

NORTH PETHERTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of North Petherton Town Council held at North Petherton Bowling Club on Tuesday 6th January 2015 at 7:30 PM

Present. Cllr Mrs A Hodges (Vice Chairman) in the Chair
Councillors. Cllr Mrs A Wassell, Cllr P Spencer, Cllr. J Hesketh, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr Mrs M Denham, Cllr D Edwards, Cllr Mrs H Phillips, Cllr W Revans and Cllr Mrs W Darch.
In Attendance. Mr. R Latham (Town Clerk) Cllr A Fraser (SDC), Cllr J Swayne (SDC) and one member of the public.

01/2015 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr A Bradford and Cllr M Goodland
The meeting commenced at 7:30pm.

02/2015 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

03/2015 **Community Time**

The matter of the Huntworth Roundabout was raised again and the meeting was updated on the current situation as far as possible, although the continuing lack of information from the County Council meant that this was incomplete.

Cllr Mrs Fraser raised the issue about litter and general untidiness at Kingsciffe. It was noted that the Council did not own this land and was not responsible for its upkeep or safety. However it was also noted that no one knew who did own the site and it was acknowledged that the present situation was clearly unsatisfactory. The Clerk was asked to contact the County Council and the AONB to see what could jointly be done to improve the situation and report back to the next meeting.

04/2015 **Minutes of previous meeting.**

Resolved That the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December be approved and signed as a correct record.

05/2015 **Matters Arising**

Referring to minute 184/2014, Cllr Mrs Phillips asked the Clerk to contact County Highways about drivers using Stockmoor as a means of avoiding congestion, in the same way as they were using Huntworth. She also updated the meeting on the work being undertaken to secure a community hall in the village. The clerk reported that the proprietors of the Walnut Tree Hotel were happy to host a defibrillator as was the Community Centre. PC Bagg would be informed of this .Further to minute 187/2014, the Trigger Point presentation was to take place prior to the next Council Meeting.

06/2015 **Mayor's Report**

The Deputy Mayor informed the meeting that the Best Dressed Window competition had been won by Jane's Tea Room.

07/2015 **Planning.**

Members noted the report on planning determinations in the area.

08/2015 **Cemetery**

Members considered a request for a refund from two people who had surrendered their exclusive right to burials.

Resolved That the refunds be granted upon the return of the original certificates.

It was also reported that a bench in memory of Mr Painton, a former Mayor, was now in a state of disrepair and it was agreed the costs of providing a replacement be investigated.

09/2015 **Finance**

a. Items for payment

Resolved: that the following payments be approved:

South West Digital Systems	£133.34
Rialtas Business Solutions	£856.32
Viking	£220.10
Fine Memorials	£17.16
Trevor Sellick	£80.00
Sedgemoor DC	£1,127.14

b. Moorland Village Hall

Resolved To pay Notaro Windows £1,200.00 in respect of new french doors for the hall

c. Finance Report

Resolved: That the budget report and financial summary be approved.

10/2015 **Precept for Financial Year 2015/2016**

Members considered recommendations from the Finance and General Purposes Sub Committee regarding the budget and precept for the next financial year.

Resolved That the budget be approved and the precept be set at £108,000 for 2015/16, equating to a band D council tax rate of £38.99, an increase of 1.78% over the current year's figure, and that the matter of Civic Expenses be discussed at the next meeting.

11/2015 **Allotments**

The Clerk reported on a number of issues relating to requests for tenancies.

Resolved That, as there wasn't a waiting list at present, existing tenants be allowed to take over neighbours' plots who wished to relinquish their holdings, but that a request from a daughter to take over her late mother's plot be declined because she did not reside in the North Petherton area.

12/2015 **Casual Vacancy**

Following the resignation of Cllr Buckland, it was:

Resolved That the vacancy be filled by co-option at the next meeting.

13/2015 **Parish Polls.**

The Clerk reported on proposals to change the rules relating to Parish Polls.

Resolved That the report be received

14/2014 **S.I.D Installation Dates**

Following discussion of the proposed programme for using the SID equipment in the area it was:

Resolved That the feasibility of the Council owning and operating its own equipment be investigated.

15/2015 **Correspondence**

Members considered a letter from the Monitoring Officer at Sedgemoor DC refusing the Council's further request for a Local Governance Review, a notification of a forthcoming meeting of the County Council Regulatory Committee and a request from the Secretary of the Moorland Village Hall Committee for the Council to appoint another Council representative to the Committee.

Resolved That the council express its disappointment at Sedgemoor Council's decision and no action be taken in respect of the other matters.

16/2015 **Urgent Items of Report**

Cllr J Hesketh asked that the Council's litter contractor included the bush shelter opposite the Community Centre in his itinerary.

Cllr Mrs Phillips reported that Lucy Foreman's Hairdressers were moving into the Stockmoor retail units and asked the Clerk to contact the County Council regarding the

practice of providing free bus vouchers to new occupiers of houses in Wilstock and Stockmoor, as it seemed to have been discontinued.

Cllr Mrs Denham asked that the possibility of moving one of the dog bins in the town to the patch of ground at Ivor's Way.

Cllr Taylor reminded Members that there was a programme about Moorland and the impact of the flooding on BBC the following Thursday.

The meeting closed at 9:00 pm

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