

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on
Wednesday 8th March 2017 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Mrs C D Stodgell (Chairman), Mr A Turner, Cllr. P Stone, Ms M Carter, Mrs J Leader, Mr B Jeanes, Mr I Fugett, Mr G Cable, Mr D Akerman, Mrs C Vaughan, Miss E Turney and Ms C Smith.

Members of the Public: Mr M Dykes, Mrs S Bethune, Mr J Boddy, Mr D Walker and Cllr. D Fothergill.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Mrs M Burt and Cllr. Fothergill who would arrive late.
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2017** – Mrs Vaughan proposed the Minutes were a true record of the meeting, Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – None.
5. **MATTERS ARISING – Policing matters** – Corr. A5980 A&S Police re. questions for Chief Constable – Noted. Mr Jeanes reported fly-tipping on private land in front of the former Sun Scaffolding gate. **Speed Watch** – Corr. B 5992 PC Devaney & D. Akerman re. approval of speedwatch sites, Mr Akerman reported one site had now been accredited. **BT Phone Box** – Corr. B5993 TDBC re. phone box decision notice was noted, TDBC supported retention of North Curry's box. **House Plaques** – A printed plaque was shown, some members did not approve of the style. After discussion Mrs Leader proposed the Parish Council suspend the financial support of the project until a suitable material is approved. Ms Turney seconded the proposal, which was passed with three abstentions. **Overlands Footpath** – A gate was now in situ and the footpath open. Mr Fugett expressed concern at the use of a wooden gate and liability for ongoing maintenance. Mr Jeanes suggested there should at least be a metal post for the gate to hang on. Mr Fugett proposed the Parish Council ask Strongvox to install a metal gate, Mrs Vaughan seconded the proposal, which was passed with one vote against. **Litter Pick** – Corr. B5996 Mr Pryke re. litter along Stoke Road was noted. There had been a good turn out of 20 + for the litter pick. Mr Spotswood was thanked for his help with his scooter and trailer, as were all the volunteers. It was suggested a further pick be arranged in the autumn. **St James Court Verge** – Cllr. Stone reported TDBC had told residents that it was up to them to complete the landscaping. Mr Akerman noted there ought to be retention of monies for completion of work. **Finger Post repair** – Corr. A5981 Cllr. Stone re. finger post @ Thornfalcon was noted. The Chairman suggested it be borne in mind once all the posts within the Parish were completed. The Men's Shed were preparing a revised price for finger post painting following receipt of SCC guidance. Cllr. Stone offered to remove the fingers from the post in Queen Square. A Skanska price was awaited for repairing the Rockhill post. Cllr. Stone put forward the possibility of repairing two posts in the first year. **Solomon's Hollow sign** – Corr. B5994 Cllr. Fothergill re. Solomon's Hollow road narrows sign was noted. **R. Pow Meeting** – Corr. B5995R. Pow & G. Gleed – note of meeting and thanks for attendance was noted. **Broad Lane Issues** – Cllr. Stone had met some locals and SCC flood staff. Somerset County Council now wanted to use their own contractors to do the work so the scheme was not viable. Grants were available to householders to help them keep flood water out. Mr Fugett pointed out that cleaning the ditches out would help, as would farmers managing fields to reduce run off. The Chairman suggested Mr Fugett and householders write in to Highways explaining the effect it was having on them. **White St. Litter Bin** – Matter still with Highways for consideration as the bin would be on the Highway. **Howard's End garage** – The Chairman reported that the garage appeared to be as per plan. After discussion Mr Fugett proposed TDBC be contacted asking them to confirm it was built according to plans as it appeared rather large. Mr Cable seconded the proposal, which was passed with one vote against. **Corr. A5982 Mr & Mrs Harvey re. Pavement parking letter** and **A5983 Ms H King re. Pavement parking letter** were noted. Mr Akerman noted that changes to the

Windmill Hill junction may incorporate conservation yellow lines on the corner of The Pavement. It was also suggested that a disabled parking space on the road could be applied for if needed.

6. APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT BY NORTH CURRY PARISH COUNCIL

24/17/0003 – Replacement of conservatory at 10 Overlands – Mr Turner explained the application and after brief discussion proposed the Parish Council support the application. Mrs Vaughan seconded the proposal, which was passed. 8.17 Mr Boddy left the meeting.

24/17/0007 - Conversion of barn to dwelling at Garnseys Farm, Knapp, North Curry – Mr Turner explained the application and its history. After discussion the Chairman proposed the Parish Council support the application, Ms Carter seconded the proposal, which was passed. Cllr. Stone proposed the following comment be added: NC Parish Council is aware the Government has changed legislation in recent years to enable barn conversions and this conversion is a perfect example of a suitable barn for residential use. Mr Fugett seconded the proposal, which was passed.

24/17/0012 - Replacement of garage, carport and stores with the erection of a single storey extension at Moorside, Helland, North Curry – Mr Turner explained the application, noting neighbours approval other than a concern re. a culvert under the building. After discussion Mr Turner proposed the Parish Council support the application with the comment that the Parish Council wishes to draw attention to comments relating to the surface water culvert running under the existing building and also ask that approval be subject to the annexe remaining part of the dwelling and not being turned into a separate dwelling. Mrs Leader seconded the proposal, which was passed.

24/17/0013 – Change of use of land from agricultural for the siting of 3 No. shepherd huts to be used for tourist accommodation at Nythe Farm, Nythe Farm Lane, North Curry (resubmission of 24/16/0036) - Mr Turner explained the application, reporting Taunton Deane’s reasons for refusal of the previous application and the Parish Council’s previous comments “supporting the granting of permission subject to the condition that it is for short term tourist accommodation only, not for permanent accommodation or accommodation for seasonal workers”. After full discussion, including comments re. the view from “Bill’s seat” and the poor access road from the A378, Mr Turner proposed that, as the Parish Council had supported the previous application and this one was virtually unchanged, the Parish Council support the application again using the same comments (see above). The Chairman seconded the proposal which was passed with 7 votes for, 3 against and 2 abstentions. 8.50 pm M. Dykes left the meeting.

24/17/0014/T – Notification to fell two Apple trees, one Maple and one Poplar and to carry out management works to one Judas Tree and two Apple trees within North Curry Conservation Area at 1 Stoke Road, North Curry Appeal PINS Ref: APP/D3315/W/16/33162999 Re. Appn. No. 24/16/0042 – Corr. A5984 Dr & Mrs Bethune re. **planning application 24/17/0014/T** supporting the application was noted. (8.55 pm Cllr. Fothergill joined the meeting and Mrs Leader left the meeting.) Mr Turner explained the application, after discussion during which Cllr. Stone suggested two replacement trees be planted, Mr Turner proposed the Parish Council support the work, requesting two new suitable trees be planted in a suitable location within the garden. Mrs Vaughan seconded the proposal, which was passed. (9.00 pm Mrs Bethune left the meeting.)

7. TO CONSIDER INSTALLATION OF DOG WASTE BIN AT KNAPP LANE – Corr. A5985 TDBC re. dog waste bin costs reported a new bin would cost £345 + VAT, and emptying would cost £1.33 + VAT per collection (this was incorrect and should be £3.97 + VAT). It was noted that the dog bins and the Knapp Lane walk were both well used. Sites to be considered at the April meeting.

8. **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING PREPARATIONS** – Mr Fugett and Ms Turney offered to serve the tea, coffee and biscuits. Cllr. Fothergill hoped to get the road junction plans shortly and, although he couldn't talk about them at the meeting due to the election, he could send an officer if needed. Cllr. Stone would discuss the possibility of providing a short item about the White St. wild flowers with the Committee and confirm at the next PC meeting.
9. **TO CONSIDER PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSE TO PROPOSED NEXUS 25 STRATEGIC EMPLOYMENT SITE – Corr. A5986 Junction 25 development consultation** referred. This had been circulated but would be circulated again. Individuals were encouraged to submit returns. Mr Walker supported the proposal but had concerns about access pending the dualling of the A358 to the south of Henlade. Cllr. Stone expressed concern at breaching the motorway on the eastern side and pointed out that there was no interest in having more employment in Firepool. Mr Walker commented that J. 25 had 4 quadrants and that this south east quadrant could provide space not available in the SW and NW quadrants. Mr Fugett proposed the matter be discussed at the planning meeting. Ms Turney seconded the proposal, which was passed. The Chairman proposed all members of the Parish Council be co-opted on to the Planning Committee for the next meeting, Mr Fugett seconded the proposal, which was passed.
10. **CORRESPONDENCE** – Corr. A5980 to A5986 covered above.
Corr. A5987 Cllr. Stone re. payment for White St. storage building – The Chairman confirmed the decision was taken in 2014 to pay £20,000 for the building with S106 money, with the Cricket Club underwriting a further £1800 for the replacement doors if this couldn't come out of grant money. Matter to be an agenda item at the next meeting re. whether the extra £1800 could come out of S106 money.
Corr. A5988 RSN Online consultation – The Parish Council were happy to rely on the Clerk's discretion to distribute, after brief discussion the Chairman proposed a reply not be made, Ms Turney seconded the proposal, which was passed.
Corr. A5989 J Attwood re. grant for Village Hall acoustics improvements – It was noted that the Film Society was a subset of the Village Hall which already received a grant from the PC. After discussion Mr Akerman proposed the request should come from the Village Hall on behalf of all users. Ms Carter seconded the proposal, which was passed. Ms Carter to invite the Film Society to their next Committee Meeting.
Corr. A5990 Star Volunteer nomination invitation - Mrs Vaughan proposed no nomination be made this year, Ms Turney seconded the proposal, which was passed
Corr. B5997 deafPLUS re. visit in June - Noted.
Corr. B5998 National Plant Monitoring Scheme - Noted.
Corr. B5999 – War Memorials Trusts grants – Noted.
Corr. B6001 – J. Preston re. difficulty of sale of social housing and possible lifting of restriction – The Clerk had referred Ms Preston to TDBC Planning. Comment was made that the property had not been on the market very long.
11. **FINANCE – Monthly Account** – Mr Jeanes noted that the Town Farm Income in Sundry should be in the line above. Mr Akerman proposed the account be accepted, Ms Carter seconded the proposal, which was passed. **Payment List** - Mr Jeanes explained the payment list and the need to amend the Stable Service Charge due to an increase (**Corr. A5991 R. Lander re. Parish Office service charge referred**). Mr Jeanes proposed the service charge be amended to £88.00. Cllr. Stone seconded the proposal, which was passed. Mr Jeanes proposed the existing standing order be cancelled and the new standing order be added to the payment list and the list approved. Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed.

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
BACS Transfer	NCVH Room Hire (Jan. & Feb.)	49.24
BACS Transfer	Viking re. litter pickers	40.18
BACS Transfer	B. Wellwood - Clerk Salary	697.17
BACS Transfer	NC Stables elec 18.77 gas 23.02 water 26.51	68.30

Standing Order	Parish Office service charge	88.00
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12. COMMITTEE/DELEGATES REPORTS

Footpaths – Cllr. Stone was still waiting to hear from Tracey Sutton re. progress on footpath issues. **Playing Fields** – Mr Turner reported new Pavilion doors had been installed, and the lease needed to be chased up. Mention was made of a possible need to consider converting the shower rooms into a room for pre-school use. The Chairman noted the need to consult Betty Koppa (the major fund raiser for the building of the pavilion) if the idea materialises. **Village Hall** – Ms Carter mentioned the forthcoming Merry Widow performance. **Tree Warden** – Cllr. Stone reported Mary Piers had organized the clearing of a tree fallen across Sedgemoor drove. **Road Safety** – Nothing further to report. **SALC** – Nothing to report. **Stable** – Western Power to be consulted re. possible changes to increase the power supply. The exterior and the toilet to be re-decorated in the summer. Boiler may need replacing in the near future. Stable to make payment of £5000 to the Parish Council. **Flood Warden** – Mrs Vaughan raised the issue of the blocked gulley to the west of the Fosse/Stoke Road junction, Cllr. Fothergill to raise with Kali Martin. **White St.** – Cllr. Stone reported permission had been granted with a number of conditions. A lease needed to be prepared, he would see whether Mr T Walker could assist. The Chairman proposed the Parish Council pay the fee for meeting planning conditions as and when necessary on the proviso that the Sports Field reimburse the cost. Cllr. Stone seconded the proposal, which was passed. Cllr. Stone also wanted to install a barn owl box in the woodland and to ask for a sponsor for the £60 cost in the Newsletter. The Chairman proposed the PC support idea of the installation of a box, Ms Carter seconded the proposal, which was passed. **Allotments** – The Chairman reported concern re. splitting of the water tank lids, Mr Jeanes to investigate. **Cllr. Fothergill** – confirmed that an extra post would be installed at the Solomon's Hollow sign to prevent further spinning of the sign. He would also speak to Mr Fugett re. the Broad Lane ditches.

13. **PUBLICITY INPUTS** – Input to cover litter pick thanks, barn owl box sponsorship, the Annual Parish Meeting and the re-opening of the Overlands footpath.

14. **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION** – The Chairman reported the Village Agent had raised a family hardship matter with her, seeking assistance with provision of financial statements. Cllr. Fothergill confirmed the Citizens Advice Bureau could provide financial training and debt advice. Mr Akerman reported trees being felled on White St., Mr Jeanes thought they were dead elm trees. Concern was expressed that replacements should not affect visibility on the highway.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.12 pm