Minutes of the Meeting of North Petherton Town Council held at North Newton Village Hall on 5th September 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 R Ives, Cllr P MacLaurin, Cllr Mrs L Spelman-Ives, Cllr W Revans and Cllr Mrs L Hyde

In Attendance. District Cllr Mrs A Fraser and Mr. R Latham (Town Clerk).

134/2017 Apologies for absence. Apologies were received from Cllr J Taylor and Cllr P Spencer.

135/2017 Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest

136/2017 Minutes. Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd July 2017. Resolved: that the minutes be approved.

137/2017 Matters arising

Chapel: The Clerk reported that the report commissioned from Greenslade Taylor Hunt on the cemetery chapel and possible uses was in progress.

Defibrillators: Cllr Mrs Denham reported that work was ongoing to put defibrillators around the district. Cllr Ives stated that plans were in place to put one in the Co-op in Stockmoor and Cllr Barham reported that £1300 had been raised locally to put one in North Newton.

Finger Posts; Cllr Bradford reported that he would be meeting with the Chairman of Durston PC. The Clerk agreed to enquire about the County Council training programme.

Moon Lane HGV’s: The Clerk reported that a response was awaited from County Highways. Cllr Mrs Fraser reminded the meeting that this problem had occurred in the past, when HGV’s had not been allowed to use this route.

138/2017 Mayor’s Report

Cllr Bradford reported that he had been to a meeting at County Hall with other Members to discuss the Haddon Farm Issue, and that work was on going to address this difficult problem, and that Cllr Revans was pursuing the minor improvement scheme procedure in his role as County Councillor. Cllr Bradford had also attended the inauguration of the new Vicar and dealt with a number of matters raised with him by the public. He thanked Cllr Mrs Denham for attending the Bridgwater Town Civic Service.

139/2017 Members’ Reports

Cllr Mrs Hyde reported on her attendance at the EDF Transport Forum where workers’ transport and accommodation issues were discussed.

Cllr Revans reported that the Youth Club would restart shortly. It was agreed that the Council would continue to provide a guarantee against damage to equipment etc.

The Clerk reported that he had been approached by the Director of Crimson Hill Ltd. regarding the Council meeting on a different day in the new municipal year. It was agreed that alternative venues be investigated.

Cllr Ives reported that a serious flooding problem had been addressed in Stockmoor by Persimmon repairing a damaged drain.
Cllr MacLaurin informed the meeting that the issues around the compound in Wilstock were being addressed, and that enforcement action was being considered with regard to the gate in Bilberry way.

140/2017 **Planning matters.**

   a. **Determinations**

   The Clerk reported on applications that had been determined.

   b. **Neighbourhood Plan**

   Members considered a report on progress and options with the Neighbourhood Plan. **Resolved:** that a decision on this be deferred to enable more information to be obtained on the future of the process and further consideration to be given to an Infrastructure Development Plan.

   c. **Application No. 37/17/00065**

   Members re-considered their comment on this application at the request of the Planning Authority. **Resolved:** that the withdraw its objection.

141/2017 **Election Process.**

Members considered a report from the Clerk on electoral rules and procedures.

142/2017 **Finance Reports**

The Clerk presented financial reports for the period to July 2017. **Resolved:** that the reports be received.

143/2017 **Items for payment.**

   **Resolved:** that the following payments be approved:

   - R T Latham: 269.79
   - A Sutton: 92.00
   - Viking: 52.79
   - NPPFCT: 50.00
   - GWB Services: 50.00

144/2017 **Dog Bins**

Members considered problems that were being experienced in Stockmoor with the provision and emptying of dog bins. **Resolved:** that Cllrs Revans, Ives and MacLaurin look into the issues in more detail and report back.

145/2017 **Grant request**

Members considered a request from the Pentathlon Club for a grant towards the costs of a grandstand. **Resolved:** that a grant of £1,500 be made towards the grandstand and £100 towards an Arts Project.

146/2017 **Communications**

Members of the Communications Task and Finish Group gave a verbal update on their work so far and sought the Council’s views on a number of issues. It was agreed that wooden notice boards would be preferable and that the Alfred Jewel should form the basis of the logo.

147/2017 **Huntworth Railway Bridge**

In the absence of Cllr Taylor, detailed consideration of this topic was deferred, but in
the meantime it was greed that Cllr Revans should see if he could arrange a meeting with the County Council to discuss the matter.

148/2017 **Wilstock and Stockmoor Forum**

Members had given further consideration to the best way of fully representing the communities of Wilstock and Stockmoor at an informal meeting in July, where the concept of it being more of a forum than a committee was discussed. After further discussion of the issues involved it was:

Resolved: that, in order to involve as many people as possible, gain information and encourage input from the local community and stakeholders, a forum approach should be adopted, with October 30th targeted for the first meeting, and that the Clerk should investigate the availability of venues.

149/2017 **Matters of Report**

Cllr Hesketh drew Members’ attention to parking problems in North Petherton, particularly in the areas near the Memorial Playing Fields, the pharmacy and the pedestrian crossing.

Cllr Sellick reported that there were also problems with parking opposite School Corner in North Newton.

150/2017 **Exclusion of the Public**

Resolved: that the public be excluded during discussion of the next item due to its confidential nature.

151/2017 **Alfred Jewel Award**

Cllr Bradford informed the meeting that the Civic Service would take place on 26th November in the Church in North Petherton, with refreshments in the Community Centre.

Members discussed a number of potential recipients of the award and agreed to make a final decision at the next meeting.

The Mayor thanked the Village Hall Committee for their hospitality and the meeting closed at 9:40 pm