

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

**Held on 10 January 2013**

PRESENT Cllr. Cooper Mr. Cooper Mr. Stitson Mr. Carter Mr. Gough Mr. Lydon

Mr. Hussell Mr. Tubb Mr. Barnett Mr. Matthews Mrs. Ansell Mr. Taylor  
ALSO Mrs. McDonough  
PRESENT (Clerk)

5 parishioners were present for part of the Meeting

**OPEN FORUM**

**Police Report**-PCSO Potter made the following report for December.

Newton Ferrers

Jl/12/1195 between 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> an unoccupied property was burgled.

Jl/12/1198- 23<sup>rd</sup> report of assault to Police. Enquiries made resulted in no further action.

Noss Mayo -no reported crime.

PCSO Potter confirmed warning letters had been issued to those drivers who had parked cars on the pavement at Butts Park, by Parsonage Road. Tor Homes would be putting a note in their newsletter.

**Noss Hard**- a parishioner spoke of concerns regarding the stream running past the Village Hall and on to Noss Hard. The stream had filled up with shale and there were concerns of flood risks as a result. It was agreed Mr. Stitson would meet with the parishioner to look into a local working group being formed to take action. Mr. Paul Clark was thanked for his hard work during the recent flooding events.

**1/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**- there were no apologies for absence.

**2/13 MINUTES** –the Minutes of the 13 December Meeting were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**3/13 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED** - Members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. Mr. Tubb and Mr. Hussell declared interests in respect of Briar Hill Farm. The Vice Chairman declared an interest in matters relating to the WIC Hall.

**4/13 DISPENSATION REQUESTS**- none were made.

**5/13 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS**

**5.1 County Councillor's Report**- Cllr. Mumford reported;

**i) Floods**-the July Flood Report had been published before Christmas and circulated. The flooding in July had cost 2.2 million to clear. The November flood event had cost 4.8 million to clear excluding the Grand Western Canal and 3 road bridges in East Devon. The flood event on 23 December was likely to cost double that again. Rain had fallen onto saturated land. Widespread flooding had taken place from brooks and where ground water levels were so high/hydrostatic pressure so great. It had highlighted the need to establish who was responsible for what ( which had changed in 2012).The lead Local Flood Authority was Devon County Council which had overarching responsibility to produce a report and the strategy for remediation in the event of a flood. Devon County Council was also the Highways Authority. The Environment Agency was responsible for primary watercourses. SHDC were the Land Flood Agency responsible for keeping secondary water courses clear and land drainage issues.

If there was an event of a "Biblical" type nature Local Authorities were able to apply for relief from Central Government, with the Local Authority having to pay the first 1.7 million pounds. This became significant when looking at what constituted one event where there were several in succession. Devon County Council was intending to make such a Bellwin Claim. DCC had also applied for part of a national fund of 5 million pounds from Defra available to encourage flood resilient communities. Some additional funding may be coming from Central Government for capital replacement e.g. bridges.

Considerable challenges had been faced where South West Water assets had been inundated and raw sewage had been flooding villages.

**ii) Budget**-it was difficult to compare like for like figures for 2013/2014. DCC's budgeting was on track for the cut of 8 or 9 million pounds. DCC had been given sight of the figures for 2014/2015 which could involve a further 20 million cut. This could be the scale of cuts to be faced until 2017.

**iii) Local maintenance issues**- DCC highways had inspected the flood damage to the wall at Bridgend. Whilst there was cracking on the road surface, the Highways structural Department were confident that there was no imminent risk of slippage. Matters had not been helped by heavy plant using the road. A balance would need to be struck between preventative action and what further natural events may take place including tidal/Seiche factors. Members raised safety concerns regarding cars using the road two abreast in the section by the damaged wall. Railings which had

been put up had been thrown into the river. Suggestions were made to insert drainage holes in the wall when it was rebuilt.

**iv) Bishops Court-**Cllr. Mumford and Cllr. Cooper had visited before Christmas. Concerns regarding the Care Provider and the number of agency staff used had been flagged up with Guinness. A plan of action was in place and a Quality Monitoring visit from the Care Programmes Department was due.

**v) Speed Monitoring/data collection-Butts Park-** Cllr. Mumford would check.

**vi) Blocked Drains-** Cllr. Mumford confirmed that these would be flushed out.

## **5.2 Highways/Transport**

**i) Snow Warden-** Mr. Clark confirmed that the gritter had been delivered, tested and was being stored by Mr. Simon Cawse. The gritting route was to be devised. Mr. Carter had prepared a risk assessment for its use. Mr. Cawse had provided written confirmation of Third Party Insurance coverage to tow a trailer to grit the roads whilst in motion. Written confirmation from Mr. Barnett's insurers was awaited. Devon County Council Highways Department had been consulted about the suggested positioning for new grit bins. Their representative had confirmed that in view of Noss Mayo being removed from the Primary Gritting Route, he would be prepared to recommend support for the provision, filling and maintenance (by DCC) for the majority of the grit bins requested. In respect of the balance of the grit bins requested, the representative would speak with Mr. Clark further.

**ii) Butts Park-** there was no update on speed data collection. PCSO Potter had promised action in respect of parking on pavements. The Clerk would ask for an update from DCC regarding cutting back vegetation to expose the road surface lettering "Slow" on Parsonage Road at the entrance to the village.

## **5.3 District Councillor's Report-**

**i) Public Conveniences-** the Clerk reported concerns from a parishioner regarding the condition and maintenance of the Public Conveniences in Noss. The Chairman advised that SHDC were proposing to close the Public Conveniences in Newton & Noss for six months of the year. **RESOLVED:** To write to SHDC to advise that the Parish Council strongly and vociferously objected to this proposal and wished the Public Conveniences to remain open all year. The elderly population of the Parish was reliant on the Public Conveniences, as were the many walkers and builders who visited the villages all year round. *(Vote: Unanimous)*

**ii) Asset transfer-** Cllr. Cooper advised that she had asked the SHDC legal department to press on with the transfer and had advised them that the transfers were not dependent on any S.106 monies due under the proposed Village Housing Initiative Scheme.

**iii) Butts Park-** Cllr. Cooper had received a request for double yellow lines at Butts Park. A suggestion was made that were the carriageway widened to its proper width by vegetation/hedge trimming, it may encourage people to park on the road properly which in turn could serve to slow down speeding traffic. Cllr. Mumford was asked to make enquiries about the placement of bollards on the pavement. Cllr. Mumford felt that the police should undertake enforcement measures.

**iv) Junket Corner-** Cllr. cooper had been asked for double yellow lines by Junket Corner where people were parking near the hedge.

**5.4 SHDC Asset Transfer/Parish Asset Land Registration-** no update had been received.

**5.5 Village Housing Initiative-** no update had been received.

## **612 PLANNING**

### **Applications received-**

**6.1 WI Community Hall 37/2853/12/F-**full application for extension and replacement of roof covering and cladding of front elevation. **DECISION:** Support. *(Vote: 10 in favour, 2 abstentions)*

**6.2 78 Yealm Road 37/2908/12/F-**householder application for formation of new access steps and disabled sloping platform lift and associated works, including extension to garage lobby at lift top, and extension to bedroom and internal remodelling to form carer accommodation. **DECISION:** No objection. *(Vote: 10 in favour, 2 abstentions)*

**61.3 9 Yealm Road 37/2861/12/F-**householder application to provide a new two storey extension **Support.** *(Vote: 8 in favour, 4 abstentions)*

**6.4 Revised plans- Land at SX552481, Barnicott, Bridgend Hill 37/1999/12/F-**change of use of paddock to tennis court. Application affected the setting of a Listed Building. **DECISION:** No objection. *(Vote: 11 in favour, 1 abstention)*

### **61.5 Enforcement**

**Briar Hill- Enforcement notice-**SHDC had advised that on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2012 an Enforcement Notice was served on the land at Briar Hill Farm Campsite. The Enforcement Notice was for the unauthorised change of use of agricultural land for the storage of boats, caravans, vehicles and other non-agricultural items. The requirements of the Enforcement Notice were

1. Cease the use of the Land for the storage of boats and caravans, vehicles, building materials and non agricultural items

2. Remove all boats and caravans, vehicles and non agricultural items from the Land

The time for compliance was two months after the Enforcement Notice took effect. The Enforcement Notice took effect on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2013 and the land should be cleared by 15<sup>th</sup> March 2013 unless an Appeal was made.

## **7/12 CONSULTATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

**Growth and Infrastructure Bill-** letter from CPRE had been noted.

## **8/13 ADMINISTRATION**

**8.1 Bishops Court-** Cllr. Mumford had advised that he had met a parishioner and Spectrum Housing Association on site on 19 December. Considerable progress had been made. The site maintenance was better- the shrubs, trees and lawns had looked tended and cared for and the site entrance repaired and repainted.

The Spectrum team was able to confirm that there would be a comprehensive redecoration program this year. Many of the trees and boundary plants had been cut back and a clump on the north east corner were to be removed in early January. There was still concern about the boundary trees- Cllr. Cooper had been asked to get the SHDC tree officer on site in January to see what more could be done. One of the ladies who lived there was a keen gardener and was very happy to act as the eyes and ears for Spectrum Housing Association on the ground to make sure their sub contractor were doing what they should.

**8.2 Statement of Internal Control-** the Risk Assessment working group had reviewed internal audit procedures which had been subsequently circulated to the Parish Council. The Council reviewed the effectiveness of internal audit procedures which were agreed. The Council approved and adopted the Statement of Internal Control.

**8.3 Annual Payments Review –RESOLVED:** The following payments were agreed (with no changes being made from 2012);

1. Contribution to chairman's expenses: **£150**
2. Contribution to clerk's office expenses: **£400**
3. Newton Voss and steps: **£82.00pm**
4. Noss Voss: **£50.00pm**
5. Boat charges: last increased in 2008: -  
**£35.00** per outhaul per annum  
**£5.50** per foot on Big Slip Quay  
**£2.75** per foot against the wall of Big Slip Quay
6. Items for hire:-  
Projector **£5.00**  
Display Panels **£10.00**
7. Annual membership costs; Devon Playing Fields Association, Devon Association of Local Councils (inc some publications), Ivybridge & District Assoc of Parish Councils, CPRE , Society of Local Council Clerks, NALC – LCR Magazine subscription, South Hams Society, GetMapping PLC/Parish Online.

*(Vote; Unanimous)*

**8.4 Budget 2013/2014-** there were no further suggestions for future spending plans/contingency allowances to be included in the budget provision for 2013/14. The contingency plans and budget figures were agreed. The Parish Council had agreed to a Precept request of £39245 in principle. South Hams District Council had provided notification of the implications of the changes in Council Tax Benefit on Parish Precept requests. The Council Tax Base (number of Band D equivalent) for 2012/2013 was 1120.37 giving a Parish Band D rate of £35.03. In 2013/2014 the number of Band D equivalent would reduce to 1104.06 a reduction of 16.31. SHDC would make the Parish Council a Council Tax Grant allocation for 2013/2014 of £1778 which should be treated by the Parish Council as income and should therefore reduce the Precept to be requested to £37,467 (£39245-£1778). The net figure would be used as the Precept and divided by the Council Tax Base Band D equivalent number of 1104.06 which appeared to give a small reduction in the Parish Band D rate for 2013/2014 (£33.94).

**RESOLVED:** To accept the budget figures and request a Precept of £37467 (£39245 budgetary figure less Council Tax Grant Allocation £1778) for 2013/14. *(Vote: Unanimous)*

## **9/13 MAINTENANCE**

### **9.1 Decembers severe weather-**

**i) Bridgend Quay-** Mr. Taylor outlined concerns regarding damage caused to the slipway at the entrance to Bridgend Quay. Mr. Carter advised that it had been inspected by both himself, the Harbour Master, Mr. Andrew Thomson and Mr. Brian Hockaday. The Harbour Authority would look to instructing a contractor to undertake repairs to the slipway and to repair the potholes on the Quay.

**ii) Noss Hard-** Mr. Stitson would be speaking with Mr. Clark with a view to forming a working party to investigate debris clearance from Noss Hard following the recent flooding. A parishioner had also advised about silt and debris build up below the canoe rack.

**9.2 Bridgend Wall-** work was needed on the Newton side. It was agreed to review this in conjunction with works to effect flood damage repairs to the Noss side.

**9.3 Invoices -** no invoices received.

**9.4 SWW –**work appeared to be progressing.

**9.5 Noss Mayo Bottle Bank-** Mr. Stitson and Mrs. Ansell had spoken with local residents. Mrs. Ansell reported that she had been advised by one parishioner that the Bottle Bank was "more trouble than it was worth". Mr. Stitson advised that generally, most of the people he had spoken to did not mind the Bottle Bank- one resident requesting a larger facility. The matter would be reviewed after summer.

**9.6 Noss Voss Steps-** Mr. Stitson would review the overhanging tree.

**9.7 Other areas for consideration-** concern was raised regarding drainage by the Polloxfen Archer Fountain at The Green. The Chairman agreed to speak with Mr Brian Hockaday.

**10/13 FOOTPATHS**

**10.1 DCC PROW Committee Meeting** –the outcome of 16 November Meeting was noted.

**10.2 Leas Path-**The DCC had advised that their engineers were due to undertake some stabilising works soon. The path was still closed for the time being. It was understood the path had recessed a bit further and there could be some delay whilst things settled.

**11/13 ALLOTMENTS-** a parishioners site suggestion for allotments at Collaton was noted. It was understood a suggestion had been made for the same at the Consultation held by the landowner regarding potential development.

**12/13 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 14/13.

**14/13 FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

<b>Santander Current Account</b> :	Total balance at 1.01.13	<b>£61206.66</b>
<b>The balance includes: Hedge Cutting Bond</b>		<b>£3000</b>
<b>Monies held on completion of Newton &amp; Noss Play Park Improvement Project</b>		<b>£36.02</b>

**The following cheques were authorised totalling:**

**£1400.36**

<b>Chq No</b>	<b>PAYEE</b>		<b>AMOUNT</b>
1597	WI Community Hall	Hire- NNPC Meeting 10 January 13	£22.00
1598	WI Community Hall	Hire- NNPC Meeting 24 January 13	£22.00
1599	J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss & Popes Quay December 12	£50.00
1600	S.McDonough	Net salary-December	£1,082.36
1601	CPRE	Annual subscription 2013	£29.00
1602	South Hams CAB	Donation	£50.00
1603	S.McDonough	Reimbursement expenses- stationery & postage	£63.00
1604	M.Hingston	Newton Voss & steps cleaning December 2012	£82.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,400.36</b>

\*Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 payments:£00.00 Total to date;£1359.94

**15/13 MEETINGS ATTENDED:**

**15.1 Harbour Authority-**Mr. Carter advised that the Harbour Authority were hopeful that the new pontoons would be in place the following week.

**15.2 Halls-** Mrs. Ansell advised that there had been no meetings in respect of the Village Hall. The Vice Chairman reported that the planning application for WIC Hall refurbishment had been submitted.

*The Meeting closed at 8.20pm*

4/10January2013.....Chairman