

Newton St Cyres Parish Council

Minutes of Newton St Cyres Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Hall Club Room on Thursday 1 June 2017

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Members present

Cllr J Enright (Chair)

Cllr C Southcott

Cllr S Parker (arrived 8.15pm)

Cllr P Taylor

Cllr G Quicke

In attendance: J Hole, Parish Clerk, 2 members of public

Business to be Transacted Public Participation

- (i) Police Report
There was no report
- (ii) Public Question Time
Car were still parked in the Half Moon Bus Stop and no enforcement action appeared to have been taken. Cllr J Enright confirmed that the appropriate authorities were aware that the bus stop was a designated bus stop and that local residents had been informed that they may receive a ticket if parked in the bus stop.

Formal Business

01/06/17 Apologies

Cllr D Baker, Cllr J Baker (holiday), Cllr A Reeves (holiday), Cllr P Hare-Scott, MDDC (away), Cllr M Squires (holiday), Cllr S Parker would arrive late.

02/06/17 Declaration of Interest

Item 9.3 – Cllr P Taylor (PI)

03/06/17 Minutes of the last meeting held on Thursday 4 May 2017

Agreed and signed as a true record

04/06/17 Mid Devon District Council

4.1 Planning Applications

None

4.2 Planning Decisions:

17/00428 - Erection of extensions and other alterations following demolition of existing extensions at Hunters Lodge, West Town Road, Newton St Cyres – permission granted
17/00443/ADVERT – Advertisement consent to display 1 non-illuminated fascia sign at A377, South of Newbridge Cross, Langford Road, Langford, Newton St Cyres - permission granted

17/00512/HOUSE- erection of a detached double garage and car port following removal of garden shed at 5 Creedy View, Newton St Cyres, Exeter EX5 5AU – withdrawn

17/00302/LBC – Repair of damaged wall with block and render to match existing at 1 Broadgate Cottages, Newton St Cyres – permission granted

- 4.3 To note response from Minister for Housing and Planning re need of local plan to plan positively for development and infrastructure required by new developments
A copy of the letter from Gavin Barwell, MP, Minister for Housing and Planning had been circulated. This stated that “in preparing their local plan, the local authority is expected to work with other authorities to assess the quality and capacity of infrastructure, including transport infrastructure, and its ability to meet forecast demands” Cllr J Enright stated that the MDDC local plan had been submitted for final inspection and suggested the Parish Council ask Cllr P Hare-Scott for comment. **Clerk to put** on the July agenda.

- 4.4 Update on Smallbrook drainage works
Cllr J Enright read out an e-mail from DCC which stated "we are still discussing the potential to thrust bore this pipe to avoid a road closure which will seriously inconvenience the travelling public, a meeting with the boring contractor earlier this month was cancelled at short notice due to issues at their end and has been re arranged for 25th May. There are several site issues which may make this option useable for this job but we feel it is worth pursuing for the time being but do need the input from the specialist to fully understand these. If we have to revert to conventional excavation with a road closure then we will begin the advertising and consultation required to achieve this." It was agreed that the **Clerk would request an update** from the meeting held on the 25 May
- 4.5 Report from Cllr P Hare-Scott
There was no report

05/06/17 Finance

- 5.1 To approve signatures for this month's cheques
Cllr C Southcott and Cllr G Quicke
- 5.2 Parish Council Receipts Current Account

| Item | Received from | Purpose | Amount £ |
|-------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 5.2.1 | Various | Allotment rent | 40.00 |
| | | | £40.00 |

- 5.3 Parish Council Payment Current Account

These were agreed as:

| Item | Payee | Purpose | Amount £ |
|-------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 5.3.1 | Dorset, Devon & Cornwall CRC | Grass cutting at churchyard | 120.00 |
| 5.3.2 | T M Potter | Rotovating allotments | 200.00 |
| 5.3.3 | Hedgerow print | 450 annual reports | 273.00 |
| | | 450 newsletters | 90.00 |
| 5.3.4 | Thorverton Parish Council | Handyman work around parish | 191.90 |
| 5.3.5 | D and J Baker | Flowers and liners | 23.93 |
| | | Chairman's expenses | 21.60 |
| 5.3.6 | J Hole | Salary and expenses | 310.37 |
| | | | £1,230.80 |

The Clerk had missed an invoice off the agenda. This was from A J Carpenter for i) repair and painting of finger post at £155.00 and ii) painting of the two BT kiosks at £580.00. Both these amounts had been previously agreed by councillors and it was resolved to pay the invoice.

- 5.4 Balances (after above transactions):
- 5.4.1 Parish Council Current Account balance: £10,716.78
- 5.4.2 Footpath Account: £407.29
- 5.4.3 Car Park resurfacing fund balance: £1,500.00
- 5.5 Financial Statement and Budget Monitor
These were noted

06/06/17 Matters raised by the Chair

- 6.1 Reminder for Councillors to provide profiles for the website
Outstanding profiles should be sent to the Clerk as soon as possible for publication on the website. Photographs of councillors were still outstanding and a group photos was still required.

07/06/17 Councillor's Reports

- 7.1 Areas of Responsibility report
Seats – Cllr D Baker had stained the seats
Car Park – the annual meeting would take place in July
Allotment – the Clerk had received a new enquiry about renting a plot and had arranged a meeting with the parishioner

Parish Hall – Cllr G Quicke reported that the hall were hoping to address some maintenance issues including updating the men's toilets and the kitchen area

Recreation Ground – the AGM would take place on 14 June

Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr J Enright continued to put articles in the Newton Wonder

Training – the clerk would be attending free training at MDDC on protecting websites and other ICT systems from cyber-attacks.

Boniface Trail - negotiations were on going with the land owner.

BT phone boxes – The defibrillator had been moved into the kiosk by the Crown & Sceptre.

Clerk to write a note of thanks to the electrician who had carried out the work free of charge

7.1a updated list of allotment holders – an updated list had been circulated to councillors and it was noted that 20 plots were now rented, an increase on recent years.

7.1b Surgeries - Matters raised at Surgery 6 May

i) Should there be yellow lines on the entrance to Station Road? ii) A request for “no cold caller” stickers. **Clerk to ask MDDC.** iii) Could Church Road be made one-way from A377 only – it was thought this would make access difficult for residents iv) Next Door – included people from outside the parish. Cllr J Enright reported that it was possible to turn off notifications for outside the area.

7.1c Surgeries - 3 June – Cllr P Taylor to attend and 2 July – Cllr C Southcott to attend

08/06/17 Clerk's Report

8.1 Update on quality council application

In order to apply for the next level of “Quality Council” it was necessary, at the time of application, to have 2/3rds of councillors elected (contested or non-contested). With the resignation of Cllr K Anstey, the council no longer met this criterion so could not apply. All the requirement for the next level, with the exception of councillor profiles, were in place. The position would be reviewed again, after the next parish council elections in 2019.

09/06/17 Parish Council

9.1 Dog fouling – update on investigations to find out if the Parish Council may be able to introduce measures designed to help control dog fouling

It appeared that the Parish Council may have the power to issue bye laws. However, Cllr J Enright reported that MDDC did not appear to have adopted the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime Policing Act 2014, which gave the power of Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) and replaced previous dog fouling legislation. If adopted, PSPO's gave powers to introduce a range of dog fouling control measures in a designated area. These control measures were implemented by an “authorised officer” but it was not clear exactly who this could be and if the “authorised officer's” powers could be delegated to local councils. It was resolved to ask Cllr P Hare-Scott for comment.

9.2 To consider if the parish should enter the “Our Outdoor Competition” – details circulated separately

It was resolved that the three categories i) most creative and distinctive planted outdoor space, ii) most improved and innovative outdoor location and iii) “our outdoors” as a special sustainable place in the community were not applicable to the Parish Council.

Clerk to forward details to arboretum committee

9.3 Land at Churchyard – to consider the sellers solicitor's suggestion that we dispense with a contract and proceed straight to a transfer deed – this may allow a reduction in their fees.

Cllr P Taylor explained that a contract gave a firm date for an event to happen, as in a date for a house move, while the transfer deed was the actual transfer of ownership. Councillors agreed that a contract did not appear to be necessary and it was resolved to proceed straight to the transfer deed in the hope that this would give a reduction in the legal fees. It was confirmed that the map that had been sent by the solicitor was an accurate reflection of the land in question. **Clerk to confirm** with solicitor

9.4 Update on Parish Councillor vacancy

The notice of vacancy had been posted and the clerk had received two expressions of interest. Once confirmation had been received from MDDC that there was no requirement for an election, a co-option notice would be posted with a closing date ahead of the next meeting. It was resolved to ask candidates to make a short presentation at the July

meeting, explaining why they wished to be considered. If necessary, a vote would be taken at the meeting and the successful applicant would join the July meeting.

10/06/17 Devon County Council

10.1 Outstanding Highways issues

- I. Missing Markers on A377 – no update
- II. Drainage in Sand Down Lane- no update
- III. Chevron at entrance to Station Road – Cllr C Southcott had asked Kingswood Homes if a Chevron could be installed..

10.2 New issues to take to DCC

Cllr J Enright noted that the grass in Half Moon layby needed cutting and the clerk confirmed that the contractor had been asked to cut the same areas as last year, with Hanlons and the café cutting the grass in their immediate area. Councillors were not clear why DCC were not responsible for cutting this stretch of land as when the grass was not cut it presented a safety hazard as it was difficult to see when pulling out onto the A377 and it was agreed to ask Cllr M Squires for comment.

Cllr C Southcott asked how the work carried out by the Thorverton handyman was being monitored? The Clerk reported that she had checked the majority of the work.

10.3 Report from Cllr M Squires

There was no report

11/06/17 Miscellaneous Correspondence

A letter had been received regarding the proposal for Brampford Speke Primary School to join the Exe Valley Federation

12/06/17 Minor Matters and Items for Future Agenda

Cllr G Quicke informed councillors that the Church Commissioners, who own the Recreation Ground land, would not be renewing the lease in 12 years' time. The current purchase price was estimated at £50,000. It was thought that the purchase price would increase as the lease became shorter. **Clerk to put on the next agenda** and circulate a copy of the agreement.

13/06/17 Date of next meeting: Thursday 6 July 2017 in the Clubroom, Parish Hall, 7.30pm

End of Formal Business

Public Participation

If there were several interested prospective councillors, could they be kept on a reserve list in case of future councillor vacancies? Cllr J Enright explained that this would not be possible as any vacancies needed to be advertised each time.

Boniface Trail – could agreements be signed by the Half Moon land owners to ensure availability of land and could work on these parts of the path be started? Cllr S Parker confirmed that this option would be discussed at the next Boniface Trail meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm