

Minutes of the Meeting of North Petherton Town Council held at North Newton Village Hall on 6th September 2016,, commencing at 7:15 pm

Present. Cllr A Bradford (Chairman)

Councillors. Cllr Mrs H Phillips, Cllr J Barham, Cllr W Revans Cllr J Taylor, Cllr Mrs M Denham, Cllr J Hesketh, Cllr R ives, Cllr Mrs L Spelman-Ives, Cllr P MacLaurin and Cllr Mrs L Hyde
Cllr B Sellick (from item 8 onwards)

In Attendance. Mr. R Latham (Town Clerk), District Cllr Mrs A Fraser, County Councillor R Brown and Mr B Sellick

144/2016 **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr G Jones and Cllr P Spencer

145/2016 **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

146/2016 **Community Time**

No items were raised by the public

147/2016 **Minutes of previous meeting**

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 4th July 2016 be approved as a correct record.

148/2016 **Matters arising**

The Clerk reported that a revised planning application for the Country Park at Wilstock and Stockmoor had been received.

149/2016 **Mayor's Report**

Cllr Bradford reported that he continued to be contacted about various issues affecting the community, which he had dealt with. He had also attended the Moorland Flower and Produce Show.

150/2016 **Vacancy**

Members considered an application from Mr Bryan Sellick for the vacancy in the North Newton ward. Mr Sellick outlined why he wanted to join the Council.

Resolved: that Mr. Bryan Sellick be co-opted as a Member of the Council for the North Newton ward.

151/2016 **Planning decisions**

The Clerk presented a report on applications that had been determined by the District Council.

Resolved: that the report be received.

152/2016 **Neighbourhood Plan**

The Clerk reported on replies that he had received in response to the brief for professional support with the preparation of the plan.

Resolved: that the Clerk arrange to meet with the relevant consultants and that Cllrs Revans, Taylor, Barham, Maclaurin, Mrs Hyde and Mrs Spelman Ives represent the Council at the meetings.

153/2016 **Training courses**

The Clerk reported that a number of training courses on planning matters had been organised by SALC. at a cost of £92 per place

Resolved: that Cllrs Mrs Spelman Ives and Mrs Hyde be authorised to attend the course in December, and that Cllr Mrs Phillips contact the Clerk if she wished to attend any of the courses.

154/2016 **Meeting with County Highways.**

County Councillor Brown reported that, following the productive meeting that had taken place between the Council and representatives of Sedgemoor Council, he had contacted the County Highways department to see if they would attend a similar meeting. They had indicated that they would, provided that it was held during the day time and had a clear agenda. Cllr Taylor remarked that it was important to learn from mistakes in the past that had led to serious highways problems with previous developments. Cllr Mrs Hyde said that it was also important to bear in mind the need for social housing in the area.

Resolved: that the Clerk contact the Highways department to arrange a day time meeting, and that the other issues be fully considered as part of the work on the neighbourhood plan.

155/2016 **Litter Bins**

Members considered a proposal from Cllr Mrs Spelman-Ives to install a litter bin at the top of Champion Way in Stockmoor. Cllr Bradford also proposed that a dog bin should be provided in Hulkshay Lane near the footpath by Bullacre. Members also discussed the need for more bins to be sited near the shops in Stockmoor.

Resolved: that Sedgemoor DC be asked to provide a litter bin in Champion Way and a dog bin in Hulkshay Lane, and that the Clerk write to Persimmon Homes to obtain their agreement and raise the issue of the retail area,

156/2016 **Finance Reports**

The Clerk presented the regular financial statement and budget reports.

Resolved: that the reports be received.

157/2016 **Items for Payment**

Resolved: that the following payments be approved:

A Sutton	£184.00
GWB Services	£2,292.00
Greenslades	£861.91
Viking	£206.15
Somerset CC	£3,515.00
NPPFCT	£8,009.30
GWB Services	£100.00
M Denham	£7.99

158/2016 **Grant Applications**

Members considered grant requests from the Northmoor Drove Committee and Sedgemoor CAB.

Resolved: that a grant of £500 be awarded to the Northmoor Drove Committee and £250 to the Sedgemoor CAB

159/2016 **Web site**

Members discussed the Council's web site, which had been operating for 12 months in its current format. They were generally happy with the progress that had been made, including the links that had been set up to other local sites. It was suggested that "Fix my street" could be added to the links.

- 160/2016 **Wilstock and Stockmoor**
 The Community Council had approached Cllr Taylor with a suggestion of extending its Village Agent service to Wilstock and Stockmoor. To do this would, however, require the raising of additional funds. It was agreed that the appropriate approach would be for the Community Council to submit a grant application.
- 161/2016 **Street Cleaning**
 The Clerk updated Members on the current arrangements and costs of the street cleaning service. District Cllr Mrs Fraser informed the meeting that Thurloxtton PC used to employ a “lengths’ man”, but had been unable to find a replacement when the previous incumbent had left. She suggested that there could be scope to work with other local councils to provide a cost effective approach.
Resolved: that level of service be reviewed as part of the budget process and that delivery options be considered following that.
- 162/2016 **Pre- budget discussion**
 The Clerk suggested that more time should be allocated to the pre-budget meeting to ensure that issues could be fully explored. He further suggested that, if a day or half day were set aside, then visits to key sites and areas could be incorporated so that everyone was fully aware of the facts and the situation “on the ground”.
Resolved: that this approach be agreed, and the Clerk report further on the practicalities.
- 163/2016 **Timetable of Meetings**
 Members considered the draft schedule of meetings for the remainder of the council year. They felt that holding meetings in different venues throughout the area had worked well, and appreciated the welcome that they had received in both the Moorland and North Newton village halls.
Resolved: that the Clerk review the arrangements to see if more meetings could be held at venues around the Council’s area.
- 164/2016 **Former allotment land – North Newton.**
 The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the Council’s land agent stating that the tenant of the former allotment land in North Newton wished to give up the lease at the next anniversary, notwithstanding that this would mean giving less than the required notice.
Resolved: that the surrender of the lease be accepted and that the Chairman and Clerk meet with the Agent to discuss future arrangements.
- 165/2016 **Room Hire**
 Cllr Revans reported that he had received a letter from Crimson Hill Support Ltd. stating that the rent for Ferrydown House would be increasing to £7.50 per hour for the Youth Club with effect from September. The Clerk reported that he had received a similar letter with regard to the Council’s use, but effective from January.
Resolved: that the increase be noted and use of the venue continue.
- 166/2016 **All parish meeting.**
 The Clerk reminded Members that the All parishes meeting, organized by Sedgemoor DC was going to be held on 22nd September 2016.
- 167/2016 **Matters of report**
 Cllr Revans said that he had received reports concerning the appearance of the cemetery, and that he would investigate and report back.

Cllr Mrs Phillips asked the Clerk to see if he could find out what actions had been taken by the District Council with regard to the parking of commercial vehicles on Campion Way.

Cllr Sellick reported that the new yellow lines were working well in North Newton.

Cllr Hesketh reported that there were vehicles parking illegally by the chemist in North Petherton. The Clerk was asked to inform the appropriate authorities.

Cllr Barham commented on the poor condition of the back lanes throughout the area.

Cllr Bradford agreed to pursue this with the Highways Authority.

Cllr Tayllor reported that the Moorland village hall had been successful in obtaining hallmark status.

Cllr Bradford reminded Members of the forthcoming Civic Service.

The meeting closed at 9:30 pm

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