

Minutes of the Meeting of North Petherton Town Council held at Ferrydown House, North Petherton on 9th April 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 Mrs L Hyde, Cllr L Parchment and Cllr P MacLaurin

In Attendance. Rod Latham Clerk and one member of the public

52/2018 **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs L Spelman Ives

53/2018 **Declarations of interest**

Cllr Bradford reported that, as a member of the Sedgemoor Development Committee, he would not comment on any planning matters.

54/2018 **Community Time**

Concerns were raised about the lack of opportunity given to the public to speak on the Dawes Farm planning applications at the recent meeting of the Sedgemoor Council's Development Committee..

55/2018 **Minutes**

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 5th March 2018

Resolved: that the minutes be approved

56/2018 **Matters arising**

Cllr Mrs Hyde reported that the waste bin was still being stored on the public space adjacent to the hairdressers in Fore Street. It was agreed that the Mayor and Clerk would look into this.

57/2018 **Mayor's Report**

Cllr Bradford reported that, among other things, he had attended meetings about the library service and the playing fields and the anniversary of the Nursing Home in Stockmoor.

58/2018 **Members' Reports**

Cllr Taylor reported that he had written to the Chief Executive of the US holding company regarding illegal parking of trucks on Showground Road, and that within a matter of days, the Head of the European division had contacted him to say that the practice would cease. This appears to have been the case. He also stated that the Moorland finger posts would be back in place shortly.

Cllr Mrs Hyde reported back from the Cluster meeting, which had been attended by County Councillor Fothergill and senior Highway Officers. She had raised issues about the Huntworth Roundabout and traffic problems on the A38. She and Cllr Mrs Denham had organised a coffee morning in North Petherton at the end of March. Cllr Mrs Denham had judged the "Wobbly Walkers" Easter bonnet competition.

Cllr Revans reminded Members that it would be the centenary of the Armistice in November and that it was hoped to arrange for a march through the town on the Sunday. He asked the Council to consider supporting that and other similar events.

Resolved: that £1918 be set aside for this purpose.

59/2018 **Planning Matters**

The Clerk reported on decisions that the Planning Authority had taken in respect of

applications in the areas

Resolved: that the report be received..

Speed Indication Devices

60/2018 Cllr Spencer presented a report on Speed Indicator Devices following his attendance at a recent seminar. There were basically three options to replace the current service that was being withdrawn by the County Council: do nothing; participate in a possible new scheme at £100 per session; go it alone or join with neighbouring councils.

Resolved: that the Council should express its interest in the second option and also explain to the County Council that it was particularly interested in obtaining traffic flow numbers.

Annual Town Meeting

61/2018 Members discussed the arrangements for publicising the forthcoming Town Meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Denham, Cllr Mrs Hyde and Cllr MacLaurin would prepare and distribute appropriate posters.

Finance reports

62/2018 The Clerk presented the monthly finance and budget reports.

Resolved: that the reports be received.

Items for payment

63/2018 **Resolved:** that the following payments be approved:

Adam Kyte	£54.00
Water2business	£85.00
SDS	£27.84
N Petherton Community Centre	£66.00
N Petherton Community Centre	£1,628.81
Somerset CC	£657.20
Greenslades	£1,907.32
Greenslades	£4,248.00

NPPFCT

GB Services	£100.00
Jones Lang LaSalle Ltd	£4,620.00

Governance Rerview

64/2018 The Clerk reported on the need to undertake the annual governance review.

Resolved: that this be referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Library Service Review

65/2018 The Clerk reported on a recent meeting with members of the County Library Team, attended by himself and Cllrs Bradford, Hyde and Revans. As part of the discussions the possibility of creating a charity to run the library was raised as a cost effective way of maintaining and, possibly, enhancing the local service. It was agreed that this idea had merit and should be raised at the Town Meeting.

Country Park

66/2018 The Clerk reported on discussions that Cllr Bradford and he had had with Persimmon Homes about the Country Park in Wilstock and Stockmoor. It was agreed that further discussions should take place.

Review of Ethical Standards

67/2018 The Clerk reported on correspondence received from SALC about the government's review of ethical standards in local government.

Resolved: that the matter be noted.

Quantocks AONB Questionnaire

68/2018 **Resolved:** that Cllr Taylor respond to this, if necessary.

Grave digging charges

69/2018 The Clerk reported that he had received a request from the contractor to increase the charge for interring ashes.

Resolved: that the request be declined, on the basis that the contract was to be reviewed at the end of the year in any case.

Grant plaques

70/2018 The Clerk reported on quotes he had received for providing plaques to be presented to grant recipients that could be displayed to acknowledge the Council's support.

Resolved: that this be referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Resignation

71/2018 The Clerk reported that Cllr Hesketh had resigned from the Council following his moving from the area.

Resolved: that the Clerk write to Cllr Hesketh thanking him for his long and valued contribution to the Council.

Matters of Report

72/2018 Cllr Fraser reported on a dangerous pothole in North Newton.

Cllr Spencer reported that he had received some complaints about the state of the cemetery, These had been passed on to the contractor.

Cllr Sellick raised concerns about the operation of the pedestrian crossing in North Petherton. Cllr Revans agreed to take this up with the County Council.

Cllr Taylor informed Members of a parliamentary bill to give river authorities precepting powers and re-iterated his concerns about the road through Moorland becoming a "rat run"

Cllr Ives reported on a recent Eater bonnet competition in Wilstock and Stockmoor and that a regular Monday evening street games event had now begun in Wilstock and Stockmoor running through to September.

The meeting closed at 9:30 pm

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