

Minutes of the Meeting of North Petherton Town Council held at Moorland Village Hall on 6th February 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 Mrs M Denham, Cllr B Sellick, Cllr J Hesketh and Cllr Mrs L Hyde

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

18/2017 **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr R Ives and Cllr G Jones

19/2017 **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest

20/2017 **Community Time**

The Mayor reported that he had hoped to present the cup for best dressed shop to this year's winner – Rosemary's the hairdresser, but she had not been able to attend. He also indicated that he would like to see something different in terms of Christmas lighting next year.

Cllr Brown updated the meeting on the situation regarding the bus gate in Wilstock. Work was due to commence in April and the gate would now be controlled by an AMPR rather than a rising barrier. He answered a number of questions from Councillors and public.

21/2017 **Minutes of previous meeting.**

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2017 be approved as a correct record

22/2017 **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising

23/2017 **Grant Feedback**

This item was deferred until the next meeting

24/2017 **Youth Club**

Members discussed the recommendation from the Finance and General Purposes Committee that the Council should support the provision of the Youth Club for a further 12 months from April. Cllr Revans reported that a grant claim had been submitted to the County Council to help with the funding.

Resolved: that the recommendation be approved and that the organisers be encouraged to make access to the Club as widely available as possible within the area.

25/2017 **Planning matters.**

Cllr Hesketh pointed out that an application for a 68 bed hotel in Mendip had been required to provide 60 parking spaces compared to only 20 being provided for a similar facility in North Petherton.

Cllr Barham reported that he understood that many large housing developers were finding ways to avoid paying the new CIL, and that this, consequently, might call into question the viability of the Council's Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed that the matter would be raised with local planners at the forthcoming Local Plan consultation.

26/2017 **Items for payment.**

The following payments were approved:

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|--------------------------|-----------|
| N Stevens | £1,080.00 |
| MME (2012) Ltd | £1,648.44 |
| Viking | £158.27 |
| Lemon Gazelle | £2,280.00 |
| Rialtas Business Systems | £135.60 |
| A B Memorials | £245.00 |
| Mervyn Hillier | £244.50 |
| N P Community Centre | £1,449.80 |
| EDF | £40.16 |
| SRYP | £2,703.00 |
| Sedgemoor DC | £167.42 |
| Crimson Hill Support | £32.50 |
| NP Rugby Club | £1,500.00 |
| GWB Services | £4,128.00 |

27/2017 **Finance Reports**

The Clerk presented the financial summary and budget report.

Resolved: that the report be received.

28/2017 **Training**

The Clerk referred to a previous decision to hold an in house training session, and suggested that it be arranged for either a second or a fourth Monday evening. This was agreed. He also referred to a Regional NALC conference to be held in Taunton on 16th March.

Resolved: that the Clerk, Cllr Mrs Spelman Ives and Cllr Mrs Denham be authorized to attend at a cost of £60 per head.

29/2016 **Contract for Services**

The Clerk presented a draft general specification for the forthcoming tendering process for street cleaning, allotment maintenance, play equipment inspection and general work.

Resolved: that the specification be approved and that a Task and Finish Group be set up to agree the detailed work to be included; the Group to consist of: Cllr Spencer (Chair), Cllr Revans, Cllr Mrs Hyde, Cllr Barham, Cllr Sellick, Cllr Taylor and Cllr MacLaurin

30/2017 **School Bus**

The Clerk updated Members on the current situation relating to the County Council's decision to remove school bus facilities from North Petherton children attending the Robert Blake School. Cllr Brown reported that a meeting had been arranged with County Cllr Ms Nicholson on 1st March to discuss the matter. He also noted that the school had contacted County Cllr Fothergill. It was felt that the key issue was the safety of the crossing of Willstock Way by the roundabout. Cllr Spencer felt that the Council should seek to persuade the County to continue the service for at least another term

31/2017 **Somerset Waste Partnership**

The Clerk reported on a response that he had received to the concerns he had raised about the proposals to reduce the waste collection service across the county.

Resolved: that the response did adequately cover the matters raised, particularly regarding the limited extent of the public consultation.

32/2017

Correspondence

The Clerk reported on correspondence he had received from County Highways, following a site meeting with Cllr Mrs Hyde and Cllr Mrs Denham regarding traffic problems in the Mill Street area of North Petherton.

Resolved: that the Council endorse the proposals set out in the correspondence to include new restrictions in the forthcoming Road Traffic Order, and that the Clerk be asked to contact Sedgemoor Dc regarding new street signs, request the SAT NAV companies to amend their databases and ask that it be made clear that Willstock Way was not a through road.

33/2017

Matters of Report

Cllr Taylor reported that works to rhynes in Wilstock had been completed.

Cllr Denham raised the matter of effective communications in the modern era. She felt that relying on notice boards and an often uninterested local press was no longer satisfactory. It was agreed that this item be put on the next agenda.

Cllr Mrs Hyde reported on the sad death of Graham Todd

Cllr Bradford reminded Members of the forthcoming Clusters Meeting on 22nd February, and thanked the Moorland Village Hall Committee for their hospitality.

The meeting closed at 9:35 pm

DRAFT