

Minutes of the Meeting of North Petherton Town Council held at Ferrydown House
North Petherton on 9th January 2017 at 7:15 pm

Present. Cllr A Bradford (Chairman)

Councillors. Cllr J Taylor, Cllr J Barham, Cllr W Revans, Cllr P Spencer, Cllr P MacLaurin, Cllr Mrs L Spelman-Ives, Cllr Mrs H Phillips, Cllr R Ives and Cllr Mrs L Hyde

In Attendance. District Cllr A Fraser, County Cllr R Brown, Mr. R Latham (Town Clerk), and one member of the public

01/2017 **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs M Denham, Cllr B Sellick, Cllr J Hesketh and Cllr G Jones

02/2017 **Declarations of interest**

Cllrs MacLaurin, Revans and Mrs Phillips recorded that they were or had been members of SaWRA

03/2017 **Community Time**

Mr Peter Giles spoke about the Youth Club, which he was closely involved with, and asked for clarification of the Council's policy regarding future support. It was agreed that the matter would be discussed at the Finance and GP Committee on 16th January. Cllr Revans thanked Mr Giles for his hard work for the Club

04/2017 **Minutes of previous meeting.**

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th December 2016 be approved as a correct record

05/2017 **Matters arising**

Cllr Taylor reported that the SDB had objected to the planning application at Folley Foot Farm, the first time that the Board had commented on an application outside of its area.

06/2017 **Grant Feedback**

This item was deferred to the next meeting

07/2017 **Planning matters**

The Clerk reported on applications determined by the Planning Authority, and on the advice received from Sarah Martin on the applications referred to her.

Resolved:

- a. To report the Council's detailed comments on the relevant applications to the Planning Authority, and
- b. To ask the Clerk to write again to the Highways Authority concerning their approach to planning matters and to seek to confirm a date for the previously agreed meeting to discuss planning matters generally.

09/2017 **Items for payment**

Resolved: that the following payments be approved:

G R Mason	£150.00
N Newton Village Hall Committee	£4,500.00
Greenslades	£1,299.77
SDS	£21.80
Crimson Hill Suipport	£130.00
Lemon Gazelle	£120.00

Viking	£126.95
Sedgemoor DC	£81.60
Sedgemoor DC	£1,727.40
Sedgemoor DC	£1,287.60
J Down	£210.00

10/2017 **Finance Reports**

The Clerk presented the financial summary and budget report.

Resolved: that the report be received.

11/2017 **Grant request**

Members considered a grant application from North Petherton Rugby Club.

Resolved: that a grant of £1,500 be agreed subject to the Finance and GP Committee reviewing the accounts and constitution when they are received.

12/2017 **Land at North Newton**

This item had been deferred from a previous meeting. Members considered a letter from Tamlyn's outlining options for the land

Resolved: that the Council's agents be authorized to commence arrangements to let the land on a farm business tenancy for 3 years.

13/2017 **Defibrillator**

Installing a defibrillator in North Petherton had been discussed previously, but nothing had happened due to lack of funding, however it was understood that the initiative had recently been revived. It was felt that the Walnut Tree Hotel and the Community Centre could be suitable locations. Cllr Mrs Phillips agreed to investigate the matter..

14/2017 **Somerset Waste Partnership**

Members discussed the proposals from the Somerset Waste Partnership to reduce the general domestic collection service from every fortnight to every three weeks. Concern was expressed about the health implications of this, particularly where waste storage facilities were limited and where nappies etc. needed to be disposed of. It was also felt that there had been inadequate consultation.

Resolved: that the Clerk write to the Partnership explaining the Council's concerns and asking if alternative approaches, such as special arrangements for collecting nappies, had been properly investigated.

15/2017 **Workplace Pension Scheme**

The Clerk reported on the Council's responsibility to implement the new pension arrangements with effect from October 2017. He also noted that, if the situation remained the same, the Council would not be employing anyone in the relevant age ranges and so would not, in all probability, have to take any action.

16/2017 **Correspondence**

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Mr Higgins regarding the traffic problems on Showground Road and had advised that he contact the County Council, which he had done. He also reported that he had received an email from Mr Phil Curd from the County Council to say that, following completion of the Safety Audit, the proposed withdrawal of school transport from North Petherton was going to proceed. Members voiced their deep concern about this decision and asked the Clerk to arrange a meeting with Mr Curd to discuss the issues.

17/2017 **Matters of Report**

Cllr Mrs Fraser asked that the Council bear in mind the impact of the Taunton Garden City proposals when developing its neighbourhood plan.

Cllr MacLaurin reported that there was a need for new road signs on Campion Way to remove the confusion, and make people aware that there was no through road through Wilstock.

Cllr Barham asked that the Highways Authority be informed about problems in North Newton regarding the condition of the roads and the increasing problems of HGV's getting stuck.

Cllr Phillips raised the question of the bus lane in Stockmoor and what the likelihood was of progress being made.

Cllr Bradford said how pleased he was with the Christmas Tree display, this was endorsed, but it was felt that the location of the trees in Wilstock and Stockmoor needed to be reviewed for future years. He voiced his concern at the state of North Street and also reported on a number of other highway issues that he had dealt with.

The meeting closed at 9:00 pm

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