **Puslinch-** Cllr Hosking had advised that Highways was aware of the issues affecting the road to the south of Puslinch Bridge but they were not as yet classified as a safety defect (but were becoming more noticeable). The length of the road had been put forward for a potential "jet" patching site which was a process to be trialled and already in use by other authorities.

ii) **Coach Road-** the Chairman had advised that Devon County Council contractors were due to be coming to effect remedial stream clearance the following Saturday.

iii) **Passage Road-** Mr. Carter had reported some issues to Devon County Council.

109/16 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS -Cheque payments were authorised and signed in accordance with the schedule prepared by the Clerk, checked by Mr. Hussell and listed in Minute 110/16

110/16 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

The following cheques were authorised totalling:

£1099.68

Chq No PAYEE

AMOUNT

2093 Zurich Management Services Ltd

Local Council Advisory Service Renewal

£114.00

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2094	Ivybridge & District Community Transport Association	Grant-Ring & Ride Voluntary Car Scheme	£150.00
2095	Ricoh UK Ltd	Photocopier lease and copies	£153.68
2096	Positive Solutions Financial Services Ltd	Auto enrolment compliant pension scheme set up	£600.00
2097	M. Hingston	Newton Voss & steps cleaning April	£82.00
		Total	£1,099.68
BACS	Net World Sports	Rugby post protectors	£148.94
DD	B&CE Holdings Ltd	The Peoples Pension set up fee	£360.00

*Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 payments: £0 total to date; £0

111/16 MAINTENANCE

111.2 Footpath inspections- Mr. Hussell would bring the list of footpaths to the next meeting. In the interim members were encouraged to walk the parish/public footpaths and report any problems to the Clerk.

111.3 Maintenance working groups-

i) Sports Pavilion- Mr Lyndon had passed the signed risk assessments to the Clerk that evening. The requested insurance details /risk assessments from the Football and Cricket Clubs were awaited. The Vice Chairman advised that Licences had been drafted for submission to the Clubs. **RESOLVED:** To accept the quotation from Mr. James Baldwin to conduct the electrical inspection and PAT testing in the sum of £100 plus VAT. (*Vote: Unanimous*). Cllr. Green was concerned about the stability of the rugby posts and had asked the suppliers to take a look at the installation. Cllr. Green would prepare a risk assessment for the rugby posts.

ii) The Green/Dillons Green- Ms. Adams confirmed that everything was in order. She had met with Mr. Swift regarding producing an item from the Beech tree to be felled. It was agreed to ask Mr. Swift to liaise with the tree surgeon on a direct basis. It was suggested liaising with the Village Hall committees to see if something could be produced for the halls subject to the wood available.

iii) Play parks- the Vice Chairman advised that the group would be meeting the following week to discuss funding for Butts Park play park improvements and the recent Allianz annual inspection reports. Cllr. Green suggested Newton & Noss Network had discussed the possibility of outdoor exercise equipment for older people in the community.

iv) Noss Recreation Areas- the Chairman advised that the Tennis club were considering the Licence and forming their draft constitution. Curtis Whiteford Crocker solicitors had acknowledged receipt of the letter of complaint. Newton & Noss Community Orchard Group had provided information with respect to potential outdoor furniture for the orchard. The group had been encouraged to liaise with Brookings Down Wood Committee. Some residents, it was understood, were not keen on further planting. The Clerk advised that the group were looking to attract Noss Mayo residents to join the group- particularly those who lived near the Orchard.

111.4 Any other areas for consideration?

i) Annual Maintenance 2015- the Clerk had asked Grounds Maintenance South West for an update on the outstanding work.

ii) Doctors Steps- Mr. Carter had undertaken repairs to the handrail for which he was thanked.

iii) The Brook- Mr. Carter had undertaken some repairs to the benches. He was thanked.

v) Bridgend Horse trough- Mr. Parry Smith expressed concern as to its condition and would take a further look.
In committee

111.5 Annual maintenance 2016— three quotes had been invited and two received. One of the received quotes did not cover all the work requested. **RESOLVED:** To delegate acceptance of the quotations for annual maintenance 2016 to the Chairman and Mr. Carter. (*Vote; Unanimous.*)

RESOLVED: To accept the quotation from Mr. Shane Hockaday to effect refurbishment work to the Admiral Fitzroy Barometer in the sum of £120. (*Vote; Unanimous.*)

The Meeting closed at 8.55pm