

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

Held on 10 December 2015

PRESENT MRS ANSELL
MS. ADAMS

CLLR. GREEN
MR. CARTER

MR. COOPER
MRS COOPER

MR. HUSSELL

ALSO PRESENT; 2 parishioners

Mrs McDonough (Clerk)

OPEN FORUM

PCSO 30540 Andy Potter gave the following police report for November 2015;

Overnight 25th /26th theft of dinghy from moorings in front of Harbour Masters Office CR/082321/15.

Ms. Adams asked PCSO Potter about potential traffic calming by the Primary School. She wondered if either he or one of his colleagues would be available to provide some education on road safety. PCSO Potter advised that there had been educational visits in the past. The Vice Chairman suggested that there was a problem with inconsiderate parking at school collection/drop off times. However it did serve to reduce the speed of traffic during those times. There had not been any accidents there to his knowledge in the past 36 years.

Revelstoke Coombe, Hillside Cottages, Side Road, Noss Mayo- the architect was aware of troubles with the SHDC planning website and would be contacting SHDC regarding the incorrect reference number on the public notice .With respect to access to the Public Right of Way, the existing gate would be reused. He was aware of drainage concerns. There would be new drains and a deep soakaway. Soakaway and percolation tests had been undertaken. Supply would be taken off the private water supply which came into the existing property.

268/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE- there were apologies from Cllr. Baldry, Cllr. Blackler, Mr. Lyndon, Ms. Longworth, Ms. Cove and Mr. Tubb.

269/15 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED - members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. None were declared.

270/15 DISPENSATION REQUESTS-none.

271/15 MINUTES – the Minutes of the 12 November Meeting were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

272/15 VARIATION OF AGENDA –RESOLVED: Matters relating to consideration of quotations for the installation of rugby practice posts and pre planning applications/planning enforcement should be considered in committee. (Vote; Unanimous.)

273/15 PLANNING

Planning decisions

273.1 Rose Cottage, Riverside Road West, 37/2338/15/F-householder application for new parking space to side of property. Affected the setting of a Listed Building and a Conservation Area. SHDC; Refused.

273.2 Treveneth Farm, Gunsey Lane, 37/2336/15/F-householder application conversion of integral single garage to bedroom. Affected the setting of a Listed Building. SHDC: Granted.

273.3 Three Corners, Bridgend, 37/2402/15/F-householder application to replace two existing stone buildings with a new single boat store, sail loft and workshop. Affected the setting of a Listed Building and a public footpath or right of way. SHDC: Granted.

273.4 Brookings Down, Noss Mayo, 37/2337/15/F-householder application for construction of office space above existing garage. Affected a public footpath or right of way. SHDC: Granted.

273.5 Hillside House, 64 Court Road, 37/2169/15/F-householder application for first floor extension. SHDC: Granted.

Planning applications received including;

273.6 Revelstoke Coombe, Hillside Cottages, Side Road, Noss Mayo 2614/15/HHO- householder application for the construction of new dormer bungalow. The site adjoined/affected a public right of way. The SHDC planning website had been inaccessible from the preceding Friday to the day before the meeting. Members of the public had had difficulties in accessing the plans. The incorrect reference was on the public notice. The Chairman suggested the planners may be minded to refuse the applications as the access was considered inadequate. The neighbours thought the development was very close to their boundary and had raised overdevelopment concerns. It was thought a previous planning application for the site had been refused. Mr. Carter mentioned concerns raised by a neighbouring landowner whose stream on his land led down to Noss Hard. There were concerns over potential pollution from the proposed drains.

DECISION; Objection;

1. Access.
2. Outside the village development boundary.

3. Overdevelopment
4. Undeveloped coastal zone.
5. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
6. Drainage concerns.

Members commented that the reference number on the public notice for the application was incorrect making it difficult for members of the public to find and to consider the application on the South Hams District Council planning website. *(Vote; Unanimous.)*

273.7 Newton & Noss Neighbourhood Plan –Mr. Lunn and Mr. Pritchard had met with Devon Communities Together. The additional questions would have a minimal effect on the quoted cost. The next Steering Group Meeting would take place on 18 January when there was an expectation that members would have the questions they want addressed in the Housing Questionnaire available. DCT had pencilled the survey in 2016 which would be circulated at Easter with the results anticipated in July. An email from Mr. Buckland regarding the need to update the housing survey and potential use of Plymouth University Business School had been circulated to the Members and considered. It was agreed that a member of the Steering Group would contact Mr Buckland to discuss.

273.8 Planning applications during Christmas break-RESOLVED; for those applications in respect of which the Parish Clerk was unable to secure an extension from SHDC planning control to 15 January 2016 for the Council to respond, and in the event Members did not request an EGM, Members should submit their comments to the Clerk, the Clerk then having delegated authority under Section 101, Local Government Act 1972 to submit those comments on the Parish Council's behalf to South Hams District Council. *(Vote: 6 in favour, 1 extension.)*

273.9 Development Management Committee Site Inspection – Monday, 7 December 2015, **37/1426/15/F-** proposed Solar PV array at SX 553 496, Newton Downs Farm, Newton Ferrers and **37/2271/15/F-**field at SX 553 488, Newton Downs Farm, proposed temporary access from field onto Parsonage Road. The Chairman and Cllr. Green had attended with the Chairman representing the Parish Council. It was agreed the Chairman would represent the Parish Council at the Development Management Committee meeting on 16 December 2015 in respect of both the proposed solar farm at Newton Downs Farm 37/1426/15/F and Briar Hill Farm 37/2181/15/VAR. The Vice Chairman would also attend.

274/15 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS

274.1. County Council-Cllr. Hosking had not yet arrived.

274.2 Bus service- a complaint made by a parishioner to both the manager of Target Travel ad Devon County Council regarding the service and condition of the bus had been copied in to the Parish Council. Devon County Council had responded but the Council had not been made aware of any response from Target Travel. It was agreed to consider the matter at the next Parish Council meeting and in the interim to ask Mr. Lyndon to keep a note of any problems experienced whilst using the service.

274.3 Highways/Transport-

i) A379-no update.

ii) Grass cutting-the Clerk advised that she had spoken with Mr. Rob Turner, DCC Highway Asset Senior Officer, regarding grass cutting. There would be four cuts taking place- April, June, July and September. The areas would be based on visibility- although this was difficult to define. Maps had been passed to the Local Highways Officer who would need to mark out the visibility applicable areas. DCC had offered Parish Councils the opportunity of taking over responsibility for grass cutting in its entirety in return for which DCC would offer a fund of money by means of financial contribution.

iii) Wright's Lane- Cllr. Baldry and Cllr. Hosking were aware.

iv) The Brook- a parishioner had been in contact regarding the repainting of the parking lines which were larger than the old markings. There were concerns that this reduced the entrance from Newton Hill into the Brook area from 11ft to 7ft 10". If cars were parked on both sides there would be access issues. Mr. Nick Colton, DCC Highways, had advised that the matter had been passed to the parking enforcement team who had arranged for the linings work to be carried out.

v) Passage Woods- concerns regarding the estuary side fence had been passed to DCC. Mr. Nick Colton had advised that he would take a look to see if anything required an immediate response or whether it could be put forward for routine maintenance.

vi) Parsonage Road- concerns had been raised by parishioners regarding the speed of traffic down Parsonage Road passing through The Green area and inconsiderate parking. RESOLVED to ask Mr Nick Colton from DCC Highways whether a Highways Engineer could pay a visit either at school drop off/collection time to assess the perceived dangers. The offer from Mr Andrew Matthews's offer to work with Mr Hussell to develop a plan to alleviate parking at school times as accepted. *(Vote; 4 in favour, 3 against.)*

vii) School Crossing Patrol Consultation- it was agreed responsibility for any response lay with the Primary School.

viii) Devon Highways annual engagement survey- the Clerk was authorised to complete the survey.

274.4 Snow Plan – the Snow Plan and risk assessments were reviewed and accepted. Mr. Carter would check the snow gritter. The Snow Warden had advised grit bins were full. If there any were empty, DCC could be asked to refill by contacting them quoting the number of the bin. If a prolonged cold spell was experienced DCC may be unable to top them up but this would be rare.

274.5 District Council – apologies had been sent by Cllr. Baldry and Cllr. Blackler.

274.6 National Non Domestic Business Rates- upon an Informal Valuation Enquiry having been requested, the Valuation Office Agency had advised that the position regarding Noss Mayo car park had been reconsidered and the car park would be exempted.

275/15. ADMINISTRATION

275.1 Events applications- none received.

275.2 Budget 2016/2017- the working group had met and the draft budget circulated to the Members. Discussions took place as to whether to increase the Precept by 3% or 5% taking into account the recent transfer of SHDC land assets. Members considered the savings which would be achieved through termination of the lease for the consulting room at Bishops Court. It was agreed, in principle to agree a 3% increase in the Precept subject to receiving confirmation of the Council Tax Support Grant allocation and documentary confirmation that no monies would be due for National Non Domestic Business Rates. The budget would be finalised in January.

275.3 Bishops Court-the Primary School had agreed to store the display panels. The Parish Council email database had been contacted enquiring into alternative secure storage venues in the Parish. It was agreed Mr. Carter, the Clerk, the Chairman and Ms. Adams would make a visit to the Reading Room. If suitable a request would be made to the Reading Room Trustees/Committee.

275.4 Parish Councillor Vacancy- no By- Election had been requested. SHDC had confirmed the Parish Council could proceed to Co-opt. Notice had been put in the Parish Magazine, on the notice boards, had been sent for inclusion in "Up the Creek" , circulated to the Parish Council email database and put on the website. Cllr. Green agreed to carry out the quarterly accounts inspection in January with Mr. Carter. Responsibility for accounts inspections would be determined in February/ March following co-option.

Ms. Adams left at 8pm.

275.5 Risk schedule-the risk schedule had been circulated. It was agreed Mr. Carter would meet with the Clerk to discuss further.

276/15. CORRESPONDENCE

276.1 Dementia Friendly Parishes- an update from Mrs. Hirst had been circulated. The unique project, helping people with dementia and their families remain active and involved in their communities and raising awareness about dementia across the parishes of Wembury, Brixton, Yealmpton, Newton & Noss, entered its 4th year this month on a high note. In October Liz Hitchins, Secretary for the project, won the Volunteer of the Year Award in the 'Keeping People Safe and Well' category in the recent Devon Community Foundation Awards event. Liz was nominated by Maxine Kennedy, Project Coordinator, for her great commitment to the project and this was endorsed by parish votes and comments which the judges took into consideration in making the award.

Looking back over the past 3 years meeting the needs of people with dementia and their families in the community was firmly on the map in the 5 parishes. Maxine was currently linked with 50 families and had spoken on a regular basis to community groups raising awareness about dementia. They had set up and promoted groups for people with dementia to continue to be physically active, maintain their art and craft skills and for some try new ones, and take up reading again... all of these not only benefitted the individual but also enhance the quality of life for their family as a group. There was also a social group for support and sharing experiences. In the villages there had been enormous support for the project. Everyone was thanked who had generously supported them in a wide range of interesting ways. Their contribution and continuing support was very important to the sustainability of the whole project. As they went into their 4th year they planned to become a Charity.

A grant request for £100 to assist in supporting the project was considered. RESOLVED: To make a grant of £100 to the Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm project. *(Vote; Unanimous.)*

276.2 Devon Wildlife Trust- notification of a project being developed by South Devon AONB, in collaboration with others around Devon, looking at local community involvement with road verges was considered. It aimed to put local communities at the heart of managing, monitoring and celebrating the value that road verges brought to an area especially in terms of wildlife. It was hoped that the project would get underway by May/June 2016. The project was applying for funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and needed to demonstrate interest and support from parishes who may be interested in taking part in the project. The Parish Council had been asked to write a short letter of support if this project was of interest which could be included in the bid. It was agreed to confirm support in principle.

277/15 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 278/15

278/15 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Santander Current Account :	Total balance at 1.12.15	£68714.26
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		£390
Monies held in respect of the Locality Fund Grant from Devon County Council		£400

3/10December2015.....Chairman

The following cheques were authorised totalling:

£3384.48

Chq No	PAYEE		AMOUNT
2025	WI Community Hall	Hire fee NNPC Meeting 10 December 2015	£25.00
2026	S.McDonough	Net salary-November	£1,215.98
2027	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerks monthly Tax & National Insurance	£294.97
2028	S. McDonough	Expenses reimbursement- fire extinguisher/First Aid Kit for Sports Pavilion	£80.98
2029	RYDA	Grant towards Harbour Clean Up Insurance 2015*	£55.00
2030	EDF Energy Customers PLC	Sports Pavilion electricity 22-8-15 to 23-11-15	£45.93
2031	South Hams Garden & Property Services	Grass cutting; The Green 6 & 20 November 2015	£32.00
2032	South Hams Garden & Property Services	Supply and fit gate locks Collaton footpath	£27.56
2033	M. Hingston	Newton Voss & steps cleaning November 2015	£82.00
2034	Dartforest Tree Works Ltd	Resistograph tree decay testing- The Green	£195.00
2035	Spectrum Housing Group Limited	Buildings Insurance; Bishops Court consulting room	£7.66
2036	P.Burridge	Part payment annual maintenance invoice	£1,322.40
Total			£3,384.48
SO	Spectrum Housing Group Ltd	Bishops Court rent December 2015	£363.62
DD	BT	Broadband	£76.80

*Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 payments: £55 total to date; £305

279/15. MEETINGS ATTENDED:

279.1 Harbour Authority-Mr. Carter advised that the harbour fees would not be increasing next year. Investigations were taking place into the installation of cameras at Bridgend, Noss Hard, the Brook, and Madge Point, near Ferry Cottage and by the Coastguard Cottages. This would demonstrate a high level of surveillance around the harbour area

279.2 Halls-the vice chairman advised the WI Hall AGM would be held in March when both he and a number of other committee members would be standing down. Replacement members would be sought together with a new Parish Council representative. The Chairman advised there had been no meetings for Newton & Noss Village Hall.

279.3 Tough Choices roadshow- the Chairman had attended and had circulated notes from the meeting. The current year had seen cuts to Devon County Council funding for the fifth year in succession. Since the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review in 2010, DCC's core funding had been reduced by £109 million. With inflation, demographic and demand pressures this translated into savings in Council services of £174 million. On 25 November the Chancellor had announced the Government's latest Comprehensive Spending Review that set its spending plans for four years from 2016/2017 through to 2019/2020. There had been 4 headlines;

- i) An additional 2% rise in Council Tax to help fund Adult Social Care
- ii) A move to 100% Business Rates Retention. DCC currently received 9%, just under £22 million of Devon Business Rates with a top up from central Government of £72 million. There were potential risks and rewards.
- iii) Current schools funding was to be phased out with a new national funding formula from 2017. Devon's schools were currently some of the poorest funded in the country.
- iv) Cuts to public health funding- despite Devon receiving one of the lowest levels of grants per head of population the Government had taken back £1.6 million of grant for the current year with more cuts announced for coming years.
- v) Local Government Revenue Support Grant would be phased out. The grant had funded £87 million of Devon services in the current year.

The practical significance was not yet know but the loss of £87 million in Revenue Support Grant would mean an additional saving of over £100 million when account was taken of demand pressures and inflation. Funding was reducing but demand for services and costs pressures were increasing. This was particularly acute this year in Childrens' Services and Waste disposal. The introduction of National Living Wage would also significantly increase costs. DCC would know its level of Government Funding in mid December.

280/15 COUNTY COUNCIL

Cllr. Hosking reported on the following;

280.1 Budget- was being cut. The budget could not be confirmed as yet. Additional Council Tax could be charged to balance the budget. It was believed, in future years, the restricted ability to increase Council Tax would be relaxed. This would lead to more funding from local taxation rather than the Central Support Grant. The full retention of Business Rates was anticipated with perhaps full retention by 2020.

4/10December2015.....Chairman

280.2 Devolved powers- Devon & Somerset were formulating a proposal comprising a total of 19 authorities. Part of the proposals looked at sourcing a fund to be used as an investment fund to improve the productivity gap in the south west.

280.3 Broadband- was being put out to contract for phases 2 and 3 (10 % Broadband roll out). BT were continuing with phase 1 (90%). A number of firms had come forward but there was no information as to timescale. Green boxes were appearing in the Ward. Cllr. Green asked if it would help if a large number of parishioners requested connection. Cllr. Hosking advised that that could have helped in the early stages before the BT Contract was in place. He did not believe it would be helpful now. Mr. Carter pointed out that the Parish had been asked to respond to a survey a few years ago to establish demand for high speed broadband in the Parish but there had been a very poor response.

280.4 Parking at Newton Hill- he had noted Gary Streeter MP had been lobbied and had written to the Parish Council. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council preferred to support local businesses with time limited parking rather than resident parking.

280.5 A379- no update save that work was anticipated to start either shortly before or shortly after Christmas.

281/15 MAINTENANCE

281.1 Maintenance working groups-

i) Sports Pavilion- it was understood Mr. Tubb was liaising with the Sports Clubs regarding the Licences. The Sports Clubs insurance details were awaited as were their risk assessments. The Parish Council draft risk assessments were with the maintenance group for approval. It was understood the maintenance group were undertaking inspections. It was not clear whether the Sports Clubs were undertaking their inspections. It was agreed charges for the football/cricket clubs would remain unchanged from those charged by the Pavilion for 2014 and invoices would be submitted. The group would advise the Clerk of the respective treasurers' details. It was understood Mr. Tubb was arranging closure of the Sport Pavilion bank account and transfer of funds to the Parish Council. It was suggested the group may wish to meet to review matters particularly in relation to the clubs. The Vice Chairman had spoken with Mr. Furzeland regarding the cricket nets. Mr. Furzeland was due to inspect them the following week. The Vice Chairman would speak further with Mr. Furzeland and Mr. Harvey. The Clerk had bought the First Aid Kit and Fire Extinguisher which Mr. Hussell would be putting in the Pavilion. It was understood Mr. Lyndon would be placing the Fire Blanket at the Pavilion.

ii) The Green/Dillons Green-the risk assessments were pending.

iii) Play parks-the Vice Chairman had inspected Noss Play Park at the end of November and had noted water from a spring was creating a wet area at the bottom of the slide. New trees on the borders needed to be tied back and the brambles in the hedges killed off in the spring. He would speak with Ms. Longworth regarding the walkway to the telescope. SHDC had offered £5000 from the Big Greenspace Challenge fund for Butts Park Play Park which to be used for planting, landscape works and natural play features subject to the provision of further project details including a fully costed delivery plan. The group would liaise to provide the details and to decide what maintenance work needed to be done. Signs for the play parks were in hand.

iv) Noss Recreation Areas- the Chairman advised that there had been one car parked in the car park for some time. The Clerk advised that the Community Orchard Group had met with a representative from Orchard Link. The group had been awarded funding of £2500 for a community involvement project from Heritage Lottery funding. The group wished to seek the Parish Council's agreement in principle to construct a shelter in the orchard which could be used by teenagers, orchard users and those watching tennis. The group had been awarded a further £500 in funding from Langage sources to cover the costs of a site appraisal to advise on and be used for further planting. It had been suggested planting nut trees along the border with Brookings Down Wood with soft fruit trees/ primroses, soft fruits along the border with the play park and fruit trees close to the hedge on the roadside boundary. The Parish Council agreed to the plans in principle subject to approving the final design and layout. It was further agreed that the Community Orchard should have a link page from the Parish Council website. A quote would be sought for the website work.

281.2 Parish Asset Inspection- a schedule had been circulated with allocation of various areas to members. It was requested the annual asset inspection be completed by 1 March 2016

281.3 Annual Maintenance- the invoice for annual maintenance had been submitted. Members had issues with two pieces of work- on the Steemson seat at Popes Quay and the work on the bench and surrounds at The Green. RESOLVED; to authorise part payment of the invoice from Grounds Maintenance South West in the sum of £1322.40 leaving payment for the work at Popes Quay and The Green outstanding. Authority was delegated to the Chairman and Vice Chairman to approve payment of the balance of the invoice once the works had been completed to their satisfaction. *(Vote; Unanimous)*

281.4 Tree Inspections- the Resistograph testing results had been circulated to Members. The report recommended felling one of the Beech Trees at The Green, for removal of the stump and replanting with a tree which would be of similar stature at maturity. It was agreed to invite tenders for the work recommended by the Arboriculturalist as a result of the tree inspections.

281.5 Collaton/Butts Park footpath repairs- Ms. Cove had sent apologies. The matter would be put back to January. The adjacent landowner had suggested the problem lay with run off from the road.

Mr. Carter left at 9pm

281.6 TAP 2014/15- the drainage work at the bus stop at The Green had been completed.

281.7 Other areas for consideration- work on the handrail on the public footpath opposite "Vine Cottage,"Riverside Road West and the sign at The Green was due to be undertaken shortly.

In committee

281.8 Rugby practice posts- Cllr. Green advised that he had made initial enquiries regarding installation costs. It was agreed the Clerk should seek two quotes.

282/15. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT/PRE APPLICATIONS

Planning enforcement matters were considered.

The Meeting closed at 9.15pm