

Minutes of the Meeting of North Petherton Town Council held at North Newton Village Hall on 6th June 2017 at 7:15 pm

Present. Cllr A Bradford Chairman.

Councillors. Cllr J Barham, Cllr Mrs M Denham, Cllr B Sellick, Cllr J Hesketh, Cllr W Revans, Cllr P MacLaurin, Cllr Mrs H Phillips, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr Mrs L Spelman-Ives and Cllr Mrs L Hyde

In Attendance. Mr. R Latham (Town Clerk), and six members of the public

92/2017 **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr G Jones, Cllr P Spencer and Cllr R Ives

93/2017 **Declarations of interest**

The Clerk declared an interest in item 21

94/2017 **Community Time**

Members of the public raised the following issues:

1. There were problems with the footpath and retaining wall at Dyers Green
2. Many residents had received no information about the proposed development of 120 dwelling off Newton Road, despite claims by the developers that there had been full public consultation

95/2017 **Minutes**

Members considered the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 8th May 2017.

Resolved: that the minutes, as amended, be approved.

96/2017 **Matters arising**

Cllr Hesketh reported that he had written to all relevant authorities regarding the recent issues at the public toilets in North Petherton. He had received a reply from the Chief Constable and some steps had been taken by local police to address the problems. The Clerk stated that there would be a meeting of the Cemetery Committee in the next few weeks to look at the future of the chapel building and other matters.

Cllr Mrs Hyde referred to the "Great Together" and requested Council funding for the costs that would be incurred.

Cllr Mrs Denham reported on progress being made with the installation of defibrillators.

Resolved: that the Council incur costs up to £150 on the Great Get Together and that the issue of defibrillators be discussed at the next meeting.

97/2017 **Mayor's Report.**

The Mayor reported that he had attended the Wilstock and Stockmoor Summer Lunch, which had been very successful and that he and Cllr Taylor had met with the Project Manager to discuss flooding attenuation measures in the area, and had agreed that the Council would be supportive.

98/2017 **Planning**

The Clerk presented a report on applications determined for the area. He also reported that a request had been received from the Planning Authority to consider new plans in respect of application number 37/1700018 21 School Fields.

Resolved: that the report be received and that the Council withdraw its objection to application number 37/17/00018

99/2017 **Neighbourhood Plan**

Members discussed current issues concerning the neighbourhood plan, particularly

with regard to the current political uncertainty.

Resolved: that the Clerk continue to liaise with the consultants on the design of the leaflet, but that further commitments should be avoided until the political situation became clearer.

Items for payment

100/2017 **Resolved:** that the following payments be approved:

Groundwork UK	£2,520.00
A B Memorials	£770.00
Greenslades	£1,109.72
GWB Services	£1,144.50
Viking	£176.96
Crimson Hill Support	£90.00
Caboodle	£574.88

Wilstock and Stockmoor Committee

101/2017 Members considered a number of suggestions put forward to fill the remaining two places on the Committee for representatives of local organisations. After considerable discussion the matter was deferred until the next meeting.

Service Contract.

102/2017 In the absence of Cllr Spencer, who was collating the information on the requirements for North Petherton, this item was deferred.

Council Tour

103/2017 The Clerk reported that a date had yet to be agreed for the tour but that he would now proceed to set a date that was suitable for most Members.

Playing Fields Trust

104/2017 Members considered a request from the Trust for a financial contribution towards the cost of improving the car park and renewing the tennis court fencing at Parkersfield playing fields.

Resolved: that a site meeting be held at the playing fields at 7:00 pm on 13th June 2017

Grant Request.

105/2017 Members considered a request to provide a grant towards the cost of electrical improvements at St Michael Church, North Newton.

Resolved: that a grant of £1,770.00 be approved.

Communications.

106/2017 Members of the Communications Group updated the meeting on the work that they had done and the issues that they were looking at. They hoped to present their recommendations to the next meeting.

Correspondence

107/2017 The clerk reported a letter that he had received from the Area Managing Director of Persimmon Homes..

Resolved: that the Clerk continue to keep him informed of the problems being experienced by people living on his company's development in Stockmoor.

Matters of Report

108/2017 Cllr Mrs Denham reported that problems were being experienced with the recently installed dropped kerbs, and that she would be taking this up with County Highways. Cllr Taylor updated Members on the progress that was being made on improving

Moorland Village hall.

Cllr Hesketh voiced his concerns about the public litter bins being used for waste arising from street cleaning. He also felt that comments from, or attributed to, the Town Council should come from, or be agreed by, either the Mayor or the Clerk.

Cllr Mrs Phillips reported that the leisure and amenity areas in Stockmoor had not yet been adopted and thus remained the responsibility of Persimmon Homes.

Cllr Sellick reported that there continued to be problems with parked cars outside Ferrydown House in North Petherton. He also asked what the current situation was regarding Showground Road and the Colley Lane link road. Cllr Revans, as County Councillor, agreed to look into this.

Exclusion of the Press

109/2017 **Resolved:** that the press and public be excluded from consideration of the remaining two items, due to their confidential nature.

Alfred Jewel Award.

110/2017 Members were asked to submit nominations to receive the award at the Civic Service, which was likely to be held on 22nd October in North Petherton. The award was for people who had worked in a voluntary capacity over a number of years within the area.

Personnel Committee

111/2017 (The Clerk left the room whilst this matter was discussed).

Members considered the recommendations of the Personnel Committee which had met on 23rd May 2017 to review the Clerk's contracted hours.

Resolved: that the Clerk's contracted hours be increased by 5 hours per week, with effect from 1st June 2017.

The meeting closed at 10:00 pm

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