

NORTH PETHERTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of North Petherton Town Council held at North Petherton Bowling Club on Tuesday 3rd March 2015 at 7:30 PM

Present. Cllr A Bradford Chairman
Councillors. Cllr. J Hesketh, Cllr Mrs M Denham, Cllr W Revans, Cllr D Parry, Cllr P Knight, Cllr Mrs A Hodges and Cllr M Goodland
In Attendance. Mr. R Latham (Town Clerk), District Councillors Mrs A Fraser and J Swayne, County Councillor R Brown and several members of the public

32/2015 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Mrs H Phillips, Cllr Mrs W Darch and Cllr J Taylor

The meeting commenced at 7:30pm.

33/2015 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

34/2015 **Community Time**

Mr David Satchell, who had made a formal complaint about actions that had taken place at the Cemetery involving the re-aligning of memorial tablets, described what had happened in relation to his son's grave in the Garden of Remembrance and the upset that this had caused. He also pointed out that a number of other families had been affected. He sought assurances that those responsible should be held to account and procedures changed to ensure that similar situations would not happen in the future. Cllr Goodland, as Chairman of the Cemetery Sub Committee, together with the Clerk had discussed the issues with the Council's contractors and had visited the Cemetery on a number of occasions and met with Mr Satchell. Cllr Bradford and Cllr Goodland had subsequently met with Mr Satchell again and it was reported that the tablets had now been restored to their original positions and the ground properly re-instated.

The Chairman agreed to bring item 13 on the agenda forward for discussion and apologised to Mr Satchell, on behalf of the Council for the upset caused. Cllr Goodland outlined the steps that had and were being taken in response to what had happened.

After further discussion, it was

Resolved: that the Cemetery contract be amended to prevent similar events happening in the future and that the Clerk remind contractors and undertakers of the need to adhere strictly to the plot markings and cemetery procedures and that he respond to any other families who had been upset by what had happened.

Mr Haines raised the issue about speeding vehicles in North Petherton and it was agreed that his concerns would be discussed further under item 10 on the agenda.

35/2015 **North Petherton Cricket Club**

The Chairman agreed that item 11 on the agenda be brought forward to be dealt with during Community Time. Mr Ian Hucker representing the Cricket Club outlined the facts behind the club's request for financial support in relation to the need to install new sewage treatment arrangements and answered Members' questions. The club had submitted their latest set of accounts as required.

Resolved: that a grant of £5,000 be paid to the North Petherton Cricket Club towards the cost of installing new sewage treatment arrangements.

36/2015 **Minutes of previous meeting.**

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2015 be approved and signed as a correct record.

- 37/2015 **Matters Arising**
 Further to minute 28/2015, Cllr Revans reported that a grant of £3,500 had been agreed by the County Council, payable in two tranches, to support the Youth Project in the town. He also advised that a new venue needed to be found by the end of September. He and the Clerk were asked to look into this
- 38/2015 **Mayor's Report**
 The Mayor reported that he had attended a recent meeting of the Transport Forum, which had been quite informative and provided an insight into future problems. He had also attended a service in Wells to commemorate the retirement of Lady Gass as Lord Lieutenant.
Resolved: a) that the Clerk write to Lady Gass to thank her for all of her help to North Petherton Town Council
 b) that the Clerk contact Sedgemoor DC with regard to providing hanging baskets again in the current year.
- 39/2015 **Planning.**
 Members noted the report on planning determinations in the area..
- 40/2015 **Finance Reports**
Resolved: That the budget report and financial summary be approved.
- 41/2015 **Kingscliffe**
 It was reported that Sedgemoor DC was prosecuting those responsible for fly tipping on the site. The Clerk informed the meeting of the steps that he had taken to arrange a meeting to discuss the future of the area, and that he was attending a meeting with officers at Sedgemoor DC the following week. (*Subsequently cancelled*).
- 42/2015 **SID Equipment**
 Members discussed speeding and other traffic issues in the area, and the various options for providing SID equipment.
Resolved: that the Council look to join the County Council scheme currently being established.
- 43/2015 **Elections**
 Members discussed arrangements for the meeting on 19th March to encourage people to stand in the forthcoming elections.
- 44/2015 **Correspondence**
 Correspondence had been received relating to the provision of a pedestrian crossing and bus shelters at Old Road/Bridgwater Road junction.
Resolved: that County highways be contacted to seek their views on this and similar issues at the bus stop opposite the Britannia Hotel.
- 45/2015 **Urgent Items of Report**
 Cllr Mrs Hodges reported that the elderly people crossing sign had still not been replaced outside the Community Centre by the former butcher's shop.
 Cllr Hesketh reported that, although the shelter had been cleaned outside Verriers, the tree was still causing debris to accumulate.
 Cllr Goodland reported that he was looking to replace the notice board at the Cemetery and have the pathways cleared and tidied up.
 Cllr Parry informed the meeting about the steps he had taken to deal with vehicle parts that had been left on the roadside and about problems in Marsh Street. Cllr Bradford agreed to take these up with County Highways.
 Cllr Bradford raised the issue of providing a site for the new scout hut. Parkersfield was discussed as a possible location and it was agreed that the matter be raised at the next meeting of the Playing Fields Trust.

The meeting closed at 9:45 pm