

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Cllr. P Stone (Chairman), Mr A Turner, Mr B Jeanes, Mr G Cable, Mrs M Burt, Mr D Akerman, Mrs J. Leader, Mrs C Vaughan and Ms C Smith.

**Members of the Public:** Mr L Leader and Cllr. D Fothergill.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Mrs C D Stodgell, Ms M Carter, Miss E Turney and Cllr. D Fothergill (late arrival).
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016** – Subject to clarifying that the Parish Office sign was to be fixed permanently (Matters Arising), Mr Turner proposed the Minutes were a true record of the meeting, Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed.
3. **CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS** – All posts now filled.
4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Mr Jeanes re. item 8.
5. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – None.
6. **MATTERS ARISING – Policing matters** – Corr. B5928 SALC re. police (non) attendance at PC meetings (unless specific items of concern) and B5929 Inspr. Pritchard re. forwarding of contact re. police presence were noted. Comment was also made regarding damage to the railings on Windmill Hill. **Speed Watch** – Documentation was still awaited but a meeting for volunteers was taking place that week. **BT Phone Box** – Corr. A5921 R. Bryant re. TDBC objecting to NC phone box removal referred. It was hoped TDBC's objection would result in the phone box remaining. **House Plaques** – The Chairman reported that a number of people had asked for a plaque. The Parish Council were still waiting to see the final style of plaque. **Lime Trees** - Two trees had been felled & replaced, response to be monitored. **White St. Car Park** - Consent for the car park had been received subject to provision of a replacement playing field for the area taken up. Cllr. Stone was to meet the IDB re. drainage for the car park. **Overlands Footpath** – Corr. B 5937 Cllr. Stone re. footpath at Overlands referred. Cllr. Stone to check the timescale for the reinstatement of the footpath in view of the muddy state of the alternative Overlands track. **Broadband Update** - Corr. A5922 N. Sloan broadband update, B5932 J. Bartlett re. Rural Broadband newsletter input and B5933 Cllr. Fothergill re. Town Farm broadband referred. Balanced information to be put in the newsletter. **Farm Traffic** – Mr Akerman reported that news of the NFU/Contractor meeting was awaited. Mr Cable suggesting using the e-newsletter to disseminate short notice farming activity updates. It was agreed that ideally the farmer input would be in an item separate to the Parish Council input. **Newsletter Input** After discussion, Mrs Leader proposed the Parish Council publish the farmers monthly activities as it comes under Parish Interests, but with it put under its own heading e.g. “Monthly Parish Farming Activity”. Michael Griffiths to be informed of this. Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed. **St James Court Hedge** – The Chairman reported the hedge had been replanted, he thanked Mr & Mrs Crocker for their assistance in the matter. Corr. B5934 R. Lander to TDBC re. St James Court verge was noted and supported. A response from TDBC was awaited.
7. **APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT BY NORTH CURRY PARISH COUNCIL**  
*24/16/0056 Change of use from Class B1 to holiday accommodation at Units 1 & 2 Higher Wrantage Farm, Langport Road, Wrantage* – Mr Turner explained the application. Corr. A5923 T. Stodgell comment re. planning appn. 24/16/0056 was noted. (8.15pm Cllr. Fothergill joined the meeting.) After discussion Mr Turner proposed the Parish Council support the application with the comment that they would like the property to be used purely for short term holidays to promote local tourism. Mr Jeanes seconded the proposal, which was passed.

*24/16/0064 Change of use from agricultural to sports field associated with White Street Sports on land to the rear of Pury Street Farm, Stoke Road, North Curry (resubmission of 24/16/0012)* – The Chairman explained the application. Mr Turner noted one letter of objection re. concern it would encourage parking on Stoke Road, there were other letters of support. Mr Leader pointed out the car park would be a safer dropping off point for children and the sports club would let parents know not to park on Stoke Road. After discussion, Mr Jeanes proposed the Parish Council support the application, repeating the comments made on application 24/16/0012 (including reversion to agricultural use if no longer required for a sports field) plus commenting that they would wish to see the sports club actively encouraging users to park in the car park, not on the highway. Mr Turner seconded the proposal, which was passed (the Chairman abstained).

8. **TO CONSIDER TDBC's ADOPTION OF THE SITE ALLOCATION & DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN** – It was noted that an appeal relating to the second Knapp Lane planning application had been received. It was agreed that Mr Jeanes be allowed to stay in the room for discussion of this item but would have no input. **Corr. A5924 TDBC Notice of adoption of SADMP & extract from SADMP and A5925 E. Ormes public notice re. inspection of SADMP papers** referred. The comments relating to the Knapp Lane site were noted. Objections to the adoption of the SADMP could only be on procedural errors. Discussion referred to the height of the houses at Overlands and the need for any houses at the Knapp Lane site to be low to reduce impact, the design brief in relation to the siting of houses and green space and that, if drainage was not feasible, the houses could not be built. After discussion Mrs Vaughan proposed Mr Turner and the Clerk prepare a form of words to be sent to the Inspector of the first Knapp Lane development appeal, to raise relevant SADMP points. Mrs Leader seconded the proposal, which was passed, Mr Jeanes abstained.
9. **TO CONSIDER RESPONSE TO PROPOSED NEW DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR TAUNTON DEANE & WEST SOMERSET** – **Corr. A5926 Cllr. J Williams re. merger of TDBC & WSDC** referred. There would be a meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January. The Chairman felt this item needed further consideration and it was agreed the matter be discussed at the February meeting. The Chairman would provide a note of points for that meeting. Volunteers to attend the meeting were sought.

**Item 12 TO CONSIDER APPROACH TO & FINANCING OF REPAIR OF FINGER POSTS** was brought forward for consideration at this point in order to be taken into account in the precept. **Correspondence A5927 B. Jeanes & P. Stone re. finger posts** referred. Cllr. Fothergill to forward a Manual of Procedure for work on fingerposts. He pointed out that they need not necessarily be taken down to re-paint them and that it would be best for the first few repaired to be the easier ones and not on the highway. After discussion, Mrs Vaughan proposed the finger posts be prioritised according to need for repair/difficulty prior to discussion at the February meeting. Mr Cable seconded the proposal, which was passed. Mr Jeanes suggested costs for repairs in the current financial year could be absorbed.

10. **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE PRECEPT BID FOR 2017/2018\*** - After discussion noting the reduced Council Tax Support Grant, Mr Akerman proposed the precept be set at £17312 to allow £156 to be put towards finger post repair. Mrs Burt seconded the proposal, which was passed.
11. **TO CONSIDER POLICY ON VILLAGE TWINNING SIGNAGE** – Notwithstanding the suspension of the twinning association, Mrs Vaughan proposed village twinning signage be refixed and maintained for the time being, Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed.

- 12. TO CONSIDER APPROACH TO & FINANCING OF REPAIR OF FINGER POSTS –**  
See above.
- 13. TO CONSIDER SPRING LITTER PICK –** It was agreed a community litter pick be scheduled for Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30 a.m., meeting in the Village Hall Car Park. Clerk to contact DLO re. collection of bags of waste. Gloves and fluorescent jackets to be worn where available. After discussion Mr Jeanes proposed up to £100 be allowed for the purchase of “litter pickers”, Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed. Mrs Vaughan to source the pickers.
- 14. PROPOSAL TO SET UP A GROUP TO MANAGE PUBLIC WILD SPACES –** This group would report to NCSL. Mr Akerman stressed that responsibilities for open spaces associated with new developments should not be taken on. The Chairman confirmed the intention was to liaise with the management committees of new developments, not to undertake the work.
- 15. CORRESPONDENCE –** Corr. A5921 to A5927 covered above.  
**Corr. B5940 SWP briefing re. 3 weekly waste collection –** It was noted that additional collections could be arranged for human waste/nappies.  
**Corr. B5944 Coffee shop donation –** Letter of thanks to be sent.
- 16. FINANCE – Monthly Account –** Mr Jeanes presented the monthly account and proposed it be accepted, Mrs Leader seconded the proposal, which was passed. **Cheques/BACS Transfers –** Mr Jeanes presented the list and proposed the payments be made, Mrs Vaughan seconded the proposal, which was passed.

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount</b>
BACS Transfer	P. Stone re. "The Sign Builder" White. St. sign	£18.70
BACS Transfer	P. Stone re TDBC Planning Appn. (White St.)	£192.50
BACS Transfer	R. Perry - Playing Field picnic tables	£951.00
BACS Transfer	HMRC National Insurance	£45.63
BACS Transfer	B. Wellwood - Clerk Salary inc 1/31 OT re. 2015/16	£706.71
BACS Transfer	Arobicare Ltd	£1032.00
100313	Citizen's Advice Bureau (Taunton District)	£100.00
BACS Transfer	NCVH Room Hire (December)	£13.89
BACS Transfer	Newsletter costs 2016	£495.60
BACS Transfer	SCC re. footpath cutting	£500.00

- 17. COMMITTEE/DELEGATES REPORTS**
- Footpaths –** The Chairman would be meeting the new footpath warden (Tracey Sutton) to discuss footpath issues including the steps to the new footbridge at Widnes Drove and upkeep of footpaths getting overgrown. **Playing Fields –** Mr Turner reported the Pavilion was to have new doors installed and that the Committee was still seeking volunteers. **Village Hall –** Nothing to report. **Tree Warden –** Covered above. **Road Safety –** Cllr. Fothergill presented the technical report on the road safety proposals, there were 8 options with 3 recommendations. He would meet the Road Safety Committee prior to advising Highways of the preference. Mrs Burt raised the issue of traffic parked by the Coffee Shop blocking the road for a large lorry, which in turn prevented an ambulance getting access. The Road Safety Group would consider yellow lines. Mrs Burt also mentioned parking issues in Overlands, although it was not considered that there was much the Parish Council could do in this case and that householders would need to resolve matters where possible. **SALC –** Sam Winter is to leave SALC. **Stable –** Nothing to report. **Flood Warden –** Mrs Vaughan suggested keeping drain grills clear of blowing waste on waste collection days be included in the newsletter if there was space. The Chairman was to meet a member of the SCC Flood Team at Broad Lane to discuss options.

**White St.** – The Chairman reported chipping had been laid on the paths in the copse and nest boxes had been installed. **Allotments** – Nothing to report.

18. **PUBLICITY INPUTS** – Input to cover the Knapp Lane planning appeal, the Community litter pick, Broadband update, St Margaret’s Hospice need for volunteers, keeping drains clear and direct bus access to Musgrove Park Hospital.
19. **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION** – Mrs Vaughan suggested a future newsletter include an item that if vehicles were to be parked in Church Road for a long time that contact details be left visible in the car in case the vehicle needed to be moved. Mrs Leader mentioned concerns re. dormer windows in the new Overlands properties, she would try to visit the site. Mr Cable praised County Highways for their speed of filling pot holes. Cllr. Fothergill mentioned proposals to trial closing East Street to traffic (except to buses), St. James St. and Hammet Way (from 10.00 to 16.00). There would be a consultation in Feb./March with implementation in September for an 18 month trial period. Mr Jeanes reported that Sun Scaffolding had removed waste from the Knapp Lane site and were moving the gate to the property’s entrance in order to prevent further fly-tipping.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.05 pm**