

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

Held on 9 February 2017

PRESENT MRS. ANSELL MR. COOPER MR.HUSSELL MR. CARTER
MS. ADAMS MR.LYNDON MR.PARRY-SMITH MS.LONGWORTH MRS. GRANT

ALSO PRESENT; Cllr. Baldry, 1 parishioner, Mrs. McDonough (Clerk).

OPEN FORUM

Police -PCSO 30540 Andy Potter had given apologies and had sent the following written police report for January 2017

Newton Ferrers -overnight 21st/22nd rear window of car damaged CR/005162/17

Noss mayo-no reported crime

28/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE- there were apologies from Cllr. Green, Mr. Tubb and Mrs. Cooper

29/17 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED - members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. Mr. Carter declared an interest in the planning application relating to 77 Yealm Road by reason of owning a neighbouring property.

30/17 DISPENSATION REQUESTS- none.

31/17/ VARIATION OF AGENDA – RESOLVED: matters relating to quotations for bus shelter repairs / Neighbourhood Plan planning consultant and the draft grounds maintenance contract should be considered in committee. (Vote; *Unanimous.*)

32/17 MINUTES- the Minutes of the 12 January Parish Council Meeting were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

33/17 DISTRICT COUNCIL

33.1 Councillor reports-

Cllr Baldry reported;

i) Budget- SHDC had approved the 2017/2018 budget. Band D Council tax (SHDC element) would increase by £5.00 p.a. being the maximum allowed by the Government.

ii) TAP Fund- the Parish Council had applied for £3000. The sum of £2815.50 had been approved. In essence all TAP fund applications had been reduced by 7 % due to the funding being over- subscribed.

iii) Barnicott- the planning appeal had been refused by the Planning Inspectorate in respect of the first application.

iv) Development Management Committee meetings- site visits would be taking place the following Monday in respect of "Whitegates", Parsonage Road and " The Greenhouse" with the DMC meeting taking place the following Wednesday. Cllr Baldry had objected to the planning application in respect of "Whitegates" even though the Parish Council had been in favour. It was likely the Development Management Committee would be looking at "Briar Hill" and the Pillory Hill planning applications in March.

Cllr. Baldry thought the planning decision made by the DMC in respect of "Land at the Fairway" had been disgraceful and had been interviewed by the BBC for the Sunday Politics Show- as had the Parish Council Chairman. Cllr. Baldry would be meeting with Gary Streeter M.P. on 24 February to discuss. He thought Ms. Adams had spoken very well and had been very persuasive on behalf of the Parish Council, at the Development Management Committee meeting when the application had been considered.

v) The Local Plan- Cllr. Baldry confirmed SHDC did not have a 5 year land supply. The Joint Local Plan which was to go before SHDC in March would meet the 5 year land supply. It would be subject to six months consultation and then would be put before an inspector probably in the autumn. Neighbourhood Plans would then increase in importance.

vi) Local Authority Controlled Company- this would not take place. The pension fund implications had been too great.

33.2 Noss Mayo Play Park- the Parish Council had received a reply from Mr Alex Whish, South Hams District Council regarding the strimmer damage to the play park equipment. He understood various issues had arisen with the play space and efforts were being made to resolve these between the original play provider (Earth Wrights), the Parish Council and the District Council. In particular very specific problems around the condition of the timbers used in the construction of the play equipment and subsequent decay.

In terms of the strimmer damage, this had been noted and the grounds maintenance team alerted to prevent this in the future. However, he considered the resulting damage was principally as a result of decaying wood where in contact with the ground; this point being raised in the Annual inspection dated March 2016. The weakened timber had then been affected by the strimming. It was the view of SHDC that the timber was the actual problem. The acknowledgment by Earth Wrights in needing to treat all the timbers at ground level, confirmed this point.

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The District Council was aware that the strimming had had some impact and on that basis it would be reasonable for a contribution to be made where replacement uprights were required as a direct consequence. At present the timbers where strimming damage has been observed were not being raised as a structural issue (Annual Inspection - March 2016). Inspections would continue by SHDC until new arrangements were made later this year and the post bases closely assessed, with any concerns would be brought to the attention of the Parish for actioning. If the treatments which were being suggested by Earth Wrights work, then the condition of the timbers should stabilise, and the normal life expectancy of the timbers could be reached. However, if the integrity did become an issue, the District Council would consider contributing to any proposal for replacement in support of the Parish and if within a reasonable timescale.

33.3 Village Housing Initiative- it was understood one local family had been allocated a house and that the properties were having to be re-advertised. Local people who were in secure rented housing had been unable to secure an allocation as they were not deemed to have a "housing need." The N3P group were looking at Community Land Trusts. Cllr. Baldry asked the Parish Council to advise him of any people allocated housing on the development who were undeserving. The allocations should be for local people.

33.4 Homeless consultation- the Parish Council had no response to make to the SHDC consultation.

34/17 PLANNING

34.1 Neighbourhood Plan- the Chairman advised that there had been many meetings. The first draft of the plan and policies had been prepared and was being reviewed. There were still some consultations to be undertaken and responses analysed. It was hoped the plan would go for consultation over the weekend of 1st and 2nd April 2017 in the halls. There would then be 6 weeks giving people the opportunity to respond and for the answers to be incorporated into the plan.

Planning applications received including;

34.2 Creek House, 77 Yealm Road 4223/16/HHO-householder application for construction of new internal stair access and alterations internally. Mr. Carter took no part in the debate or vote. DECISION; No objection. (*Vote; 8 in favour.*)

34.3Sail Away, Bridgend 4121/16/HHO- retrospective planning application for the retention of boundary wall. DECISION; No objection. (*Vote 6 in favour, 1 objection, 2 abstentions.*)

34.4 AONB-CPRE Plymouth and South Hams and the South Hams Society public meeting regarding protection of the AONB landscape, Friday 24 February- no members were available to attend.

34.5 Development Management Committee February- it was agreed the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Mrs. Grant would be attending the site visits in respect of "The Greenhouse" and "Whitegates" the following Monday. It was agreed the Chairman would speak in respect of "The Greenhouse" planning application at the DMC meeting on the following Wednesday.

35/17 ADMINISTRATION

35.1 Events applications- none

35.2 Fixed Assets Schedule 2016/2017- a draft had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. RESOLVED; to approve and agree the Fixed Assets Schedule for 2016/2017. (*Vote; Unanimous.*)

35.3 Annual Parish Meeting- arrangements were agreed for the Annual Parish Meeting at 6.30pm Thursday 23 March. Cllr. Baldry advised he would be attending.

36/17 CORRESPONDENCE

36.1 Dementia Friendly Parishes- Mrs. Caroline Hirst had sent a report-

The 'Living with Dementia' workshop held in the W. I. Hall Newton Ferrers on 17th November had been well attended and the informal, informative presentation given by Maxine Kennedy led to a very open and poignant discussion amongst some members of the attending group. Owing to the time spent running the workshops, their meeting on 25th November was cancelled. Regrettably, Mrs. Hirst had been unable to attend their meeting held on 6th January so was unable to fully report on it at this time. She was however able to inform the Parish Council of the following:

- They were currently working towards registering as a Charity.
- The Church's Together – Dementia Awareness Conference had been successful and well attended.
- Maxine had attended a meeting about iPads set up by Mr. Roy Fenner.
- The Country File programme shown on the 8th January included -filming in their Social Reading Group.
- A new 'Singing Together' event started at St Mary's School Brixton on Friday 20th January
- The Watermark at Ivybridge had begun dementia friendly screening of films.

Their most recent article for publication included their thanks extended to the Parish Council for its continuing support as well as further information about their activities within the parishes. The next meeting would be on the 10th February at 10.00 – 12.00 at the Parish Rooms in Yealmpton.

36.2 Broadband- the Parish Council had endeavoured to arrange a public information session on Tuesday 24 January 2017 where interested fast broadband suppliers could inform residents of their preferred solutions to rectify broadband deficiencies in the Parish. All of the approved contractors listed on the Connecting Devon & Somerset (CDS) website (20+) who may have been interested in providing a timely pooled service, to comply with the CDS voucher scheme, were invited to contact the Parish Council as quickly as possible. As none of the contractors had

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made contact with the Parish Council, it was decided to cancel the meeting. Subsequent to this, several of them contacted the Parish Council to express interest in assisting parishioners.

Mr. Brown had given an update;

Membland-queries had been raised by Mr. Brown with CDS as to the accuracy of the records that were used for the Voucher Scheme (particularly Membland) where residents may have been erroneously told they already had access to fast broadband and had their applications rejected. Their cases were being urgently reviewed by CDS and vouchers may be forthcoming.

The next 2 months- Mr. Brown strongly urged those who had been allocated vouchers to contact the interested contractors to find the best interim solution for their individual sites.

Beyond March –for the Phase 2 rollout of broadband under the Government’s rural scheme, CDS had engaged Gigaclear Ultrafast Broadband to deliver fibre optics directly to premises. The fibre optic solution had many benefits over using existing copper telephone cables, particularly with regard to much faster speeds. The Phase 2 roll-out map was currently being worked on and was likely to be available on the CDS website in the next couple of months. Informal consultation with CDS indicated most parts of the Parish, currently unserved by BT’s Superfast system, would have ultrafast fibre connections by Christmas. Gigaclear should offer a much faster broadband service than was currently provided by BT.

At this stage it could not be confirmed who would or would not definitely have access to the Gigaclear service, but it was likely to be a substantial part of the remaining unserved Parish (including Membland). For this reason parishioners close to the centres of the villages, eligible for Phase 2, may prefer not to engage into long-term contracts (greater than 9 months) with suppliers until they had been able to evaluate Gigaclear’s offer when it became available. It was suggested those who were in range of the existing BT Superfast cabinet from Phase 1, at the Newton Ferrers exchange, would not have access to Gigaclear, as they already had a significantly improved broadband capability through BT.

Unfortunately, it looked as if those in remote southern and western coastal spots may not be covered by Phase 2; a 4G or satellite solution could be particularly appropriate for these isolated properties.

It was therefore suggested that parishioners approached the interested contractors directly if they:

1. Had CDS vouchers
2. Were in remote southern and western spots unlikely to be covered by Phase 2 rollout
3. Were seeking an interim faster solution, pending Phase 2 rollout
4. Anyone else who was dissatisfied with their present level of service

Mr. Jeremy Brown was thanked for his considerable assistance in liaising with CDS and for his technical advice.

36.3 Air Ambulance- Holbeton Parish Council had advised that their Council was discussing the possibility of having landing lights put in their recreation ground at Battisborough Cross, with the Air Ambulance operating the lights remotely by mobile telephone. Quotes were to be considered. The Air Ambulance would contribute half the cost. The Community Helipad Development Officer, Mr. Russell was coming to their parish council meeting to discuss, Cllr. Green had advised that one parish council in the South Hams had put in a successful bid for Tap funding for lighting and other equipment for a helipad on their land. The Clerk advised the Parish Council that Mr. Russell had been contacted in February 2016 to advise of the Parish Council’s suggestion for some investigation to be undertaken into two sites in the Parish- Noss Green and Butts Park Playing Field. No response had been received. A paramedic in the parish had advised that Butts Park would be the preferred site as it would be more easily accessible for both the ambulance and helicopter. The Sport Pavilion already had floodlights. It was agreed to take no further action at this stage.

36.4 St. Peter’s Flower Festival- a request had been received for the Parish Council to provide a flower arrangement for the festival 23-25 June 2017. Ms. Adams volunteered to co- ordinate. It was agreed members would make contributions to the display shortly prior to the festival.

37/17 COUNTY COUNCIL

37.1 County Councillor report- Cllr. Hosking had not yet arrived.

37.2 Highways/Transport-

i) Winter highways- Mr. Paul Clark, the Parish Snow Warden was in attendance. Mr. Simon Cawse who had kindly stored the towable salt gritter and had stood as volunteer driver, would be away for an extended period. He had asked that alternative arrangements be made to store the gritter and sixty bags of salt and for a replacement volunteer driver to be found. This had had to be arranged at short notice. A number of people had been contacted and a message sent around the email database. The gritter was now stored in a barn owned by Ms. Mij Macleod who charged 10p per square foot per week. **RESOLVED;** to store the gritter and salt bags, for the time being, at Orchard Cottage, Netton Farm and to authorise payment of the charges at 10p per square foot per week. *(Vote; Unanimous.)* Members were invited to consider alternative storage arrangements within a more central location. Mr. Mark Steggles had offered to replace Mr Cawse as volunteer driver. It was suggested that Members consider volunteers who may be able to assist the Snow Warden with monitoring /salt bin top up and other volunteer drivers. Drivers would need to check arrangements with their insurers to confirm that they would be insured to tow the gritter.

ii) Bridgend Hill- concern was raised about overhanging vegetation on Bridgend Hill, Newton Ferrers. The parishioner was advised to report the matter using the Devon County Council Highways website. The Clerk would also report the matter.

ii) **Middlecombe**- the defective road surface would be reported on line.

iii) **Court Road**- Mr. Nick Colton had advised that a letter would be sent to a landowner on Court Road who had developed a highway verge belonging to Devon County Council.

38/17 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 39/17. The Clerk had been advised that the Neighbourhood Plan group had been holding a number of meetings in the village halls for which invoices could be expected. The funding budget would need to be monitored.

39/17 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

Balance in Unity Trust Deposit account		£21003.65
Santander Current Account :	Total balance at 31/01/17	£67555.03
The balance includes:		
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
Awards for All grant Butts Park Play Park		£9990
Monies granted by Parish Council/ Revelstoke Community Trust/Ryda/Community Rights Programme for Neighbourhood Plan		£5299.40

The following cheques were authorised totalling: **£2314.89**

Chq No	PAYEE		AMOUNT
2230	Newton & Noss Village Hall	Hire fee NNPC Meeting 9 February 2017	£24.00
2231	Newton & Noss Village Hall	Hire fee NNPC Meeting 23 February 2017	£24.00
2232	S.McDonough	Net salary-January2017 inc use of home as office	£1,496.86
2233	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerk's Tax and National Insurance January	£477.86
2234	Information Commissioner	Data protection registration- renewal	£35.00
2235	A.Cooper	Travel expenses reimbursement	£66.60
2236	S.McDonough	Expenses reimbursement- stationery	£46.32
2237	M.Hingston	Newton Voss and steps cleaning January	£82.00
2238	PBS Accounting	Payroll services January-March 2017	£8.25
2239	WI Community Hall	Hall hire- Neighbourhood Plan Meeting 24 January 2017	£12.00
2240	South Hams Garden & Property Services	Grass cutting; The Green 15/12/16 & 19/1/17	£32.00
2241	South Hams Garden & Property Services	Noss Green- trim & clear unsafe branch	£10.00
		Total	£2,314.89

*Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 payments:£0 total to date;£470

DD	EDF	Sports Pavilion	£10.00
DD	B & C E Financial Services Ltd	Employee/employer Pension contribution December	£16.88
SO	Reading Room	Storage facilities	£40.00

40/17. MEETINGS ATTENDED:

40.1 Harbour Authority- Mr Carter had no report.

40.2 Halls- Mr. Parry- Smith advised that the "Gallery Project" had not wished to renew the Licence for the small back room. Improvement were being made to the room which was available for small meetings. It was hoped to effect improvements to the garden. Broadband should be available by the end of the month and a telephone landline for emergency use. Ms. Adams advised that Wi Fi should be available in the WI Hall from March.

41/17. MAINTENANCE

41.1 Maintenance working groups-members were asked to review their risk assessments for the land assets for which they were responsible and to notify the Clerk of any changes/ to confirm the risk assessments were in order. A risk assessment for the rugby posts was still needed.

i) Sports Pavilion – Mrs. Christine Finch had advised that Devon County Council had granted £2300 towards the pavilion refurbishment. The Cricket Club and Revelstoke Rangers had been asked to contribute £350 each, to give £3000. It would be used to refurbish the pavilion – new toilets, showers, kitchen cupboards and sink and decorate throughout. There were no electrics – all plumbing, so no certificates were required. The electrics had been

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checked and the showers would be like for like. She had been asked to provide the contractor's quote, risk assessment and public liability insurance

The two clubs had sorted out most of the rubbish/ old kit etc. that was no longer needed. She had also drawn up a schedule for each club, to ensure that it stayed clean and tidy after each use.

The quote detailing the work had been received. The work was agreed and approved by the Council.

ii) The Green/Dillons Green- the Vice chairman was waiting to hear from the lady who wished to place a memorial seat on The Green.

iii) Play parks-

Butts Park Play Park

- The new play park equipment had been installed and appeared to be very much appreciated. The area around the Rota Net would need protection. Provision of grass guard would be investigated.

- Community Reinvestment Fund application would be determined in March. The gym equipment element had been removed as this was being funded by the new TAP Fund application and Awards for All. The gym, replacement swings, basketball area and replacement self-closing gates would be progressed once the CRF application had been determined. **RESOLVED:** the Clerk was authorised to sign the TAP Fund Agreement on behalf of the Parish Council. *(Vote; Unanimous.)*

-Flete Gardens- would be undertaking the ground work for the Table Tennis area shortly.

-The group were investigating the possibility of work being undertaken to "thin" the Horse Chestnut trees in the park which were felt to be oppressive. Funding may be available if the Tesco's grant application was successful.

Noss Play Park- the repairs had been undertaken by Earthwrights in respect of which there were a couple of matters which needed to be clarified. The sand had not yet been topped up. There was outstanding work to be undertaken on one of the benches- the Clerk would speak to the contractor who had quoted to undertake the work.

i) Noss Recreation Areas – the Chairman advised that the Tennis Club had agreed to repair the step which had been damaged during the recent re surfacing. Both she and Mr. Parry Smith had worked on the stream grilles to keep them clear.

41.2 Other areas for consideration-

i) Newton Voss- Mr. Carter agreed to cut back the protruding wire rods. Devon County Council Public Rights of Way department had confirmed that work to repair Newton Voss steps would be undertaken before the end of their financial year.

In committee

42/17 BUS SHELTER REPAIRS- **RESOLVED;** to authorise work to strip back the ivy and repaint the bus shelter on Yealm Road in the sum of £110. *(Vote; Unanimous.)*

43/17 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN, PLANNING CONSULTANT-

Cllr. Green had provided details of the three planning consultants approached for quotations. He had met all three. Copies of the work specifications and quotations provided and considered by the Steering Group had been sent to the Council. The Steering Group had authorised the instruction of Mr. Lee Bray. The Planning Consultants Fees to 31 March 2017 had been budgeted for within the funding application through the Community Rights Programme. **RESOLVED;** to confirm the instruction of Mr. Lee Bray to act as Planning Consultant for the Newton & Noss Neighbourhood Plan to 31 March 2017. *(Vote; Unanimous.)*

44/17 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

A draft contract prepared by the Clerk had been forwarded to the Vice Chairman and Mr. Parry Smith. Mr. Parry-Smith advised the Council that he was happy with the draft. It was agreed to send the draft contract to South Hams Garden & Property Services for consideration.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm