

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

Held on 10 October 2013

PRESENT Cllr. Cooper Mr. Cooper Mr. Taylor Mr. Carter Mr.Hussell
ALSO Mr. Lyndon Mr. Tubb
PRESENT 2 Parishioners Mrs. McDonough
(Clerk)

OPEN FORUM

Police report- PCSO Potter had sent apologies on behalf of both himself and PC Batchelor. He had forwarded the following report for September;

Newton Ferrers

Jl/13/777. Between 6th and 9th an unoccupied building had been burgled. A duvet had been stolen and minor damage caused.

Jl/13/797. Between 13th and 16th property under renovation had been burgled. The builders had removed all their tools. Two jars of coffee had been stolen

Jl/13/801. 17th a report of an harassment offence had been received.

Noss Mayo

Jl/13/762. 1st. Report of a rape had been received. Enquiries were ongoing.

Jl/13/782. Overnight 9th and 10th. An outboard engine had been stolen.

Jl/13/806. Early hours of 18th. Rib and trailer had been stolen. Property had been located in local area later.

204/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE- there were apologies for absence from Mrs. Ansell, Mr. Matthews and Mr. Stitson.

205/13 MINUTES –the Minutes of 12 September Meeting were confirmed and signed as a correct record, save for an amendment to 190.2. The grant to the WIC Hall had been made by the Community Council for Devon.

206/13 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED - members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. None were declared.

207/13 DISPENSATION REQUESTS- none were made.

208/13 PROPOSAL TO VARY THE AGENDA RESOLVED; items relating to clarification of a quote for tree felling and inspection at Broken Way should be considered in committee. (*Vote; Unanimous*)

209/13 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS

209.1 County Councillor's Report-

i) Budget- discussions were ongoing.

ii) Youth Service Review - had gone out to engagement.

iii) Torbay Council- it had been reported in the press that there had been a reluctance from Torbay County Council to be taken over by Devon County Council

iv) Car parking difficulties- this was currently being considered. Contradictory views had been expressed at the public meeting. A Member suggested that parking on Newton Hill had improved since parking enforcement had been strengthened.

v) Road drainage- Cllr. Mumford confirmed he would raise the issue of a blocked drain between Collaton and Broadmoor Farm.

vi) Bridgend Hill- the trees had been pollarded by the power company.

vii) Bridgend Wall- this had been reported to DCC structures department to action, but was not being treated as a priority.

viii) Broken way- the parapet wall at the Pumping Station had been reported.

ix) Stoke Road- the request for a speed hump was being considered. DCC Highways were proposing to paint a white line either side, which would visually narrow the distance between the walls. Pedestrians may feel safer and it was hoped it would cause traffic to slow. No Traffic Regulation Order would be needed and the funding would come from Cllr. Mumford's Locality Budget. If it proved effective, it could be suggested for Bridgend Hill.

x) Riverside Road West- the landowner was refusing to give access to the land to enable DCC to undertake the work. Mr. Tubb confirmed he would speak with the landowner.

xi) Locality Budget- the parish allocation from the Locality Budget and the residual funds from Invest in Devon would be detailed at the next Meeting. The Council was asked to advise Cllr. Mumford of potential projects.

209.2 Highways/Transport –

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i) Court Road flood prevention measures- parishioners on the Parish Council database had been advised that sandbags were available from SHDC. A Member advised that two weeks ago Mr. Paul Taper (SHDC) and a colleague had been undertaking Theodolite surveying. There had been some flash flooding following recent downpours. The Chairman advised that Mr. Taper was hoping to secure funding to carry out the camera survey.

ii) Public meeting car parking difficulties -16 September 2013. A parishioner had asked the Parish Council to write to Plymouth Sailing School requesting that they refrain from suggesting to their clients that their cars could be left parked by the Yealm Steps for extended periods. Members agreed that Plymouth Sailing School were not contravening any legislation. No further action would be taken in this respect.

209.3 District Councillor's Report – Cllr. Cooper had no report. The Vice Chairman gave a brief outline of the new procedure adopted for Design Panel Meetings which would be considered in the more detail at the 24 October Meeting. In summary, although Parish Council representatives were entitled to ask questions, they were not entitled to take part in the “wash up” session when the panel formulated their response to the applicant.

209.4 SHDC Asset Transfer/Parish Asset land registration- there had been no update from the Council's solicitors Curtis. It was agreed to consider the management plan at the next Meeting when Mr. Matthews would be present. Earth Wrights, the contractors who had installed the new play equipment at Noss Play Park had confirmed that the replacement and installation costs for the equipment would be £45092.56 plus VAT. The Council's insurers had advised that to insure the play equipment against loss or damage would involve an annual additional premium of £205.53 including Insurance Premium Tax. **RESOLVED:** To insure the equipment at Noss Mayo Play Park against loss or damage upon completion of surrender of the lease by South Hams District Council. (*Vote; Unanimous*).

209.5 Village Housing Initiative- the Chairman advised that she had not been able to obtain an update.

209.6 SHDC Public Conveniences- the Vice Chairman advised that he and the Chairman had met with Helen Dobby, head of Environment Services and Stuart Jellings, Environment Services on 4 October.

1. The seasonal closure of the toilets at Noss May and Newton Ferrers were proposed to take place from half-term, 2014, to half-term, 2015. SHDC needed to make overall savings of £80,000 a year on running its public conveniences.

2. The disparity in the cost of maintaining and cleaning the two toilets, (Noss Mayo, £7,500, a year, Newton £5,000) was said to be because Noss Mayo took longer to clean as it had more cubicles. Noss Mayo carried proportionately more of the cost of overheads.

3. SHDC had no statutory requirement to provide toilet facilities.

4. In a league table of water usage in the South Hams, Noss Mayo (39) and Newton Ferrers (45) were in the bottom ten.

5. The Chairman and Vice Chairman had made a strong case for non-closure as both villages attracted walkers and holidaymakers throughout the year because of the location and the coastal footpath.

6. SHDC were asked if they would still be responsible for repairs and maintenance if the Parish Council were to take over the cleaning of the toilets.

7. SHDC were asked about insurance if the Parish Council decided to keep the toilets open.

8. SHDC had advised that training sessions for cleaners would be provided. They were asked if cleaning materials would be provided.

9. Mr. Jellings was asked how much it would cost if the Parish Council wished to pay SHDC to maintain the service. This would be for cleaning and nothing else.

10. The Parish Council would know by November whether it had been decided to close the Parish toilets as proposed.

11. SHDC had offered to attend the Parish Council Meeting on November 28 to explain the situation.

209.7 Super Cluster Meeting- Various suggestions for a TAP fund application were put forward. The matter would be further considered at the next Meeting.

209.8 SHDC Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (including Employment & Traveller Sites)-

South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council were undertaking a joint review of its Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). The SHLAA was a technical exercise that would be used to help inform the Local Plan by identifying possible land that could be used to provide new homes. The Council had published its first SHLAA in 2009. They were now updating this information and would consider possible employment and traveller sites as well as potential housing sites. The SHLAA would not in itself determine whether a site should be allocated for development. It was however part of the evidence base used to inform future plans that they prepared.

The review would start with a ‘call for sites’ exercise where all land owners and developers were invited to suggest sites they wished to make available for development to meet housing, employment and traveller needs. This “call for sites” was being conducted by both Councils and would run from Thursday 26 September to Friday 25 October 2013. Anyone who wished to submit a site for consideration would use the Site Submission Form which was available on the Council's website. Sites proposed as part of the SHLAA process had to be related to an existing settlement and be greater than 0.25 ha or be able to provide at least 5 dwellings if to be considered for housing. Smaller sites could be considered for travellers. Sites that were submitted to the previous SHLAA would need to be resubmitted to confirm their availability and provide any change of site details.

209.9 SHDC/ West Devon Borough Council Connecting Communities Network- the Members considered the project launched to help communities gain independent advice and knowledge on various subjects.

www.connectingcommunities.org.uk provided details about the scheme. The website enabled Parish Councils and community groups to contact other likeminded people to gain knowledge and experience of different types of projects or schemes which they wished to pursue in their area.

209.10 SHDC Dog Control Orders- effective from 1 October 2013 had been circulated. Details would be posted in the Parish Magazine, on the Parish Council website notice board and were also available on the SHDC website.

209.11 SHDC Council Tax Support Grant-SHDC had written to advise that although no formal decision had yet been reached, a clear view had been expressed that Council Tax Support Grant currently paid to Parish Councils should reduce each year in line with the reductions SHDC faced in Revenue Support Grants. The Parish Council was asked to prepare for a 13.54% reduction in Council Tax Support grant for 2014/2015 reducing the allocation from £1778 in 2013/2014 to £1537 in 2014/2015.

210/13 PLANNING

Affordable Housing/Transport /Travel and Parking policies- it was agreed to take no further action to review the policies at the current time.

211/13 ADMINISTRATION

211.1 Budget 2014/2015- a meeting of the budget working group would be arranged to begin considerations. Suggestions for future spending plans/contingency allowances which should be incorporated in the budget provision included potential coverage of public conveniences over the winter period, reduction in the Council Tax Support Grant and increased insurance premiums as a result of insuring Noss Play Park equipment and the claim made in respect of the flooded car on Noss Hard in July.

211.2 Bishops Court- RESOLVED a new licence would be submitted to Yealm Medical Centre following the addition of a new partner to the practice. The fee for using the consulting room would be increased to £110pm from 1 January 2014. *(Vote; Unanimous)*

211.3 RYHA- RESOLVED; to nominate Mr. Hussell as new Parish Council representative *(Vote; 6 in favour, 1 abstention)*

212/13 CONSULTATION/CORRESPONDENCE

212.1 Noss Hard- the draft Defence prepared by the Council's insurers solicitors had been circulated to Members. The proposed amendments were agreed. RESOLVED; to authorise the Chairman and Vice Chairman to sign the Defence for submission to Keoghs Solicitors. *(Vote; Unanimous)*

212.2 Broadband- an update from Connecting Devon and Somerset had been circulated. 90% of Devon properties, residential and commercial, would have superfast broadband by 2016.Cllr. Mumford had advised that that the Parish was not affected by the national issues due to the work DCC had put in over the last few years which meant the area was at the top of a very long queue. The other issue would be the roll out of 4G by EE, allegedly 98% by geography by end of 2014, he believed.

212.3 Community Orchard-details of the proposed event prepared by the Community Orchard Working Group were outlined to the Council. RESOLVED: To organise a Community Apple Day for Sunday 17 November in the Community Orchard. *(Vote; Unanimous)*

It was agreed the Clerk would apply for permission to hold the event in the Community Orchard from SHDC. The working group would be preparing the necessary risk assessments. A First Aider would be present. Public Liability Insurance would be covered by the Parish Council's Insurance.

213/13 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 214/13.

214/13 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Santander Current Account :	Total balance at 1.10.13	£74259.90
The balance includes: Hedge Cutting Bond		£3000
Monies held on completion of Newton & Noss Play Park Improvement Project		£36.02
Monies held in respect of the maintenance of the Revington Memorial Seat		£500

The following cheques were authorised totalling: **£1647.05**

Chq No	PAYEE		AMOUNT
1713	Newton & Noss Village Hall	Hire- NNPC Meeting 10 October	£20.00
1714	Newton & Noss Village Hall	Hire- NNPC Meeting 24 October 13	£20.00
1715	J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss & Popes Quay September 2013	£50.00
1716	S.McDonough	Net salary-September	£1,144.08
1717	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerks monthly Tax & National Insurance	£288.97
1718	M.Hingston	Cleaning: Newton Voss & steps September 2013	£124
		Total	£1,647.05

*Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 payments:£00 Total to date;£260.60

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215/13/13FOOTPATHS

215.1 Footpath inspections- Mr. Taylor reported the assessment was ongoing. He would present a report in November's Meeting.

215.2 Kilpatrick's- no information had been forthcoming about the late Mrs. Bilson in whose memory a bench had been laid. The bench had had to be removed for safety reasons. No further action would be taken to replace the bench at this time.

215.3 Newton Voss- it was agreed that Newton Voss should be cleaned once a month during GMT (last Sunday in October to the last Sunday in March) and twice per month during BST.

215.4 Parish Asset Inspection-Mr. Stitson had advised that he was reviewing the schedule. It was agreed Mr. Hussell and Mr. Taylor would review the footpath inspection/Parish Asset Inspection schedules to amalgamate some of the inspections.

216/13 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

RESOLVED: To make a grant of £125 to the Royal British Legion by means of a donation and wreath. (Vote; Unanimous) It was agreed the Chairman would lay the wreath at the Remembrance Service accompanied by Parish Council Members.

217//13. MEETINGS ATTENDED:

217.1 Harbour Authority- Mr. Carter advised there had been 400 boat nights for the late autumn period. A rescue helicopter and inshore RLNI boat had been called to two separate incidents one near Steer Point and the other near Mothecombe.

217.2 Halls-The Vice Chairman advised that it was hoped work on the WI refurbishment would start in spring. Funding conditions required the work to be completed by the end of 2014. The Memorabilia Display raised £1200-£1300. There was to be a barn dance in February to raise further funds.

217.3. Ivybridge & District Association of Local Councils- the Vice Chairman reported that Ermington Parish Council had been split over the wind turbine planning application. There had been disappointment that the majority of the S.106 monies, for the new housing estate, which Ermington Parish Council had thought was to be used for a Village Hall, had been paid to SHDC and may have been diverted for use for Ivybridge School. It was thought something similar may have happened in Wembury. Wembury Parish council had laid a complaint regarding SHDC's conduct of a planning application for a new housing development.

218/13 MAINTENANCE

218.1Sports Pavilion- Mr. Stitson was considering the review of health and safety matters/risk assessments.

218.2 Tree planting- Newton Ferrers Primary School had declined the offer for the planting of a specimen Oak tree in their grounds. It was agreed the tree should be planted in Butts Park Playing field near the footpath.

218.3 Bottle Bank- Min 9/13refers.It was agreed the Bottle Bank should remain in situ. There had been no complaints over the summer.

218.4 Parish Asset Inspection- *min 215.4 refers*

218.5 Other areas for consideration-

i) It was agreed to pass over the underutilised Parish Council post box at Bishops Court to the Bishops Court Residents' Association.

ii) A Member asked if the Council could enquire into the eligibility for residing at the Tor Homes properties at Dillons, Parsonage Road.

In committee

218.6 Broken Way- the tree quotation from Devon & Cornwall Arborists had been for tree felling only. They did not have Professional Indemnity Insurance to carry out a Tree Inspection. RESOLVED; To accept the tender received from Devon & Cornwall Arborists for felling trees at Broken Way in the sum of £1700.(Vote; Unanimous)

It was agreed the Clerk would obtain quotations for tree inspections to be conducted on Parish Council land at the Green and Ferry Woods. A quotation for a tree inspection would also be obtained for the trees at Broken Way.

A parishioner had written to the Council expressing concerns about a large sycamore tree thought to be a threat to the highway and Pumping station at Broken Way, the same concerns having been raised by Mr. Carter and Mr. Taylor following a site visit at the beginning of September. This would be addressed in the tree inspection. It was also agreed that South West Water, Devon County Council, SHDC Tree Officer and the Parish tree Warden would be advised.

The Meeting closed at 8.45pm