

Minutes of the Meeting of North Petherton Town Council held at Ferrydown House, North Petherton on 5th March 2018 at 7:15 pm.

Present. Cllr A Bradford Chairman.

Councillors. Cllr J Barham, Cllr Mrs A Fraser, Cllr B Sellick, Cllr P Spencer, Cllr Mrs M Denham, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr W Revans, Cllr R Ives, Cllr P MacLaurin, Cllr Mrs L Hyde and Cllr Mrs L Spelman-Ives.

In Attendance. Esther Carter (Sedgemoor DC), Helen Warren, Ollie Woodhams (Somerset CC), Chris Dadds (JLL), and Rod Latham Clerk

36/2018 **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr J Hesketh, and Cllr L Parchment.

37/2018 **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interests

38/2018 **Junction 24**

Chris Dadds from JLL Planning consultants updated Members on the progress being made with plans to redevelop land adjacent to junction 24 of the M5 as a service area and general employment site. He mentioned that there were some issues relating to archaeology and that these were being investigated.

39/2018 **Affordable Housing**

Following the Council's sponsorship of a housing needs survey in North Newton, Ms Esther Carter from Sedgemoor Council's Affordable Housing Team, presented the findings to Members and outlined the process for taking a project forward to provide houses in the village to meet the need. Members raised a number of questions and Cllr Mrs Fraser expressed her doubts about the proposal, based on previous schemes.

Resolved: that this matter be further discussed at the next Planning Meeting.

40/2018 **Huntworth Roundabout**

Mrs Helen Warren addressed the meeting in relation to the continuing dangers associated with the Huntworth Roundabout as demonstrated by the recent accident there involving a large lorry.

Resolved: that the Clerk write to the Secretary State for Transport and the County Council expressing the Council's concerns about the continuing serious safety issues.

41/2018 **Library Service Review**

Mr Ollie Woodhams from Somerset County Council answered Members' questions about the consultation that was taking place about plans to reduce the library service. He stressed that no decisions would be made until later in the year when the results of the consultation had been considered, but, given the likelihood that cutbacks would be necessary, it was felt that discussions about future options with the Town Council would be helpful.

Resolved: that Cllr Bradford, Cllr Mrs Hyde and Cllr Revans, together with the Clerk, should meet with library officials to look at practical ways forward.

42/2018 **Minutes**

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2018.

Resolved: that the minutes be approved

43/2018 **Matters arising**

Cllr Mrs Hyde reported that she had raised the issue of safety rails being installed by the steps adjacent to the North Petherton Community Centre with the Centre's Committee. They were unsure who was responsible and might want to share any costs involved. Members felt that this work should proceed as soon as possible and asked Cllr Mrs Hyde to bring this to the Committee's attention.

Cllr MacLaurin agreed to contact SLAMS as soon as practicable to progress work on the finger post direction signs.

44/2018 **Mayor's Report**

Cllr Bradford reported that, among other things, he had attended the Civic Service at Axbridge and a charity "Oscars" evening in North Newton.

45/2018 **Members' Reports**

Members discussed grants that were being made available via the Somerset Community Foundation.

46/2018 **Planning matters**

The Clerk reported that Stuart Houlet from Sedgemoor DC's Planning Team would be attending the next Planning Meeting to discuss current issues.

47/2018 **Speed Indication Devices**

The Clerk reminded members of the options that were likely to be available to continue the use of SIDs after the County Council had withdrawn their service.

Resolved: that Cllr Spencer attend the forthcoming seminar on the topic and report back to the next meeting

48/2018 **Finance reports**

The Clerk presented the monthly finance and budget reports.

Resolved: that the reports be received.

49/2018 **Items for payment**

Resolved: that the following payments be approved:

Adam Kyte	£30.00
Sedgemoor DC	£110.80
Mervyn Hillier	£53.00
Crimson Hill Support	£144.38

NPPFCT

TE & SJ Popham	£144.00
Sedgemoor Dc	£2,765.40

50/2018

Land Adjacent to 54 Fore Street

The Clerk reported that the property at 54 Fore Street, North Petherton was experiencing damp problems which had been identified as stemming from a build up of soil on the adjacent council owned land. A request had been submitted that the Council should rectify the problem at a cost of £100.

Resolved: that a) the request be agreed to, and
b) the occupier be asked not to store their waste containers on the land.

51/2018 **Matters of report**

Cllr Revans reported that a bid for a grant towards the cost of the Youth Club had been submitted to the Somerset Youth and Community Group.

Cllr Ives commented on how the recent spell of bad weather had brought out the community spirit in Wilstock and Stockmoor.

Cllr Mrs Hyde commented on the problems still being caused by the lack of adequate bus services

The meeting closed at 9:20 pm

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