

# Newton St Cyres Parish Council

## Minutes of Newton St Cyres Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Hall Clubroom on Thursday 3 November 2016

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

### Members present:

Cllr D Baker (Chair)	Cllr A Reeves
Cllr K Anstey	Cllr G Quicke
Cllr J Baker	Cllr C Southcott
Cllr J Enright	Cllr P Taylor
Cllr S Parker	

In attendance: J Hole, Parish Clerk, Cllr P Hare-Scott, MDDC, 4 members of public (3 left after the public session)

### Business to be Transacted Public Participation

- I. Police Report  
Calls for September 2016: 1 x concern for welfare, 1 x tree in road A377, 1 x Hit and run RTC (NSC), 2 x Burglary (NSC), 1 x cows in road A377, 1 x drugs related (NSC), 3 x Male walking in road (A377), 1 x parking Issues (school), 1 x vehicles left running, 1 x alarm  
Crimes for September 2016: 3 x burglary
- II. Public Question Time  
A van parking on the grass verge by Tytheing Close was damaging the grass and causing an obstruction. **Clerk to inform Police** and ask the school to put a note in the school newsletter requesting parents to park considerately.  
An allotment holder spoke in favour of retaining the allotment facility and reported that there were two parishioners who wanted to take on plots.  
No correspondence or press release had been received from Devon Air Ambulance Trust

### Formal Business

- 1/11/16 Apologies**  
Cllr M Squires, DCC (unwell)
- 02/11/16 Declaration of interest**  
Item 13 – Cllr J Enright
- 03/11/16 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 6 October 2016**  
Agreed and signed as a true record
- 04/11/16 Mid Devon District Council**
- 4.1 Planning Applications:  
16/01371/HOUSE – erection of a garden/sports equipment store at 12 Godolphin Close, Newton St Cyres – councillors resolved to object to this application on the grounds that the proposed building was in-front of the existing dwelling, was too large and the proposed hedge would adversely affect the surrounding area. In addition councillors did not wish to see a precedent set for allowing large buildings in front of dwellings.
- 4.2 Planning Decisions:  
16/01096/RPPS - Removal of public payphone service telephone number 01392 851253 opposite The Beer Engine Public House, Newton St Cyres – grant consent. The Clerk had received a contract from BT in respect of the adoption of this kiosk. BT had also sent a contract for the kiosk outside the Crown & Sceptre. However, this had not gone through the consultation process and the Clerk was waiting for further clarification from BT.  
**Clerk to put** use of the kiosks on the February agenda.

- 4.3 Report from Cllr P Hare-Scott  
Cllr J Hart, DCC had invited Parish Council Chairman and Clerks to attend a “tough choices” presentation in December. The local plan was being presented to cabinet on 21 November. MDCC were working to balance their budget for next year and still had savings to find. Increased recycling rates had led to increased revenue which would go some way to offsetting the additional cost of the new waste facility. There had been no news from government on the proposal that district councils would retain a greater percentage of business rates. The governments autumn statement was awaited.

## 05/11/16 Finance

- 5.1 To approve signatures for this month's cheques  
Cllr S Parker and Cllr P Taylor
- 5.2 Parish Council Payments Current and Footpath Account:  
These were agreed as:

Item	Payee	Purpose	Amount £
5.2.1	M J Nicholls	Grass cutting September	85.00
5.2.2	DALC	AGM/Conference – David Baker	20.00
5.2.3	CardiacScience	Defibrillator and associated kit	1,566.00
5.2.4	J Warren	Drainage work to parish hall car park	1,000.00
5.2.5	J Hole	Salary and expenses	264.94
5.2.6	HMRC	PAYE	25.60
			<b>£2,961.54</b>

### Footpath

5.2.7	Country Matters	FP No.5 Nortons Cross to Little Newcombes	<b>258.64</b>
			<b>£258.64</b>

Cllr D Baker explained that the difference between the grant received from the Community Support Group and the actual cost of the defibrillator was the VAT element which would be re-claimed by the council

- 5.3 To sign a bank transfer letter to transfer £300.00 from the current account to the Footpath account

This was duly signed

- 5.4 Parish Council Receipts Current Account:

Item	Payee	Purpose	Amount £
5.4.1	MDCC	Precept (2 <sup>nd</sup> instalment)	6,384.00
5.4.2	Community Support Group	Grant for defibrillator	1,305.00
5.4.3	DCC	Additional P3 grant for work to FP No. 5	300.00
5.4.4	Allotment holder	Reimbursement for allotment topping	15.00
			<b>£8,004.00</b>

- 5.5 Balances

5.5a Parish Council Current Account balance: £11,951.89

5.5b Parish Council Reserve Account balance: £841.21

5.5c Parish Council Footpaths Account: £281.70

- 5.6 Financial Statement and Budget Monitor  
These were noted

### Break in procedures for signatories to sign cheques for payment

## 06/11/16 Matters raised by the Chair

- 6.1 Lamp post in Parish Hall – the old-fashioned lamp post, owned by the PC, located by the emergency shed in the Parish Hall grounds is in need of restoration. To consider any action

It was resolved to obtain a quote. Cllr A Reeve to progress.

- 6.2 Report from DALC AGM and Conference

Cllr D Baker gave a brief report of the event which had included a presentation by Cllr J Hart (DCC) and various workshops. The DALC subscription would be increasing by 1%.

## 07/11/16 Councillor's Reports

### 7.1

#### Areas of Responsibility Reports

*Noticeboards* – notices were still being stuck rather than pinned on the Sand Down Lane Noticeboard.

*Footpaths* – Cllr S Parker would be attending the P3 workshop and walk at Morchard Bishop tomorrow.

*Recreation Ground* – A sign for DAAT landing site and the new defibrillator was required. The sign should also note the defibrillator. **Clerk to establish** wording and cost and request a locality grant from Cllr M Squires.

*Friends of the Station* – Cllr C Southcott reported that additional volunteers were required. Cllr D Baker reported that as a follow up from the parish plan, the development group would be sending a questionnaire to village organisations asking what volunteers were required.

*Press* – the winter newsletter was at the printers and the housing survey was also ready. Cllr D Baker would deliver both to councillors within the next week for delivery to all households in the parish.

*Raddon Hills* – a meeting had taken place last week and the notes had been circulated to councillors. Lesley Smith from DALC had given a presentation on devolution which, if it went ahead, would place another layer of government above parishes. Across the Raddon group there was still some dissatisfaction with regard to communication and services received from highways.

*Community Speed Watch* – was back running following the summer break and Cllr K Anstey would be attending her first session shortly.

*School* – the local flood authority had not signed off the drainage arrangements at the new school site so planning permission was still outstanding. **Clerk to advise** Cllr M Squires and Cllr P Hare-Scott would liaise with Planning

*Development sub group* – the first meeting had taken place on 31 October. **Clerk to circulate notes with next agenda**

*Creedy local Action Group* – a meeting was scheduled for 9 November

*Community Resilience Group* – Cllr A Reeves had walked the stream recently with two members of the flooding group and various issues had been noted and reported to highways.

*Neighbourhood Watch* – Cllr J Enright was ensuring everyone was kept up to date and would be writing articles for the Newton Wonder

*Boniface Trail* – Cllr P Taylor reported that Cllr M Squires had awarded a £2,000 locality grant to the group. Land owner agreements were being discussed and once signed, a planning application would be submitted.

### 7.2

#### Surgeries:

##### 7.2a Matters raised on 22 October 2016

i) Following the burglaries in Court Orchard, a resident requested a light be installed near the garages. Cllr P Hare-Scott will make enquiries to see if this would be possible.

ii) A resident wanted to install a handrail at the bottom of their front door steps for safety reasons and thought they had been told by MDDC that this was not allowed. Cllr P Hare-Scott would seek further clarification from Planning and Cllr P Taylor would check the land registry details to see where the resident's boundary was.

iii) A parishioner reported that following the recent work in the parish hall car park, the step half way down was too high for disabled access. Cllr K Anstey agreed to raise this at the next parish hall committee meeting.

iv) A resident asked why the double white lines had been removed on the A377 between Ford Farm and Half Moon. This was for safety reasons to try and make traffic slow down to prevent vehicle strikes to one of the houses.

##### 7.2b Next surgery 26 November

Cllrs D and J Baker to attend

## 08/11/16 Clerk's Report

No report

**09/11/16 Parish Council**

**9.1 Allotments**

9.1a To consider request from the Chairman that Minute 9.1 from the parish council meeting of 6 October be rescinded in light of legal advice and the meeting of allotment holders.

Cllr D Baker explained that the decision taken at the last meeting to give notice to the allotment holders was illegal as there is no relevant notice clause in the tenancy agreement. He requested that five councillors agree that the minute be rescinded. All councillors were in agreement and the minute was duly rescinded.

9.2b To receive legal advice and notes of allotment holders meeting

Four out of five allotment holders had attended the allotment holders meeting and notes from the meeting had been circulated to councillors. One allotment holder had yet to pay for the allotment topping. Those attending the meeting had argued strongly for the allotment facility to remain. They were willing to pay £20.00 per plot plus costs of topping. The Clerk had received e-mail confirmation of this commitment from three of the five allotment holders. Legal advice was that a year's notice from 6 April 2017 would be required. The increased rent per plot should ensure that going forward, the allotments were not running at a loss. It was resolved to ask allotment holders to sign an addendum to the tenancy agreement stating that they would pay £20.00 per plot in advance by 1 April or notice will be given and that they would pay additional maintenance costs if necessary. **Clerk to draft** and pass to Cllr P Taylor for checking.

**10/11/16 Devon County Council**

**10.1 Outstanding Highways issues**

- I. Hole in wall at Shutten brook at Meadowlands in West Town – with DCC structures for action
- II. Cars parking on pavement at Half Moon bus stop – with Steve Tucker and parking enforcement
- III. Bank at Langford junction – e-mail sent to David Whitton, waiting to hear
- IV. Directional sign on village green for parish hall – remove from list as vinyl had been ordered.

Cllr A Reeves requested that the drainage works at Smallbrook be added to the list and reported that Steve Densham, MDDC is progressing this issue

**10.2 New issues for Cllr Southcott to take to DCC**

There were no new issues. It was noted that Cllr C Southcott would be attending the Highways Conference on 23 November

**10.3 Report from Cllr M Squires.**

There was no report

**11/11/16 Miscellaneous Correspondence**

A grant request had been received from the Citizens Advice Bureau. **Clerk to put** on next agenda.

**12/11/16 Minor Matters and Items for Future Agenda**

The next meeting was the budget meeting and councillors were requested to let the clerk know of any items that should be included. Cllr D Baker and the Clerk would meet to agree a draft budget. The Clerk was requested to find out what work the parish lengthsman carry out.

**13/11/16 Date for next meeting:**

It was resolved to move the date of the next meeting to Friday 2 December 2016, 7,30pm in the Club Room, due to the School production which would be taking place in the main hall on Thursday 1 December.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm