

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

**Held on 14 November 2013**

PRESENT	Cllr. Cooper	Mr. Cooper	Mr. Taylor	Mr. Carter	Mr.Hussell
ALSO PRESENT	Mr. Lyndon 7 Parishioners	Mr. Tubb	Mr.Stitson	Mrs. Ansell	Mr. Matthews Mrs. McDonough (Clerk)

**OPEN FORUM**

**Police report-** PCSO Potter had sent apologies on behalf of both himself and PC Batchelor. He had advised that no crimes had been reported for October.

**Woodville-** a neighbouring resident advised that he had written to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the Planning Appeal submitted. With respect to the fresh application he had invited the applicant to meet on site on a number of occasions which had been declined. He had met with the applicant on two occasions in London and whilst the applicant had made some concessions, the parishioner did not feel that it sufficiently dealt with the issues and reasons for refusal given by SHDC in respect of the original application. Members made reference to the concerns which had arisen as a result of the Design Panel Meeting and the fact that members of the panel did not appear to undertake site visits or look at the design in context.

**230/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE-** there were no apologies for absence.

**231/13 MINUTES** –the Minutes of 10 October Meeting were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**232/13 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED** - members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. Mr. Matthews declared a personal and pecuniary interest in the Court House planning application 37/2429/13/TCA.

**233/13 DISPENSATION REQUESTS-** none were made.

**234/13 PROPOSAL TO VARY THE AGENDA** RESOLVED; items relating to quotes for tree inspections should be considered in committee. (*Vote; Unanimous*)

**235/13 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS**

**235.1 County Councillor's Report.** Cllr. Mumford advised:

**i) Budget-** the Council were unlikely to receive Government settlement figures until early January. Any consultation would be very condensed. 110 million pounds had to be saved over four years, front loaded onto the first two years. John Hart had completed the Tough Choices Tour which ten people had attended. There had been an increasing demand for demand led statutory services including Adult and Children Social Care. There had already been a 6 million pound overspend. Market driven factors had been difficult to deal with.

**ii) Flooding-** Devon, as the lead Local Flood Authority, had to provide a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy detailing who was responsible for what for flood events.

**iii) Locality Budget-** details had been sent out. The allocation of £850 needed to be finalised during the current fiscal year. It was agreed to include an article in the Parish Magazine for January inviting projects.

**iv) Chelson Meadow-** although Devon County Council contributed financially to Chelson Meadow, Plymouth City Council was now advising that those living outside the Plymouth boundary could no longer use it. It was hoped that a sensible arrangement could be reached between Devon County Council and Plymouth City Council. A larger site was being sought for the Ivybridge Recycling Depot.

**iv) Highways / Transport –**

**a) 80 Court Road-** Cllr. Mumford had been in contact with Mr. Hussell regarding an unauthorised hole being dug by contractors developing the site.

**b) Parking difficulties-** Cllr. Mumford was seeking an update from Mr. Peter Brunt at Highways

**c) Bridgend Hill-** some of the trees had been pollarded by Western Power. Cllr. Mumford advised that after the War, Devon County Council had taken on responsibility for the right hand side of the hill to potentially widen the road. Most rights had been suspended, but rights relating to the land abutting one of the rear gardens at Newton Close had not been. The issue of the trees abutting the highway was being addressed with the owner. The Clerk had reported the overgrown pavement to DCC Highways Department.

**d) Court Road flood prevention measures-**the Chairman advised that she had referred Paul Taper from SHDC to the Development Control Department giving him planning references for recent development at Court Farm to enable him to investigate the impact on flooding. The Parish Council noted that Devon County Council had undertaken drain clearance in the Parish that week.

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- e) Highway Safety Awareness Training**-details had been provided to the Snow Warden.
- f) Junction Court Road/The Green**- parishioners had expressed concern regarding several near misses by cars failing to stop both leaving Court Road and entering Court Road from Parsonage Road. It was agreed that the parishioners would be advised that Members were aware of the problem but were unable to suggest a solution.
- g) Highways Budget Review**-had been submitted for consultation by Devon County Council including proposals to:
- Reduce locally determined highway drainage and cleaning activities carried out by Parish Lengthsmen
  - Review gully- emptying schedules to concentrate more on problem gullies
  - Stop specialist tree surveying on trees on privately owned land close to, but not on the highway
  - Stop routine renewal of non-essential road markings
  - Only repair streetlights when two or more lights become faulty
  - Stop cutting grass verges on minor roads (except for safety reasons)
  - Stop annual routine cleaning of cattle grids
  - Stop providing free stiles and gates to landowners with a public right of way and reduce vegetation clearance on more paths
  - Stop maintenance of variable message road signs and remove when they became defective
- The Parish Council had no response to make.

**235.2 Devon County Council Review of in house day service provision**- the Council had no response.

**235.3 Devon County Council Mobile Library Consultation**-it was proposed to reduce the frequency of mobile library visits from two weekly to four weekly. The members had no comments in respect of the consultation. Cllr. Mumford encouraged parishioners to use the service otherwise it could be lost.

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

**235.5 SHDC Asset Transfer/Parish Asset land registration**- concern was expressed that the Parish Council's Solicitors had not been in contact since 12 September 2013 despite email requests from the Clerk for updates. It was agreed that the Clerk should make one final attempt to contact the solicitor by telephone failing which a complaint would be made to the Managing Partner of Curtis Whiteford Crocker.

**235.6 Village Housing Initiative**- the Chairman advised that two weeks previously she had been advised by two District Councillors that there was no reason why the project should not be going ahead. It was agreed the Chairman should write to Tor Homes, copying in South Hams District Council and Gary Streeter M.P. expressing concern about the lack of progress and enquiring into the reasons why the project was not progressing.

**235.10 SHDC Public Conveniences**- there had been no update from South Hams District Council. It had been understood that Mr. Stuart Jellings, SHDC Environment Services Manager, had intended to come to the Parish Council Meeting on 28 November 2013 and would be providing costs information for keeping the Public WC's open over the winter months. It was agreed Mr. Matthews would investigate potential local alternatives.

**235.11 Super Cluster Meeting**- the Vice Chairman gave a report of the meeting held on 11 November.

**i) Devon County Council**-John Hart had advised that there would be cuts made in 30 million, 45 million and 30 million pound tranches. Staff would be cut from 9000-6000. Devon County Council would not be able to provide all the services they had undertaken before. Attendees had been given a list of all the various services, the cuts to be made and their precedence. There was ongoing consultation on the Tough Choices website.

**ii) South Hams District Council**- the Chief Executive Richard Sheard had advised that it was hoped budget cuts would not impact on front line services. Staff would be reduced by 25% over the next 2.5 years- it was hoped through staff leaving and retirement. He had described SHDC providing a more customer driven service and working in a more "agile" way. More staff would be working away from their desk with the appointment of locality officers. Details of the reduction in Council Tax Support Grant were given- the Parish should be receiving a reduction of £241.

**iii) Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm**-the group was working with 26 families affected by Dementia. The project had achieved national recognition and was to be registered as a Charity.

**iv) TAP applications**- had to be submitted by 10 January 2014 for Parish projects in partnership.

**v) Pre planning Applications**- Brixton Parish Council was unhappy with the process feeling it gave the impression to applicants that approval would be given to the submitted planning application.

**vi) Design Panel**- the Vice Chairman had raised the Parish Council's concerns regarding the conduct of Design Panel Meetings. Cllr. Hitchins had advised that the Council's letter of concern would be answered shortly.

## **236/13 PLANNING**

### **Appeals**

**236.1 Woodville Pillory Hill APP/K1128/A 13/2206911.** Proposed development: Resubmission of planning Ref: 37/2015/12/F for demolition of an existing 3 bedroom house and the erection of a new 2 level three bedroom house with a garage cut into the sloping site at street level. It was agreed to write to the Planning Inspectorate to confirm that Newton & Noss Parish Council robustly endorsed the decision made by South Hams District Council in refusing the application and the original reasons for objection given by the Parish Council made in respect of planning reference 37/2015/12/F.

### **Planning applications received including**

**236.2 Woodville Pillory Hill 37/2439/13/F**-demolition of existing three bedroom house and erection of replacement dwelling with garage. Application affected the setting of a Conservation Area. DECISION: Objection:

1. The application did not address the issues and reasons for refusal given in respect of planning application reference

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37/2015/12/F.

2. Visual impact.
3. Design and external appearance inappropriate for the site.
4. Side impact inappropriate for site.
5. Unsympathetic to the character of the area.
6. Light issues.
7. Overbearing.
8. Impact on a Conservation Area and the long views.
9. Roofline too high. (*Vote; Unanimous*)

**236.3 Redlands, Court Wood 37/2337/13/F**-replace extant householder planning approval 37/0112/10/F for summer house, extension to jetty, construction of slipway and refurbishment of existing boathouse. Affected a public footpath or right of way. DECISION: No comment. (*Vote: Unanimous*)

**236.4 The Lodge, Beacon Hill 37/2401/13/VAR**-application for variation of condition 3(substitute plans) of planning approval 37/2067/10/F (demolition of existing dwelling and garage replacement detached dwelling with integral garage and rooms in roof space.) DECISION: No comment. (*Vote: 7 in favour, 3 abstentions.*)

**236.5 Madge Point, Court Wood 37/2399/13/F**-householder application for amendments to jetty design of planning approval 37/0643/12/F (timber jetty with steps.) Affected a public footpath or right of way. DECISION: No objection. (*Vote; Unanimous*)

**236.6 Newton Close 37/2483/13/F**-householder application for alterations and extension to dwelling to accommodate mobility equipment. Affected the setting of a Listed Building. DECISION: Support. (*Vote: Unanimous*).

**236.7 Tunley Cottage, Yealmpton 37/2494/13/F**-householder application for two storey extension to existing dwelling house. DECISION: No objection. (*Vote; Unanimous*)

**Trees-** *Mr. Matthews left the Meeting.*

**236.8 Court House, Court Road 37/2429/13/TCA** -works to trees in a Conservation Area. The Parish Tree Warden's response was yet to be received. DECISION: No objection provided the SHDC Tree Officer was satisfied with the proposed plans. (*Vote: Unanimous*) *Mr. Matthews returned to the Meeting.*

#### **Correspondence**

**236.9 Point View House 37/0494/13/F**- the planning officer had confirmed that the application had been signed off and permission had been granted. That part of the original application which related to provision of a parking 'platform' had been withdrawn and the architect had advised that the applicant no longer wished to pursue this option. Site parking would therefore revert to what could reasonably be accommodated on the access drive, which extended all of the way down to the new house. Access width was wider than the original access so as to ensure a safe ingress and egress. SHDC Monitoring Officer had decided to take No Further Action in respect of the complaint laid by the applicant against two Members of the Parish Council. The Monitoring Officer did not consider the complaint disclosed any potential breaches of the Code of Conduct. This concluded the matter.

**236.10 SHDC Planning Training Workshop-** it was agreed Mrs. Ansell and the Vice Chairman would attend the workshop on 11 December.

#### **237/13 ADMINISTRATION**

**237.1 Budget 2014/2015-** draft Cashflow forecast, anticipated routine expenses, budget calculations and Contingencies discussed and approved at the meeting of the working group (Mrs. Ansell, Mr. Carter and Mr. Matthews) had been circulated to the Council prior to the Meeting. In addressing contingencies, it was agreed to include provision for a sinking fund to replace play park equipment. It was also agreed that no provision would be included at this stage to pay SHDC's likely significant costs for keeping the public conveniences open during the winter months in 2014/2015. It was further agreed that no provision would be included in contingencies for the costs of undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed in principle to maintain the existing Precept request of £39245 the final Precept figure would be finalised once SHDC confirmed the Council Tax Support grant to be allocated. A preliminary indication had been given by SHDC that this was likely to be reduced for 2014/2015 from £1778 to £1537.

**237.2 Councillor vacancies-** three applications had been received and circulated to Members. RESOLVED: that the co-option of Parish Councillors proposed for the Agenda for the Meeting on 28 November 2013 be conducted by secret ballot of those Councillors present and that, to the extent necessary to enable this to happen, the Council's Standing Orders would be suspended and/or modified accordingly in respect of that Meeting and that item of business only. (*Vote; 9 in favour, 1 objection*)

**237.3 Standing Orders/Financial Regulations-** it was agreed Mr. Matthews would review.

**237.4 Freedom of Information Act Model Publication Scheme-** RESOLVED: To agree and adopt the Information Commissioner's Office Model Publication Scheme which had been updated on 1 September 2013. (*Vote: Unanimous*)

**237.5 Community Orchard Apple Day-** the working group had met on 17 October 2013, the minutes of which had been circulated. South Hams District Council had given permission for use of the Community Orchard for the Community Orchard Apple Day on Sunday 17 November.

**237.6 Councillor Training-** Mr. Matthews had agreed to attend the Managing Public Spaces training on 20 November at Tavistock.

#### **238/13 CONSULTATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

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**238.1 Noss Hard-** following receipt of the Parish Council Defence to his claim, Mr. Colwell, the holidaymaker whose car had been flooded by the incoming tide at Noss Hard, had decided to discontinue his claim and had notified the court of same. Keogh's Solicitors had confirmed that the claim had been concluded. The Council's insurers Aviva and their brokers had been notified of the same.

**238.2 Allotments-** the Chairman had received two negative responses to the further five letters sent out to local landowners regarding potential sites.

**238.3 Correspondence: Sustainable Communities Act 2007:** it was agreed to take no further action at this time.

**239/13 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 240/13.

**240/13 FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

<b>Santander Current Account</b> :	Total balance at 1.11.13	<b>£72809.34</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:** **£3397.05**

Chq No	PAYEE		AMOUNT
1722	WIC Hall	Hire- NNPC Meeting 14 November	£22.00
1723	Newton & Noss Village Hall	Hire- NNPC Meeting 28 November 13	£20.00
1724	J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss & Popes Quay October 2013	£50.00
1725	S.McDonough	Net salary-October	£1,144.28
1726	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerks monthly Tax & National Insurance	£288.77
1727	M.Hingston	Cleaning: Newton Voss & steps October 2013	£124
1728	D. Goodchild	Grass cutting; The Green 4,17 & 31 October 2013	£48
1729	Devon & Cornwall Arborists	Tree felling; Broken Way**	£1,700.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£3,397.05</b>

\*Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 payments:£00 Total to date;£385.60

\*\*S.10 Open Spaces Act 1906

**241/13 FOOTPATHS**

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

**242//13. MEETINGS ATTENDED:**

**242.1 Harbour Authority-** Mr. Carter advised there had been difficulties with the Harbour Office's computer system. From next year RYHA discs would be required for all canoes, paddleboards and kayaks.

**242.2 Halls-**The Vice Chairman advised that progress had been made to raise funds for the WIC refurbishment. £2500 was due to be received from the District Councillor's Locality Budget. A Bridge Day had raised £650 which Barclays Bank had agreed to double. The WI Revue was pending, the Card Day having raised £1200. It was hoped work would start in the spring. The hall would be closed for 4-5 months. Mr. Matthews referred to the excellent job which the Vice Chairman had been undertaking as Chairman of the WIC Hall Committee, to get to the position the hall was in now, in respect of which he should be congratulated.Mrs. Ansell spoke in support of an application for grant funding to assist with the costs of the Newton & Noss Village Hall Christmas Lights.

**242.1.2 Yealm Estuary Management Forum-** Mr. Taylor advised that the meeting had taken place in late October. South West Water had given an interesting presentation on sewage treatment. There were two main issues. The first issue concerned the pipes taking matter up to the sewage works carrying salt water, the sewage works not being designed to work with salt water. Replacing pipework was reducing saline ingress. The second issue concerned the nature of the treatment effected by the sewage works. It had been working on a secondary stage basis, but South West Water was now fitting a third level of treatment on site by means of a reed bed.

**242.4. Ivybridge & District Association of Local Councils Clerks' meeting**

**i) Toilet closures-** Wembury and Bigbury Parish Councils had complained to SHDC advising that closures were unacceptable.

**ii) Dog Control orders-** policing these new laws would be a problem. SHDC may be prepared to accept 'local village' dog wardens. Information was awaited from SHDC on this.

**iii) S.106 agreements-** Wembury Parish Council Clerk had encouraged all Parish Councils to make sure that their Council was in discussions very early with planners and developers to ensure that the 106 funds did not get used by SHDC elsewhere in the District. Education allocation was set by formula but its application was thought to be

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unreasonable with monies going out to academies and secondary schools when local primary school facilities were severely lacking.

iv) **SHDC car parking charges-** Wembury car park would remain free. Yealmpton awaited the outcome of discussions.

v) **Neighbourhood Planning.** Yealmpton and Brixton would not be doing any plans as they saw no advantage to be gained. Plans were costly to do and were considered to be the responsibility of SHDC. SHDC were issuing a new form of "Pre planning community consultation" which was hoped would be an improvement.

**243/13. GRANTS-RESOLVED:** To make a grant of £25 towards the costs of the WIC Christmas Tree and £25 towards the costs of the Christmas lights for Newton & Noss Village Hall. (*Vote: 8 in favour, 2 abstentions*)

#### **244/13 MAINTENANCE**

**244.1 Sports Pavilion-**Mr. Tubb and Mr. Stitson would review and update the health and safety matters/risk assessments. Mr. Stitson advised that he had obtained a quotation to effect repairs to the showers but could be in a position to secure funding through Devon County Council's Invest in Devon source. Mr. Stitson advised that there was also a proposal to erect floodlighting on the Pavilion to enable the local football team to train on a Wednesday evening. The proposal was supported unanimously by the Parish Council.

**244.2 Parish Asset Inspection-** a schedule of potential works had been prepared by the Clerk and reviewed by Mr. Stitson. It was agreed to initially invite tenders to effect repairs/treatment to the detailed benches on the report. Mr. Stitson would discuss the redundant rollers and cricket nets with a member of the Cricket Club. It was thought the local football club would assist with improvements for the Sports Pavilion generally. Mr. Stitson would also speak with a parishioner regarding the Noss Hard lettering. Mr. Tubb would investigate the removal of the boulder from Big Slip Quay. It was agreed Mr. Hussell would speak with the landowner with a view to listing the Mounting Steps outside No 9 Court Road. Previous reports had been made to DCC Highways regarding the drain by the Polloxfen Archer Memorial silting up. The Clerk would chase. Matters in need of attention on SHDC land would be reviewed following transfer to the Parish Council. The signs for Noss Hard remained to be erected.

#### **244.3 Other areas for consideration-**

**i) Court Road footpath-**concerns were raised regarding the surface of the footpath by the entrance to Briar Hill Farm. Mr. Matthews agreed to speak with the landowner.

**ii) Luscombe May Tree planting-** Luscombe May had confirmed the tree was now available for planting. It was agreed Mr. Stitson would meet with representatives from Luscombe May with other volunteers from the Parish Council for the tree planting ceremony one Saturday morning. Mr. Stitson would dig the hole for the tree to be planted.

**244.4 Broken Way-**payment of the invoice received from Devon & Cornwall Arborists had been authorised. Disappointment was expressed that some damage may have been caused to two or three horizontal Revelstoke Railings. Mr. Carter would inspect. It was agreed to invite the contractors to effect repairs.

#### **In committee**

**244.5 Tree Inspections-**the Parish Council had received only one Tender to conduct Tree Inspections at The Green, Broken Way and Ferry Woods/Kilpatrick's. In consideration of the estimate given it was agreed the Clerk should invite Tenders to conduct a Tree Inspection in respect of Parish Council owned land at The Green only. Simon Putt, the SHDC Tree Officer would be invited to inspect two sycamore trees which could be of concern at Broken Way. Members did not consider it necessary to have a Tree Inspection undertaken in respect of land at Kilpatrick's/Ferry Woods.

#### **245/13 Revelarc, Riverside Road East**

The Chairman advised that the developers had arranged for a public meeting to take place at the Yealm Yacht Club on Wednesday 20 November to discuss access issues.

*The Meeting closed at 9.40pm*