

**MINUTES OF NORTH CURRY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD
IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 2nd MAY 2018 AT 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Mrs C D Stodgell (Chairman), Mr B Jeanes, Mrs C Vaughan, Mr G Cable, Mr D Akerman, Mr M Dennis, Mr A Turner, Cllr. P Stone, Mrs H Morley, and 30+ members of the general public.

1. **WELCOME TO THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr. D Fothergill, Mrs M Burt, Mrs J Leader, Ms L Turney, Mrs A Pike, Mr F Drakeford and Mr R Perry.
3. **HEADTEACHER'S REPORT FOR NORTH CURRY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL** – Two pupils from the Primary School gave a talk and demonstration on mindfulness and presented a poster of the brain and answered questions. Mrs Morley, Headmistress of NC School, reported on the school becoming part of the Richard Huish Trust, it being classed as “outstanding” by OFSTED and oversubscribed. She also summarised the benefits of mindfulness on the pupils, the provision of seven classes in the morning and the support she had received since starting at the school.
- 7.45 Mrs Morley, a teacher and three pupils left the meeting.
4. **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 3rd MAY 2017** - Copies of the Minutes had been distributed to attendees, there were no comments. Mrs Holms proposed the Minutes were a true record of the meeting, Mr Turner seconded the proposal, which was passed.
5. **MATTERS ARISING** – None.
6. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** - The Chairman read her report, copy attached.
7. **TO RECEIVE AND NOTE**

7.1 Parish Council Accounts

Copies of pp3-6 and 8 of the unaudited accounts for the previous year were circulated, full copies were also available. Mr Jeanes explained the Stable accounts, giving special thanks to Mr Lander and Mrs Miles-Taylor for their input in running the Stable. He noted that the Stable had given £5000 to the Parish Council. Mr Jeanes went on to give a summary of the Parish Council accounts explaining the figures. Points of particular note included an error correction in relation to VAT, reduced income due to reduced grants from developments and grant expenditure to improve the White St. car park and towards the school library. Remaining CIL currently held was also mentioned. Mr Leader suggested a comparison of year on year accounts be given for the Stable in future, this was noted. Mr Jeanes explained the internal and external audit procedures and confirmed he considered the Parish Council to be adequately protected. He also explained the increase in premises cost related to a new electricity connection for the Coffee Shop and the increase in service charge paid by the Parish Council to cover the common areas and archives. Mention was made by Mrs Crompton, on behalf of the school, of expected CIL income due in October but the Parish Council had not had any official notification of this as yet. Mr Jeanes also

explained that the TDBC grants that came in were annual payments pre-allocated by TDBC that went straight out again.

7.2 Parochial Charities Accounts – Annual Report

Mr Akerman explained the background to the Parochial Charities and payments given that year, following which he presented the accounts, which were passed to the Chairman for signature. Mention was also made of the forthcoming “Reeve’s” picnic on 9th June, North Curry Society were helping with and sponsoring the picnic.

8. **8.1 Road Safety Update** – Mr Akerman read his road safety report, copy attached. He noted SCC’s conclusion that neither a change of priority nor a roundabout at the junction of Windmill Hill and Greenway was acceptable on safety grounds. He confirmed that SCC now proposed a full pavement along part of Greenway.

8.2 Tractor Paper Update – Cllr. Stone presented an update on comments on his Tractor Paper, copy attached. Discussion followed concerning a suggestion for a 20mph zone in the village. The Chairman commented that SCC were not happy to have 20mph limits and Mr Akerman noted that evidence did not support the effectiveness of 20mph limits, particularly where there were no physical restrictions. Mrs Vaughan suggested width and weight restrictions, noting that vehicles (both lorries and tractors) using the village were now far too big for the roads. Mr Akerman noted the complexity of size limits but that vehicles of more than 3m wide need police permission to use the public road. Speed limits for tractors were also discussed. The Chairman noted that these issues would be discussed further at Parish Council level. Mr Lander noted that the issue arose as tractor drivers are paid by the job so it was not in their interests to use small vehicles or drive slowly.

Mr D Patten suggested farmers pay for the upkeep of the Highway rather than the community, noting that, across the country, a significant part of their income came from subsidies. He also noted the DEFRA Code of Conduct for slurry and the reduction of quality of fields due to slurry use. Mr Wynter noted that the most profitable farm in the UK has won more environmental prizes than any other farm. Mr Cable noted the issues were a national problem needing national solutions, there was limited opportunity to impose anything at local level, negotiation was needed.

8.3 CIL – Discussion of areas to improve infrastructure – Interest from the school and Fraser Lithgow was noted. The Chairman summarised CIL income and expenditure, £12,204 of CIL currently remained unspent and £4,376 of Lightsource grant money. It was noted that the remaining Jubilee Fund was also set aside for new school toilets. Rebecca Crompton presented, on behalf of the Primary School and Governors, a case for some of the £65,000 CIL money that was expected in October. Mention was made of significant increases in primary school numbers resulting from the Loscombe Meadow development with 12 children coming to the school and two being turned away. The school now had 163 children but was built for 147 with portacabins and was now seriously overcrowded. Funding of approx.. £20,000 to improve the outside play facilities was sought. It was noted that the equipment would have to be positioned so as not to be at risk from any new buildings at the school and that funding from SCC could still be received even once the school was part of the RH Trust if space was an issue. The Chairman noted David Walker’s suggestion that the PC write to TDBC to push for CIL money received as a result of development in the Parish to be used in the parish. Mr Lander noted the formula predicting 5 children from 30 houses was wildly inaccurate and the current unacceptable use of temporary accommodation over 30 years old. The Chairman said that the issue would be put on a PC meeting agenda and the PC would be pushing

strongly for more funds on the basis it was a Minor Rural Settlement Area and therefore needed funding to go with the development. Cllr. Stone's assistance would also be sought when approaching TDBC. Mr Leader clarified that at the point of transfer of the school to a trust the Local Authority must confirm the buildings are of sufficient standard and quality. He also noted that a "condition improvement fund" for trusts would be available in September.

The Chairman also raised Fraser Lithgow's request for a skate park that had received 3 pages of signatures to a petition supporting the idea, so would now be considered, although prices would be needed. There was some comment that a skate park would not get used enough. The Chairman confirmed the Playing Fields Committee would have to support the idea and facts and figures would be sought before a final decision could be made.

9.05 A coffee break was held. Mr Lander, Mrs Crompton and other members of the public left the meeting.

9. **NORTH CURRY SPORT LTD (WHITE ST. SPORTS GROUND) REPORT – i) Chairman** - Laurence Leader, Chairman, reported on the success of the White St. Sports facilities, summarising all they offered from cricket to football for all ages to the wildlife area. The huge volunteer effort was noted that enabled the facility to run on a £5,000 budget. North Curry Sport Ltd. manage the site on behalf of the Parish Council but the clubs are organised by the teams. Thanks were express for the improved signage. **ii) Wildlife Group** – Sue Ashton gave a summary of the wildlife area that was now well established and linked to the village footpath network. Thanks were given to volunteers and funding groups and reference made to the website northcurrywildlife.com and the Twitter feed. **iii) Football** – Shawn Sutton reported on the success of the Senior Saturday team that could get promoted and the Sunday team. Youth teams had 98 players registered with great success at U7 and U9 levels, he thanked the coaches, their Secretary, Ali Sutton, who had been voted Youth Secretary of the Year for the League, Emma Quinn, Richard Perry, M Vickers and others for their work on the grounds, the new junior pitches being a great asset. He also thanks the North Curry Society, Coffee Shop volunteers and Parish Council for their donations. **iv) Cricket** – Mr Leader reported on behalf of Mr Drakeford, summarising the success of the Saturday team which were now promoted to Division 2, and also the North Curry Saints. 38 children were booked in for the ECB "Allstars" initiative for 4-8 year olds. Mr Patten suggested adult football games be advertised on a board and in the pink sheet.

9.35 Mr Wynter and Mrs Jeanes left the meeting.

10. **GREENWAY PLAYING FIELDS REPORT** – Mr Quinn reported the Playing Fields now had a strong Committee and good bank balance and urged people to come along to the AGM on Tuesday, 8th May.
11. **PARISH AFFAIRS – OPEN FORUM** – Mr Patten raised a suggestion for a Slurry Curry Action Group. Mr Quinn noted that contractors weren't local. The Chairman noted that anything coming under the Parish Council name would need to be approved at a Parish Council meeting, any suggestions were welcome to be brought to PC meetings. Mr Leader and Ms Ward praised the Parish meeting. There being no other business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 9.41 p.m.