

Minutes of the Meeting of North Petherton Town Council held on Monday 11th November 2019 in the small hall of North Petherton Community Centre commencing at 7:15 pm

Present. Cllr A Bradford Chairman.

Councillors. Cllr W Revans, Cllr P Spencer, Cllr B Sellick, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr Mrs H Warren, Cllr L Parchment and Cllr L Pickersgill

In Attendance. Mr R T Latham, Town Clerk and several members of the public

179/2019 **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs C Woodford, Cllr J Barham, Cllr R Ives, Cllr Mrs L Spelman-Ives, Cllr Mrs D Bunce and Cllr Mrs L Hyde

180/2019 **Community Time**

The Deputy Mayor chaired this and the next item.

A number of residents raised concerns about the development taking place at Dawes Farm, Stockmoor, by Persimmon Homes. They were especially concerned that the building works did not appear to be in line with the planning approval with particular reference to the finished levels and topography of the site. They also felt that proper consultation had not taken place. A number of residents had contacted both the developer and the Planning Authority but were not happy with the responses and were therefore asking the Town Council for help and advice on how to move forward. The Clerk explained the limited power that the Council had in these matters. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Senior Planning Officer outlining the residents' concerns and seeking explanations and clarifications.

181/2019 **Taunton Road sites**

The Clerk updated the meeting on progress with the work that had been commissioned to look at a better road layout for the proposed development of two adjoining sites off Taunton Road which would meet the needs of the community and address current and future traffic issues. A number of members of the public spoke on this issue. It was agreed that the matter would be discussed further when the report had been received.

182/2019 **Minutes**

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2019.

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2019 be approved as a correct record, subject to noting that Cllrs Bradford and Revans were not present for the item recorded in 175/2019

183/2019 **Matters arising**

The Clerk referred to minute 171/2019 and the fact that a grant of £28,000 had been agreed whereas £28,900 had been requested.

Resolved: that a further grant of £1,000 be made to Wilstock Hub and that the previously agreed grant be reduced by a further £1,000 to £121,000.

Cllr Taylor reported back on minute 173/2019 and presented a detailed written record of his comments to the District Council's Scrutiny meeting and on the development proposals for junction 24. (*Copies filed with signed minutes*). He suggested that he would be happy to represent the Council on the Task and Finish Group that was being set up by Sedgemoor DC. Members agreed to this.

184/2019 **Mayor's Report**

The Mayor reported that he had attended the local carnivals and met with the Trefoil Guild as well as normal day to day meetings and discussions.

185/2019 **Members' reports**

Cllr Pickersgill presented a written report covering issues at Stockmoor that he had discussed with Mr Nick Bracher from Persimmon Homes. Topics included the Country Park and parking problems. (*Copy filed with signed minutes*). He had also met with District Cllr Wong to discuss, amongst other things, vandalism and facilities for young people.

Cllr Revans reported that he was pursuing the question of the new signs that had been erected by the Showground Road roundabout.

186/2019 **Finance report**

The Clerk presented the budget comparison and balances reports.

Resolved: that the reports be received.

187/2019 **Items for payment.**

Resolved: that the following payments be approved

N Petherton Community Centre	£36.00	Room hire
A Sutton	£92.00	Grass cutting
Zurich Insurance	£99.31	Friends of NP Library insurance
Somerset CC	£4,604.45	Staffing recharge - library
GWB Services	£1,509.00	Street cleaning etc.

NPPFCT

GWB Services £100.00 Play equipment inspection

188/2019 **Governance arrangements.**

Following the informal meeting of Council, the Clerk suggested that he should prepare a report on possible changes to the committee structure of the Council in time for any agreed changes to be implemented in the new council year. Members agreed to this.

189/2019 **Climate Change.**

It was agreed that an informal meeting of Council be arranged to discuss climate change and what the Council could do to help to deal with the threat.

190/2019 **Budget Strategy**

Cllr Spencer summarised the financial matters that had been discussed at the Informal Council Meeting. Cllr Parchment reported that, just based on implemented planning approvals, the Council would receive £42,700 CIL in 2020/21 and £56,000 in 2021/22. It was agreed that these matters would be discussed further at the Finance & General Purposes Committee

191/2019 **Benches and bus shelters**

Members discussed the proposals for the siting of new benches and bus shelters identified on the plan prepared by Cllr Mrs Warren

Resolved: That specific comments be forwarded to either Cllr Warren or the Clerk and that a walkabout with the local Highways Engineer be organised to agree the way forward.

192/2019 **Avon and Somerset Police**

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request from the local Police Commander to comment on the new policing arrangements.

Resolved: that Members respond directly should they wish to do so.

- 193/2019 **Christmas lights**
The Clerk reported that the Christmas trees and lights would be installed in the next few weeks and asked Members if there were any changes proposed from the previous year. It was agreed that the previous arrangements had been satisfactory and should continue, but that the Clerk should explore siting a large tree somewhere in the centre of North Petherton.
- 194/2019 **Maunsel Lock car park**
Cllr Revans reported that he had not yet completed his research into automatic gates, but would report back when he had. Cllr Sellick reported that the car park needed repair work to its surface.
Resolved: that sufficient scalplings be purchased to repair both the Maunsel and Parkersfield parking areas
- 195/2019 **Matters of report.**
Cllr Sellick reported that standing water was causing problems on the Brook Farm bend in North Newton. He also suggested that the feasibility of forming a footpath on Brook Street by culverting the stream should be explored.
Cllr Taylor reported that there were continuing problems with pot holes in the roads through Moorland.
Cllr Bradford thanked all those who had been involved in the various Remembrance Services in the area.

The meeting closed at 9:20 pm

