

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

**Held on 13 March 2014**

PRESENT Mr. Cooper Mrs. Ansell Mr. Hussell Mr. Carter Mr. Lyndon

Mrs. Guy Mr. Stitson Mr. Matthews Mr. Taylor

ALSO 2 Parishioners

PRESENT

Mrs. McDonough  
(Clerk)

In the absence of the Chairman, the Meeting was chaired by the Vice Chairman Mr. Alan Cooper.

**OPEN FORUM**

**Police report-** PCSO Potter advised that the following crimes had been reported for February 2014:  
Jl/14/83-during the early morning of 1<sup>st</sup> February a quantity of food delivered to a business was stolen prior to the business opening up.

PSCO Potter advised that the reported registration number of a dumper truck which had been left in the "narrows" by Holy Cross Church, Yealm Road had not been traced. It was no longer there.

**Cellars, Noss Mayo 37/0544/14/F-** the applicant spoke in support of her planning application.

**58/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** –there were apologies for absence from the Chairman, Mr. Tubb and Mrs. Evans,

**59/14 MINUTES** –the Minutes of the 13 February Meeting were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**60/14 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED** - members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. Mr. Stitson declared an interest in the "Seagulls" planning application by virtue of being a neighbour. The Chairman and Mr. Matthews declared interest in the WI Hall grant application. Mr. Matthew's wife was the bookings secretary and the Chairman chaired the WI Hall committee.

**61/14 DISPENSATION REQUESTS-** none were made.

**62/14 PROPOSAL TO VARY THE AGENDA-** RESOLVED items relating to planning enforcement/pre applications should be considered in committee. (*Vote; Unanimous.*)

**63/14 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS**

**63.1 County Councillor's Report-** Cllr. Mumford reported the following;

**i) Locality Budget-** it was agreed to apply for a share of Cllr Mumford's Locality Budget to fund some refurbishment and repairs of the Sports Pavilion.

*Mrs Guy arrived at 7.10pm*

**ii) Bridgend street lighting** – concerns had been resolved.

**iii) Bridgend storm damage repairs-** Cllr. Mumford advised that it was the County Council's responsibility to repair the wall so far as it supported the road. The Council was prepared to repair the wall up to road level and then put a fence above. Cllr. Mumford had advised the Highways Department about the Seiches and the potential for further damage to the road. There was no responsibility for the houses behind. Cllr. Mumford was proposing to use Invest in Devon funding to get the wall rebuilt. It was not thought the repairs would include replacement of the Revelstoke Railings. It had not been possible to establish ownership. DCC Highways was proposing that the Parish Council take on ownership of the wall thereafter. Some discussions took place as to whether the effects of the Seiches would be less violent without the wall being rebuilt. Suggestions were put forward that the rebuilt wall include teeth at the end or be rebuilt lower with gullies and a railing on top. It would be a matter for engineers. In light of the potential significant financial impact of assuming ownership of the wall it was agreed to discuss the matter at the next Parish Council Meeting.

**iv) Bridgend Hill passing place-** it was thought some clearance around the power lines had taken place.

**63.2 Highways/Transport –;**

**i) Bridgend Hill-**DCC Highways had traced the four owners of the land below Yealm View Road where the lack of fencing/walling had been causing safety concerns. It was thought that there had originally been a dry stone wall on the roadside. Highways would be writing to the landowners requesting its replacement. DCC would be serving a cropping notice on the owner of the land adjacent to the hill where overgrown hedging had been causing concern.

**ii) Butts Park Flooding-** the flooding had been cleared but a resident's driveway had been left damaged when vehicles had used it to avoid flooding their cars. It was agreed to support the owners request to DCC to effect repairs.

**iii) Collaton-Widey road flooding-** there had been no update following the report to Highways. It was agreed to put the matter on the Agenda for April.

**63.3 DCC Meals Service-**

**63.4 DCC Adult Residential Care Services Review-** no comment was made in respect of the consultation. No Members were available to attend the stakeholder meetings.

**63.5 Local Government Boundary Commission-** had recommended a new two Member ward for the Parish to be known as Newton & Yealmpton.

**63.6 District Councillor's Report-** no report.

**63.7 SHDC Asset Transfer/Parish Asset land registration-** there had been no update since the Parish Council had given instructions to Curtis Whiteford Crocker regarding proposed overage provisions and the significance of restrictive covenants/incumbrances affecting the land to be transferred.

**63.8 Village Housing Initiative-** neither South Hams District Council nor Tor Homes had replied to the correspondence sent by the Parish Council on 22 November 2013 and 20 February 2014. It was agreed to discuss the matter at the next Meeting and in the interim to ask Cllr. Cooper to press for the requested meeting.

**63.9 SHDC Public Conveniences-** the works specification was awaited from SHDC.

#### **64/14 PLANNING**

##### **Planning applications received including**

**64.1 Cellars, Noss Mayo 37/0544/14/F-**householder applications for extensions to create conservatory and balcony. Affected a public footpath or right of way. DECISION: No objection (*Vote; Unanimous*)

**64.2 Seagulls, Stoke Road 37/0541/14/F-**householder application for extensions, re-roofing and insulated external timber cladding. Mr. Stitson took no part in the debate nor voted. DECISION: Objection.

1. Two dormers intrude on skyline.

2. External appearance inappropriate for site.

3. Visual impact.

4. Wider views. (*Vote; 8 in favour of objection*)

#### **65/14 ADMINISTRATION**

**65.1 Banking arrangements-** the imminent repeal of Section 150(5) Local Government Act 1972 was considered repealing the statutory requirement for two elected Members to sign cheques to enable access to more modern banking practices. New model Financial Regulations were to be issued. Current cheque arrangements could remain in place and should not be changed until the Council had put in place safe and efficient arrangements in accordance with new guidance issued under Appendix 11- Governance and Accountability for Local Councils- A Practitioners' Guide (England) 2010. The principle was that more than one person should be involved in any payment, whether that was before, at or after the point at which payment was made. Councils were being encouraged to review arrangements with reference to the new guidance as soon as reasonably practicable. It was agreed to review matters once the new model Financial Regulations had been issued.

**65.2 Assets Register-** a draft schedule, circulated prior to the meeting, was considered with amendments suggested to the effect that there should be no change to the values given for 2012/2013. A revised schedule would be prepared for approval at the next Meeting.

**65.3 Investment Strategy-** Guidance on Local Government Investment issued by the Department for Communities & Local Government was noted. It was agreed it was not considered necessary to have a formal investment Strategy in place save to consider whether any funds should be transferred from the current account to either the existing savings account held with Santander( current interest rate 0.10%) or whether Members wished research to be undertaken into alternatives. It was agreed to review the balance in the current account at the beginning of the new financial year whereupon the Council would consider the transfer of any surplus funds in excess of the Precept being transferred to the deposit account with Santander

**65.4 Parish Council Allowances 2014-2015-** Members agreed not to claim the parish basic allowance for Councillors for 2014/2015. The Parish Allowance for the Chairman would remain at £150pa. Travel allowance would remain at £0.45 per mile.

#### **66/14 CONSULTATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

**66.1 The Rural Services Network-**it was agreed not to accept the invitation to join a Rural Sounding Board.

**66.2 Police matters-** the appointment of a new Neighbourhood Officer for Ivybridge Rural South, PC Charlotte Mathers 1704, was noted.

**66.3 Ivybridge & District Association Of Local Councils-** the Chairman agreed to attend the AGM and business meetings to be held on Wednesday 19 March 2014 at Ivybridge Town Hall.

#### **67/14 GRANT APPLICATIONS**

**67.1 WIC Hall-** a grant application letter dated 12 March 2014 had been circulated to the Council. The Chairman advised that initial estimates for the hall refurbishment had been £130,000. When the updated quotes had been received, the figures had increased to £146,000- £154,000. Funding of £125,000 had been raised and an interest free loan had been offered of £10,000 by a parishioner. An application for funding for a new sound system had been submitted to the Revelstoke Trust. The refurbishment plans had been amended to reduce costs to £138,000. A further £3000 was needed to proceed with the project. Security for a potential contingency fund of £10,000 was also needed. The Parish Council reviewed grants made to the respective village halls since 2006. The Council also reviewed the Budget Contingencies for 2014-2015.

**RESOLVED:** To make a further grant of £3000 to the Newton Ferrers & Noss Mayo WI Community Hall Trust. (Vote; 7 in favour. Mr. Matthews and the Chairman did not take part in the vote.)

**RESOLVED:** To set aside a fund of £10,000 to be used towards any necessary contingency costs arising out of the refurbishment of the Newton Ferrers & Noss Mayo WI Community Hall, the monies being set aside as a potential contingency fund and not for mainstream contract costs. (Vote; 7 in favour. Mr. Matthews and the Chairman did not take part in the vote.)

**RESOLVED:** To amend the budget contingency for 2014/2015 such that £10,000 be transferred from SHDC Asset Transfer heading and redesignated to a new WIC Hall refurbishment contingency fund heading. (Vote; 7 in favour. Mr. Matthews and the Chairman did not take part in the vote.)

**67.2 Newton & Noss Village Hall**-a letter from the Chairman of the Committee dated 25 February had been circulated to Members requesting financial assistance towards the refurbishment of the flat roof covering part of the Revelstoke Room. One quote had been received of £6756. Further quotes were being sought. **RESOLVED:** to make a grant, in principle, of half of the costs of refurbishment of the flat roof of Newton & Noss Village Hall up to a maximum of £3375. (Vote unanimous)

**RESOLVED:** to amend the budget contingency for 2014/2015 such that £3375 be transferred from the General Contingency heading to Public Buildings heading. (Vote unanimous)

**68/14 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS** –. Cheque payments were authorised and signed in accordance with the schedule prepared by the Clerk, checked by Mr. Stitson and listed in Minute 69/14.

#### **69/14 FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

<b>Santander Current Account</b> :	Total balance at 1.3.14	<b>£57950.67</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>
<b>Monies held in respect of the maintenance of the Revington Memorial Seat</b>		<b>£500</b>

**The following cheques were authorised totalling:** **£1665.05**

<b>Chq No</b>	<b>PAYEE</b>		<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>VAT</b>
1774	Newton & Noss Village Hall	Hire- NNPC Meeting 13 March 2014	£20.00	
1775	Newton & Noss Village Hall	Hire- NNPC Meeting 27 March 2014	£20.00	
1776	S.McDonough	Net salary-February	£1,144.28	
1777	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerks monthly Tax & National Insurance	£288.77	
1778	M.Hingston	Cleaning; Newton Voss & steps February 2014	£82.00	
1779	Post Office Limited	Postage; stamps	£110	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,665.05</b>	<b>£0.00</b>

\*Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 payments:£0 Total to date;£540.60

#### **70/14. MEETINGS ATTENDED:**

**70.1 Harbour Authority-** Mr. Carter advised that there had been no meetings.

**70.2 Halls-** the Chairman and Mrs. Ansell thanked the Parish Council for the grants for the respective halls. Mrs. Ansell advised that when the playgroup left the hall a suggestion had been made to use the space for a community gym.

**70.3. Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm-** - Mrs Guy advised that the AGM had been very constructive. Long term strategies were being put in place to continue the exercise class supervised by a physiotherapist. With the Parish Council's agreement, which was given, Mrs. Caroline Hirst had agreed to replace Mrs Guy as Parish Council representative.

**70.5 CPRE- South Hams Land use Strategy-** Mr. Matthews and the Chairman had been unable to attend.

**70.6 Ivybridge and Surrounding Area Cluster Meeting-** the Chairman had attended. There had been 9 TAP fund applications. The two applications which had been supported by the Parish had been for the "Get into Reading" Project which had been awarded £4000 and for drainage work in conjunction with Wembury, Brixton and Yealmpton (which had been granted £7500)

#### **71/14 MAINTENANCE**

**71.1 Trees-** it was agreed to consider the matter of potential dead trees near Noss Voss and the tree causing potential stability concern at Broken Way in May.

**71.2 Footpaths-** Devon County Council PROW department had effected repairs to the bottom steps leading to Wadham Beach. It was thought the landowner was seeking diversion of the public footpath leading to the beach to the edge of the field.

It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to Mr Roger Hallett for all his efforts in clearing Coombe Down Lane.

#### **71.3 Other areas for consideration**

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- i) Noss Hard-** two parishioners had expressed concern regarding plant being left on Noss Hard for an extended period. It was agreed to write a letter to the contractor asking when he was proposing to remove the plant.
- ii) Parish Council notice boards-** a parishioner would be thanked for his suggestion for moving the Parish Council notice board at Noss Mayo to outside the public conveniences, but that the Parish Council believed the notice board should remain in situ outside the Tilly Institute.
- iv) Yealm Road streetlights-** the faulty streetlights had been reported to DCC.
- v) Parsonage Road-** the blocked drain by Meadow Close had been reported to DCC.
- vi) Pollexfen Archer bus stop-** Mr Matthews was thanked for his work in clearing and tidying.

**In committee**

**72/14. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT/PRE APPLICATIONS**

**72.1 Pre Application-** Mr. Matthews and Mrs. Ansell gave a report of a site visit in Noss Mayo. Members had a number of concerns regarding the proposed development, outside the Village Development Boundary, which would be reported to the Planning Officer.

**72.2 Planning Enforcement-** the effects of a Tree Preservation Order were discussed together with two other matters being investigated by SHDC Planning Enforcement.

The Meeting closed at 9.15pm