

Minutes of the Meeting of North Petherton Town Council held on Monday 4th February 2019 at 7:15 pm in Moorland Village Hall.

Present. Cllr A Bradford Chairman.

Councillors. Cllr Mrs L Hyde, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr J Barham, Cllr B Sellick, Cllr Mrs L Spelman-Ives and Cllr R Brown.

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

15/2019 **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr R Ives, Cllr P Spencer, Cllr Mrs A Fraser, Cllr W Revans and Cllr L Parchment

16/2019 **Declarations of interests**

Cllr Sellick declared an interest in item 16 and left the room during discussion on the relevant item.

17/2019 **Co-option**

Cllr Mrs Helen Warren was co-opted as a Member of the Council. The Mayor welcomed her and hoped that she would enjoy being a Town Councillor.

18/2019 **Community Time**

Several members of the public spoke with reference to item 10 on the agenda, planning application 37/18/00108, which had been deferred from the Planning Meeting. There were comments about drainage, noise levels and impact on neighbouring properties. There were also concerns expressed about future changes of use.

A number of local residents raised issues relating to the Huntworth rail bridge project, which was due to begin in the next couple of weeks. Included in these were the following points.

The diversion signage, as proposed, would cause confusion.

Traffic following GPS could take the wrong route.

It was unclear how people would be evacuated in the event of a major emergency.

There was dissatisfaction with the County Highways' response to issues raised about the condition of the alternative route.

The recently installed barriers across the emergency route were causing problems for cyclists and footpath users.

19/2019 **Minutes**

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2019.

Resolved: that the minutes be approved as a correct record

20/2019 **Matters arising**

Cllr Taylor raised the issue of the North Petherton Community Centre Car Park. He felt that the centre was being run as a business rather than a community facility. Cllr Mrs Hyde reported that the Community Centre Committee AGM was due to be held on 22nd March 2019.

Resolved: that a meeting be arranged of the councillors and residents who had agreed to seek a meeting with the Community Centre Committee, to discuss the response received from the Committee and that Mr Tim Manders of Sedgemoor DC's property section, be invited to attend.

21/2019 **Mayor's report**

Cllr Bradford reported that, in addition to attending meetings on behalf of the Council

and dealing with issues raised by residents, he had planted 19 trees as part of the county wide remembrance project.

22/2019

Planning application.

Members considered application 37/18/00108, deferred from the previous Planning Meeting.

Resolved: to object on the following grounds:

that the plans are unclear;

there would be inadequate arrangements to deal with drainage problems;

the impact on neighbouring properties was unacceptable.

23/2019

Finance Report

The Clerk presented the periodic budget monitoring report

Resolved: that the report be received.

24/2019

Items for payment

Resolved: that the following items be paid:

N P Community Centre £18.00

Crimson Hill Support £157.50

A B Memorials £285.00

Purnells Printers £151.60

Sedgemoor DC £84.00

25/2019

Huntworth Rail Bridge

Members discussed items that had been raised by the residents and other problems associated with the lengthy road closure caused by the Network Rail scheme to repair the bridge.

Resolved: that regular “surgeries” be held by the Council where general and specific problems could be addressed. Initially these would be on Wednesday evenings in the Moorland village hall.

26/2019

North Petherton Library.

Members discussed the draft Heads of Terms that had been prepared by the County Library Service for the Library partnership that would be responsible for running the library from April. The details had been discussed in detail by the Library sub Committee. Members noted that it was likely that the Council would be more actively involved in day to day operations than had been anticipated and that opportunities to reduce costs might be more limited.

27/2019

Wilstock and Stockmoor Forum

The Clerk presented the notes of the recent Forum Meeting.

Resolved; that a letter be sent to the County Council relating to the lack of bus services and the impact of the failure to deliver the promised Park and Ride facility.

28/2019

Annual Review

The Clerk presented a paper which set out what had been achieved by the Council over the previous twelve months and what work still remained to be done in some areas.

Resolved: that

- a. The report be received;
- b. Mr MacLaurin be thanked for his work in downloading and displaying planning documents at meetings and that he be paid an honorarium equating to £20 per

meeting; and

- c. The Clerk progress the Council acquiring its own projection equipment.

29/2019

Correspondence.

- a. **Wall repairs, Pilots Helm Allotments.** The Clerk reported that he had received a price for the final section of the wall repairs at the allotment site from Cllr Sellick, the original tender for repairing the wall having been awarded to Cllr Sellick after competitive tendering.

Resolved: that the price be accepted.

- b. **Street lighting.** Quotes had been received from Somerset CC for installing two new street lights in Old Road North Petherton.

Resolved: that authority be given to proceed with one of the lights

30/2019

Matters of report

Cllr Taylor reported that he would be attending a meeting of the Quantocks AONB as the Council's representative and sought guidance on how members felt about the area being linked with Exmoor National Park. Members were not averse to the idea.

Cllr Mrs Spelman Ives gave advance notice of a "Big Lunch" that would be taking place on 1st June to raise funds for Wilstock Hub.

The meeting closed at 9:45 pm

