

Minutes of the Meeting of North Petherton Town Council held at Ferrydown House on 6th November 2017 at 7:15 pm.

Present. Cllr A Bradford Chairman.

Councillors. Cllr J Barham, Cllr B Sellick, Cllr J Hesketh, Cllr W Revans, Cllr P Spencer, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr L Parchment, Cllr Mrs L Hyde, Cllr P MacLaurin and Cllr Mrs L Spelman-Ives.

In Attendance. District Cllr Mrs A Fraser, Mr C Dadds (JLL), Mr. R Latham (Town Clerk) and several members of the public

174/2017 **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs M Denham and Cllr R Ives

175/2017 **Declarations of interest**

Cllr Mrs Hyde and Cllr Hesketh declared a non pecuniary interest in item 12. Cllr Bradford stated that, as a member of the Sedgemoor Development Committee, he would not take part in any discussions on planning applications.

176/2017 **Community Time**

Cllr Mrs Fraser suggested that the Council should consider contributing to the Link newsletter as a means of providing information for residents, particularly those living in Wilstock and Stockmoor. It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

Problems with faulty street lights were identified as an issue in Stockmoor. Cllr Revans had raised the matter with Persimmon. It was agreed that the matter also be raised with County Highways.

Chris Gadds from JLL gave a short presentation on proposals to develop land near junction 24 of the M5 for commercial use and for a new service area. He answered Members' questions, but stressed that plans were a relatively early stage, with a possible start on site in 2019.

177/2017 **Minutes.**

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd October 2017.

Resolved: that the minutes be approved.

178/2017 **Matters arising**

Cllr Bradford reported that he had met Mr Chorley from the Somerset Boat Centre to discuss his proposals. The Clerk reported that, as far as he understood, negotiations were continuing on finding a site for the "Men's Shed". Cllr Revans stated that he, as County Councillor, was pursuing the small improvement scheme route to resolve some of the local highway issues. It was agreed that the first Wilstock and Stockmoor Forum meeting would take place on 27th November 2017

179/2017 **Mayor's Report**

Cllr Bradford reported that, in addition to dealing with a large number of issues raised locally, he had represented the Council at Burnham and Highbridge Civic Service.

180/2017 **Members' Reports**

Cllr Taylor reported that there had been traffic problems associated with the recent hunt meeting on the Quantocks.

.Cllr Mrs Hyde reported that she had attended the recent planning seminar organised by Sedgemoor DC and found it very useful, and the SALC AGM, which, again had been informative covering topics such as; consultation, speed limits, data protection and

- community planning.
- 181/2017 **Emergency Plan**
Members considered an Emergency Plan for the area prepared by Andy Newlands.
Resolved: that Mr Newlands be invited to the next meeting to help with Council's deliberations.
- 182/2017 **Planning Decisions**
The Clerk reported on decisions taken on planning applications in the area, and on a letter from the Planning authority providing further information on application 37/17/00070.
Resolved: that the report be received and that the Council withdraw its objection to application 37/17/00070.
- 183/2017 **Finance Reports**
The Clerk presented a summary of the Council's financial position at the end of September 2017., and a budget comparison report for the same period.
Resolved: that the report be received.
- 184/2017 **Items for payment;**
Resolved: that the following payments be approved:
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| North Petherton Twinning Committee | £100.00 |
| Berrys Coaches | £120 .00 |
| A Sutton | £92.00 |
| GWB Services | £2,541.00 |
| NPPFCT | |
| Sedgemoor DC | £1,727.40 |
| GWB Services | £100.00 |
- 185/2017 **Budget Timetable**
Members discussed the time table for agreeing the budget for 2018/19.
Resolved: that a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee be held on 13th November 2017 to take this matter forward.
- 186/2017 **Grant Request**
Members considered a grant request from the North Petherton Community Centre for a grant towards the refurbishment of the kitchen.
Resolved: that this matter be delegated to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.
- 187/2017 **Communications**
Cllr Mrs Hyde updated the meeting on progress made by the Communications Group. She reported that, following considerable research, a quote had been obtained to provide a new joint notice board for the Council and the Community Centre, to be situated at the Community Centre.
Resolved: that an alternative quote be obtained from a local company, and that the Clerk, in consultation with the Mayor, be delegated authority to progress this speedily if necessary.
- 188/2017 **Future Meeting Arrangements**
The Clerk referred to the draft meeting schedule for 2018 which included moving meetings to the small hall in the Community Centre after the agreement with Ferrydown House expired in May 2018.
Resolved: that the draft arrangements be agreed and the Clerk proceed to confirm the

bookings.

189/2017 **North Petherton Library**

Cllr Revans and Cllr Mrs Hyde reported on a meeting that they and the Clerk had attended with officials of the Library Service. The County Council were looking to save costs in future years and various options were discussed. Cllr Mrs Fraser reminded Members that money had been set aside in the past for supporting the continued operation of the library in the town.

Resolved: that the position be noted and further information from the Library Service be awaited.

190/2017 **Christmas Decorations.**

The Clerk reported that it would shortly be necessary to order the trees and lights for Christmas and that it had been suggested that brighter lights should be provided this year. Cllr Bradford stated that, instead of awarding a cup for the best dressed shop this year, it would now be awarded to the house in the area with the best display of Christmas lights.

Resolved: that proposed actions be agreed.

191/2017 **Matters of Report**

Cllr Mrs Spelman-Ives suggested that it would be more eco friendly if street lights could be dimmed after midnight. Cllr Revans agreed to raise this with the County Council. Cllr Barham reported that the defibrillator was now in place in North Newton and plans were being explored to put one by the canal. He also informed the meeting that arrangements were in place to remove the accumulated rubbish from the allotment site and fill in the pot holes in the tracks.

Cllr Revans requested that a new street light be provided on Tappers Lane opposite the Globe car park. The Clerk was asked to pursue this.

Cllr Spencer asked that the accumulation of pine needles on the roadside going towards Bridgwater be cleared away.

Cllr Sellick reported on the dangerous state of fencing alongside the canal in North Newton. Cllr Mrs Fraser agreed to raise this at a future forum meeting.

He also raised concerns about the lack of fencing by the Northmoor main drain in Fordgate.

Cllr MacLaurin reported that the old caravan and burger van had been removed from Willstock Way, but had been replaced by another seemingly abandoned car.

Cllr Hesketh stated that he was pleased with the work done cleaning bus shelters and also that he had reported damage to the pay phone box to BT.

Members discussed parking problems in the area, particularly in the vicinity of Ferrydown House and Showground Road.

Cllr Bradford told Members that he had managed to obtain some daffodil bulbs from Sedgemoor DC and that these were available for collection.

The Clerk raised the matter of polling cards for the forthcoming election and it was agreed that these should be provided. He also reported that Cllr Mrs Spelman-Ives had asked to attend a SALC training course. This was agreed.

The meeting closed at 9:25 pm

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