

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

Held on 11 July 2013

PRESENT Cllr. Cooper Mrs. Ansell Mr. Taylor Mr. Carter Mr. Hussell
Mr. Matthews Mr. Lyndon Mr. Tubb Mr. Gough Mr. Stitson
ALSO 10 Parishioners Mrs. McDonough
PRESENT (Clerk)

OPEN FORUM

Police report- PCSO Potter reported;

May 2013

Newton Ferrers

Jl/13/413 -afternoon of 28th non crime domestic

Jl/13/418-overnight 29th and 30th paintwork of vehicle scratched.

Noss Mayo

Jl/13/344-between 3rd and 4th a building under construction had been entered. No property had been stolen.

Jl/13/388-early hours of 25th minor assault reported, enquires were ongoing.

June 2013

Noss Mayo

Jl/13/463-overnight 11th and 12th boat left on the Quay on a trailer had had its outboard engine stolen.

Newton Ferrers

Jl/13/511-evening of 26th, public order offence, road rage type incident, no further action had been taken.

Newton Hill parking- a resident expressed concern regarding recent parking enforcement. A meeting had taken place with Cllr. Mumford to discuss reconsideration of the forty five minutes parking restrictions.

Woodville planning application- a neighbouring resident thanked Members for their support at the recent site meeting with the planning officer from South Hams District Council. The planning officer had indicated that the application may be approved. He had written to the Head of SHDC Planning and other key Councillors enquiring how such a recommendation could be made when some plans were missing and Development Policy had not been interpreted correctly. He had not received a response.

Point View- a parishioner referred to the lead in the public wall, which had been supposed to have been removed. The application for the cantilevered parking area had not been withdrawn. There had been massive excavation on the site in the past couple of days. Cllr. Cooper advised that she had asked SHDC to check the position.

Superfast Broadband- Mr. Roy Fenner gave a presentation upon the introduction of superfast broadband to rural areas. The project was a European initiative and funded by both Devon and Somerset County Councils. BT had taken up the initiative supported by other funders. It was hoped that there would be 100% Broadband coverage by the end of 2016 providing in excess of 2Mbps.

152/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE- there were apologies for absence from the Vice Chairman and Mr. Barnett.

153/13 MINUTES –the Minutes of 13 June Meeting were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

154/13 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED - Members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. Mr. Tubb declared an interest in matters relating to parking on Newton Hill.

155/13 DISPENSATION REQUESTS- none were made.

156/13 PROPOSAL TO VARY THE AGENDA- RESOLVED: items relating to the Clerk's employment and a quotation relating to jetting out Noss Fountain/Noss Hard should be considered in committee. (*Vote; 9 in favour, 1 objection*)

157/13 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS

157.1 County Councillor's Report- Cllr. Mumford had sent apologies.

157.2 Highways/Transport-

i) Yealm Road- the Clerk would press Devon County Council Highways for the repairs to potholes by the Co op.

ii) Newton Hill/The Brook parking- a letter from a resident with proposals to vary the current parking restrictions, in particular the forty five minute limit, had been circulated to the Council. The Members had also been made aware of communications between Cllr. Mumford and DCC Highways in which Cllr Mumford had raised the difficulties. Residents' permit parking had not been thought to be an option. Removal of the restrictions could afford residents less parking than the current restrictions allowed. A Traffic Regulation Order was estimated at costing upwards of £3500.

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Members felt parking outside the pharmacy should remain short stay but that there was a basis for increasing the forty five minute parking restriction to ninety minutes to enable people to have a meal at The Dolphin. It had been thirty two years since parking on Newton Hill and the Yealm Steps had been reviewed.

A resident suggested there were fifteen properties with no off street parking on Newton Hill who had to park up Yealm Road. He felt Residents' parking would not work and was in favour of no regulation. Another resident suggested the priority was to ensure free access to the Chemist and shops for which there should be some parking restrictions. He suggested de-restricting the area on Yealm Road, past the Co-op heading towards the harbour.

It was agreed the Clerk should enquire with Devon County Council into the possibility of having a "Dead End" sign at the top of Newton Hill.

RESOLVED: to arrange a public consultation meeting in September to which Devon County Council Highways Department, Cllr. Mumford, the police and SHDC parking enforcement would be invited to attend to discuss parking difficulties in the Parish The Parish Council would pay for the hire of the WI Hall for the meeting. *(Vote: unanimous)*

157.3 District Councillor's Report- Cllr. Cooper had no report.

157.4 SHDC Asset Transfer/Parish Asset land registration. Mr. Matthews and the Vice Chairman had met Mr. Anthony Dyke of Curtis, Solicitors on 2 July 2013. The extent of the titles at The Green and Butts Park play park had been clarified. The plots were as expected. Mr. Dyke was to take up the points concerning the Parish Council's ability to license and lease without consent, dog bin emptying, overage provisions in respect of recreational or leisure development and a couple of minor issues with SHDC. This would lead to agreement of the Agreement for Sale and the transfer paperwork. The Clerk had forwarded the signed Report on Title to Mr. Dyke and a copy of the Council's minute authorising the transaction to proceed.

The Clerk was waiting to hear from SHDC with clarification of their insurance position.

157.5 Village Housing Initiative- Cllr. Cooper advised that the landowner and SHDC/Tor Homes were under the impression that the project was to proceed.

157.6 SHDC Public Conveniences- it was thought SHDC would be forwarding costs information in August.

158/13 PLANNING

Planning applications received

158.1 Woodville- 37/1253/13/F- Members were referred to the drainage plan sent by SHDC Development Control. The application had been sent to the Development Control Management Committee.

158.2 Correspondence- a draft letter prepared by Mrs. Ansell to the SHDC Chief Executive, to be copied to planning control and others, to express concerns regarding some recent ongoing planning applications and decisions had been circulated to Members. Members resolved unanimously, to send the letter subject to one amendment, which the Vice Chairman would sign. A copy of the letter would be placed on the Parish Council website to which the RYDA and the editor of the "Private Nose" would be referred.

159/13 ADMINISTRATION

159.1 End of Year Accounts- Grant Thornton, the external auditors, had confirmed that on the basis of their review, the information in the annual return was in accordance with proper practices and no matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met. There were no matters affecting their opinion which they needed to draw to the attention of the Council.

159.2 Affordable housing policy- it was agreed to review in September when the Vice Chairman was present.

159.3 Councillor resignation and new bank signatory- the Council was advised that Mr. Gough would be resigning from the Council effective from 31 July, as he was moving from the Parish. **RESOLVED;** Mr. Colin Lyndon would replace Mr. Gough as one of the signatories to the Parish Council bank accounts effective from 1 August 2013. *(Vote: 9 in favour, 1 abstention)*

RESOLVED; Mr. Peter Stitson would replace Mr. Gough as Parish Council representative on the River Yealm Harbour Authority. *(Vote; Unanimous)*. The Clerk would write to the RYHA to confirm.

A Notice under S.82 (2) Local Government Act 1972 would be given of the vacancy of Parish Councillor on 1 August 2013. Unless ten or more electors of the parish, on or before 21 August 2013, submitted a request in writing to the South Hams District Council Returning Officer, for an election to be held, the Parish Council could take steps to fill the vacancy by co option.

160/13 CONSULTATION/CORRESPONDENCE

Western Cluster Meeting 11 June- a report of the meeting had been circulated to Members

i) **TAP fund-** details of 2013/2014 scheme had been outlined with parishes being encouraged to collaborate on joint bids which needed to be submitted by 10 January 2014

ii) **Public W.C. closures-** SHDC was intending to provide Councils with a three year financial model showing detailed costs by August 2013. The Council would then consider consultative representations and negotiations over the future of individual facilities in time for 2014/2015 financial year. Options to meet SHDC budget saving could be considered including seasonal closures for shorter/longer, opening supported by precept or payments by organisations affiliated with some facilities, devolvement to Parish Councils seasonally/fully with precept payments supporting the viability of the services, complete closure considering low usage/alternative facilities and introduction of charging.

iii), **Community payback-** details of the scheme had been forwarded to the Brookings Down Wood Committee.

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iv) DCC Highways working with Parish Councils

v) "Where you Live"- new tool on the SHDC new website

vi) Dementia Friendly Parishes- update in the western part of the District.

161/13 GRANT APPLICATIONS

161.1 1st Brixton & Yealmpton Scout Group –it was agreed that the Clerk would make enquiries into the level of financial assistance being sought.

161.2 Jubilee Sailing Trust- RESOLVED; No grant of financial assistance would be made as there was insufficient nexus to the Parish. (Vote; Unanimous)

162/13 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 163/13.

163/13 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Santander Current Account :	Total balance at 1.07.13	£69598.86
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: **£6978.31**

Chq No	PAYEE		AMOUNT
1667	WIC Hall	Hire- NNPC Meeting 11 July 13	£22.00
1668	WIC Hall	Hire- NNPC Meeting 25 July 13	£22.00
1669	J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss & Popes Quay June 2013	£50.00
1670	S.McDonough	Net salary-June	£1,106.00
1671	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerks monthly Tax & National Insurance	£263.32
1672	Newton and Noss WI Community Hall	Grant: Refurbishment project	£5,000.00
1673	RYHA	Slipway cleaning fluid for Noss Voss cleaning	£19.99
1674	Foot Anstey LLP	Legal advice fees-Broken Way	£360.00
1675	S.McDonough	Reimbursement expenses: copier paper	£11.00
1676	M.Hingston	Cleaning: Newton Voss & steps June 2013	£124.00
Total			£6,978.31

*Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 payments:£00 Total to date;£205

164/13. MEETINGS ATTENDED:

164.1 Harbour Authority- Mr. Carter advised that the RYHA had caught up with boat nights. The fire on board a yacht in the Pool had involved the coastguard, Fire Brigade, Fire Boat and RLNI. The 91 year old owner had not been insured but had advised that he would arrange for the removal of the wreck.

164.2 Halls- Mrs. Ansell advised that the move by St Francis Play Group to the Primary School would leave The Revelstoke Room without a use. Newton & Noss Village Hall Committee were canvassing ideas as to what to do with the space.

165/13 FOOTPATHS

165.1 Definitive Map Modification Orders 2013- Mr. Taylor had reviewed the notices. There were new path descriptions and some new mapping- nothing unexpected. The deadline for comments had passed that day. If no complaints were made, Devon County Council would make the Modification Orders. If there were objections, they would be passed to the Secretary of State for consideration. Parish Paths would now be numbered. Mr. Taylor was thanked for the work he had undertaken.

165.2 Footpath inspections- Mr. Taylor asked that Members pass him the inspections undertaken. In the interim, Mr. Taylor would review reports of the following

i) Donkey Path- overgrown.

ii) Leas/Cinder Path- the section below "Firslea" had caused concern. It was felt the netting should be extended.

iii) Gara-Cellars - overgrown and difficult to get dogs over the stile.

iv) Yealm Hotel-Lower Court Road- sweeping/trimming needed.

Mr. Lyndon advised that hedging along the path from the water tower to Butts Park was still to be trimmed. The Clerk would contact Devon County Council again.

166/13 MAINTENANCE

166.1 Sports Pavilion- Mr. Stitson advised that he would undertake the general inspection and update on review of health and safety matters/risk assessments.

166.2 Parish Asset Inspection – an update had been circulated to Members with a request that the Clerk was advised as and when assets were inspected to enable the schedule to be updated.

166.3 Broken Way- the legal advice from Foot Anstey regarding the most appropriate method to protect the land from future development had been circulated to the Council. RESOLVED: To instruct Foot Anstey to make an application to register a caution against first registration and the Parish Council would undertake a regular 6 month maintenance programme to rebut any adverse possession claim from a third party. (Vote; Unanimous)

166.4 Newton Voss- the contractor had partially undertaken the diamond cutting. It was due to be completed the following Tuesday. The contractor had suggested undertaking the diamond cutting on an annual basis in the spring. It was agreed to ask the contractor for a quotation to remove two exposed reinforcement bars.

166.5 Butts Park Water Tower- a parishioner had expressed concern regarding the appearance of the water tower at Butts Park. The Parish Council had last been in communication with South West Water regarding the condition of the water tower in 2004. It was agreed the Clerk would write to South West Water inviting them to redecorate it.

Mr. Gough left the Meeting.

166.6 Other areas for consideration;

i) River- a parishioner had reported raw sewage along the outfalls between Yealm Steps and Kin Quay. Mr. Hussell advised that he would inspect the foreshore. The manhole cover by Newton Voss had been tested with no evidence of sewage having been found.

ii) Collaton/Butts Park link- the contractor had advised that the path would be cut by the end of the week. He had been advised to leave the Wild Chicory.

In committee

166.7 Noss Fountain/Noss Hard

The Clerk advised that she and Mr. Allen had met with a representative from Exjet Services regarding the quotation sought to jet out from Noss Fountain though Noss Hard. Due to the construction and age of the tunnel, Exjet had recommended the use of a CCTV rig to view its condition both before starting work and throughout.

Mr. Stitson and Mr. Hussell advised that they would have a site visit, using rods, to investigate potential blockages.

Mr. Taylor had met on site with two potential contractors in respect of the invitations to tender for dredging/weed clearance. The matter would be reviewed at the next Meeting.

The Clerk left the Meeting.

167/13 CLERKS EMPLOYMENT

The Council considered the Clerk's request that her contract of employment be amended to fully reflect NALC recommendations in relation to pay and progression or an account as to why the recommendations were not being followed. RESOLVED: The Chairman was authorised to write to the Clerk confirming that the Council would adhere to its current contract of employment with the Clerk. In recognition of the Clerk's service, her salary would be increased by awarding her NJC salary point 30 to be backdated to and including 1 April 2013. The Council asked that the Chairman's letter confirm that this should not be taken as a precedent for pay rise progression going forward. In future the Clerk's salary should be reviewed on or around 31 March in each year. The Council also wished the Chairman's letter to confirm that, once the local government pay review has been confirmed, the Clerk's salary would be increased to reflect any agreed increase (currently expected to be 1%). This would be backdated as necessary. (Vote: Unanimous)

The Meeting closed at 9.45pm