

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on
Wednesday 13th September 2017**

Present: Mrs C D Stodgell (Chairman), Mr A Turner, Mr B Jeanes, Mrs M Burt, Mrs C Vaughan, Mr D Akerman, Mr M Dennis, Cllr. P Stone and Mr G Cable.

Members of the Public: Mr D Walker, Mrs H Morley and Cllr. D Fothergill.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Ms C Smith, Ms E Turney and Mrs J Leader, Cllr. D. Fothergill would be late.
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH AUGUST 2017** – At item 6, White St Litter Bin, reference to SCC to read TDBC, subject to that amendment, Mr Jeanes proposed the Minutes were a true record of the meeting, Mr Turner seconded the proposal, which was passed.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Mr Jeanes and Cllr. Stone declared an interest re. item 20 as their names were on the payment list.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – None.
5. **MATTERS ARISING – Policing matters** – It was noted and appreciated that the PCSOs had been more visible in the Parish. **Speed Watch – Corr. A6156 L. Harvey re. parking around the monument** referred. Comment was made that whilst parking around the monument was considered inconvenient, parking along The Pavement was considered dangerous, plus most residents around the monument do not have access to garages. **Finger Post Repair** – Cllr. Stone reported that Burrowbridge PC had had new aluminium “fingers” made for £180/finger. Clerk to contact W. Monkton PC to enquire how they are approaching finger post repair. **White St. Litter Bin** – Bin now in situ, some reflective tape on the edges, more to be put on. **NHS Health Checks** – Health checks fully booked. **West Lane blockage** – No reply, m/f to October. **Knapp Lane site – street lighting & name – Corr. A6157 Strongvox re, footpath, ragwort and naming of Knapp Lane development** referred. The name Lockyer Field had been agreed and they would inform the current owners of the field about the ragwort. **Corr. A6158 SCC re. Knapp Lane development not having street lighting** – SCC to support the absence of street lighting in the development. Clerk to contact Strongvox re. associated grant. **Trial recording of meetings** – Mr Fugett had not been at the planning meeting so the recording had not taken place, attempt to record to be made at Sept. meeting. **Orchid Field footpath cut – Corr. A6159 P. Stone re. Orchid Field** referred. Cllr. The field had not been cut (one week previously), although it was noted the weather had not been favourable for hay making. Cllr. Stone to contact SCC again. **February meeting venue – Corr. B 6166 Cllr. Fothergill re. rooms for meetings and B 6167 C. Elson re. hire of school hall** referred. It was noted that a licensed premises could be used for a meeting if no other suitable room was available. The school hall could not be used as it was half term. Clerk to ask Ms. Barnacle whether she would be willing to give up the Pavilion for that evening. The Baptist and Methodist Church Halls had access issues with parking and stairs. White St. Pavilion to be considered if Greenway Pavilion unavailable. **County Councillor Report – See after item 6. Corr. A6160 Highways England (HE)** re. supplementary consultation on A358 was noted. HE had been made aware of the half term in October and the Langport road closure in relation to their traffic counts.
6. **ROAD SAFETY QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS – Corr. A6161 Road Safety questionnaire results and A 6162 Cllr. Fothergill re. meeting with Small Improvement Scheme** referred. The results had been circulated and reflected general support for the proposed road safety measures, although support for the change of priority at Windmill Hill was less clear cut with 133 for and 90 against, and preference being for the change of priority but with significant support also for the roundabout. **7.55pm** Cllr. Fothergill joined the meeting. A meeting with SCC was scheduled for 14th Sept. to discuss options and the way forward. Mr Akerman proposed the PC go ahead with the proposals of improved signage, yellow line parking restrictions, a pavement along Greenway (preferably a raised pavement) and the change of

priority at Windmill Hill subject to discussions at SCC. Mrs Vaughan seconded the proposal, which was passed.

County Cllr. Report – Cllr. Fothergill reported on a push on public health, particularly in relation to weight loss. He also mentioned the need for work experience provision for older children in care (16 + 17 years).

7. **TO CONSIDER APPROVING COST OF PARISH COUNCIL FUNDING A SECOND CUT OF GRASS VERGES** – Cllr. Stone reported that the cost for cutting grass verges would be approx.. £30/mile. Consideration was being given to a second cut for selected minor roads but would not cover road signs as this was hard to clear with a flail cutter. The Chairman asked Councillors to note any particularly bad areas needing attention, including hidden signage, weeds in the road etc. and the Clerk would collate a list.
8. **TO CONSIDER DETAIL OF STRONGVOX OFFER TO TRANSFER LOSCOMBE MEADOW PUBLIC OPEN SPACE (INCLUDING LEAP) AND ALLOTMENTS TO NC PARISH COUNCIL AND, IN LIGHT OF THIS, DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO TAKE ON RESPONSIBILITY FOR THESE AREAS** – Corr. A6163 **Note of meeting with Strongvox re. open space + correspondence with Strongvox and others** referred. Following a meeting between Strongvox (Mr Alford) and representatives of the Parish Council the conclusion had been that it was not practical for the PC to adopt the open space but that they could possibly take on the allotments if the opening hours could be amended and the car park had tarmac put down. Concern was expressed re. what would happen if the management company failed and re. drainage from the site. Cllr. Stone suggested Compass construction confirm in writing the details of the pipe that they laid in the ditch alongside the Manor Farm barns. After discussion the Chairman proposed the Parish council reject the offer to take on the Public Open Space (including LEAP) but do accept the offer to take on the allotments, subject to the tarmacking of the car park, the finalising of the water arrangements in line with Wessex water requirements, and to changing the opening times. Mrs Vaughan seconded the proposal, which was passed. Cllr. Stone confirmed the path to 9-Acre Lane had been re-surfaced and the gates removed. The dead elms at the end of the footpath would be felled and Cllr. Stone hoped to replant some new trees.
9. **TO CONSIDER LOCATIONS FOR FURTHER SIGNAGE FOR WHITE ST. SPORTS FIELD AND APPROVE COST** – Corr. A6134 **L. Leader re. signage for sports field** referred, wanting the sign to read Sports Field as pre the sign at the top of White St. Mrs Vaughan noted that the sign on the telegraph pole on Stoke Road did not look tidy. It was agreed the item be considered further and discussed at the next meeting.
10. **CONSIDER AUTUMN LITTER PICK** – There was still too much foliage growth to litter pick but a pick later in the autumn was agreed.
11. **REMEMBRANCE DAY PREPARATIONS** – Mr Walker confirmed that Martin Moodie would be leading the service, the bugler had agreed to play but the organist had not been contactable, Mr Astin to be contacted to check availability and Mrs Griffiths if that failed. Mr Jeanes would bring the road signage on the day and in the week before would put up requests not to park on Church Road on the day. Mr Jeanes and Mrs Vaughan would back up the road closed signs. The Chairman would liaise with Mike Hutchins re. bringing the organ.
12. **CORRESPONDENCE – A6165 D. Hoyle re. allotment storage boxes and notice board** – The Chairman proposed the PC not raise any objections to the storage box, Mrs Burt seconded the proposal, which was passed. The Allotment rules would be discussed at the next meeting with a view to a similar agreement being used for the Loscombe Meadow allotments. The PC gratefully accepted his offer to renew the noticeboard signs and to tidy it up. Mrs Morley would

arrange for a smaller school lunch notice to replace the A3 one. Mrs Vaughan asked that notices, on the board or on telegraph poles, be taken down once the event was passed.

Corr. B 6168 D. Akerman re. St James Court verge – After discussion during which Cllr. fothergill commented that Mr Higdon would own the verge, not Highways, it was agreed the Clerk contact TDBC expressing concern that the planning conditions had not been met and that it was understood that the land still belonged to the builder.

Corr. B6179 CCS re. Community Buildings Annual Training was noted.

Corr. B6174 SCC re. closure of W. Sedgemoor Road – to be noted in the newsletter.

Corr. B6175 M. Olie re. branch down on The Fosse – Mrs Vaughan noted the size of the branch and that it came down on electricity lines, Western Power were understood to be writing to the owner. Cllr. Stone noted that W. Power had been looking at lines throughout the village.

Corr. B6171 D. Walker & R. Lander re. A358 improvements consultation – Consultation due before the end of the year.

13. **FINANCE – Monthly Account** – Mr Jeanes explained the monthly account, explaining the mis-payment by TDBC, and proposed it be accepted. Mrs Burt seconded the proposal, which was passed. **Payment List** – The Chairman presented the payment list and proposed it be approved, Mr Cable seconded the proposal, which was passed, Mr Jeanes & Cllr. Stone abstained.

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
BACS Transfer	Clarke Willmott re. Land Reg. fees – Playing Field	46.00
BACS Transfer	TDBC re. White St. Bin	420.00
BACS Transfer	NCVH Room Hire (August)	31.56
BACS Transfer	BA & KM Jeanes - Grass cutting August	47.83
BACS Transfer	B. Wellwood - Clerk Salary	704.40
BACS Transfer	WEAVO fencing posts	34.32
Chq. No. 319	Signs Express (P. Stone) re. new f/path signs	43.20
BACS Transfer	NC Stable elec. 109.54, gas 2.94, water 32.75	145.23
BACS Transfer	Footpath leaflet (pending completion of work	121.00

Insurance – This was due for renewal in October, Zurich had quoted, Came & Co.'s quote was still awaited. SALC to be checked again re. insurer suggestions. Mr Jeanes proposed the insurance be renewed with either Zurich or Came & Co., going with the cheaper deal if it was equivalent (Mr Jeanes and the Clerk to check), and taking the 3 year option which gained a discount. The Chairman seconded the proposal, which was passed.

14. COMMITTEE/DELEGATES REPORTS

Footpaths – Cllr. Stone reported the return of Les Braunton and that matters were improving. A second cut was being undertaken on various paths. As per last year the PC would have to pay, possibly £500 as per last year. Cllr. Stone and Mr Cable were making progress with work on stiles and bridges, a hand rail had been put up at the Moor Lane steps and Cllr. Stone had redone the steps from Moor Lane to the Church. He had also written to SCC and Western Power re. the elm trees growing out of the path into the road. Concerns had been expressed re the Chapel Close footpath but this was in abeyance pending Strongvox improvements to it. Mr Jeanes had received comment about the difficulty in passing along Horsecroft Lane. Tom Jeanes had agreed to signpost a route through the horse tape at Lawnmoor Farm. **Playing Fields** – Mr Turner reported that the main hall of the Pavilion had been repainted, paid for by Little Acorns playgroup. The annual play inspection was to be carried out at the end of the month. **Village Hall** – Nothing to report. **Tree Warden** – Cllr. Stone had spoken to Mrs Hicks re. the birch trees on the shambles, she is trying to find the cause of the problem. **Road Safety** – **Corr. B6169 & 6170 D. Akerman re. speedwatch sites and SID results & comments** were noted. Another site on Stoke Road was being approved but the sites in Wrantage had been rejected. **SALC, Allotments and Stable** – Nothing to report. **Flood Warden** – The need to clear drain grills was noted. **White St.** – Cllr. Stone reported the youth football pitches were now in use and there was the possibility of second cricket team. Two hotel stations for bugs

had been built. Cllr. Fothergill noted the Taunton Model engineers were looking for a new home. Mr Akerman noted that the sports field were getting a defibrillator.

15. **PUBLICITY INPUTS** – Input to include cutting back hedges from footpaths and roads, removing notices after the event, clearing drains, a community litter pick, closure of W. Sedgemoor road, Remembrance Sunday note, SCC's healthy eating drive and work experience sought for teens in care.
16. **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION** – Mrs Vaughan noted that farmer newsletter input had stopped, Mr Akerman would contact Mr Gothard. Cllr. Stone mentioned that the Chairman of Stoke St Gregory PC had asked him to prepare a paper for public discussion re. where matters stood with farmers, he would circulate this and bring it to the PC. Mr Dennis expressed concern about hostility around that area and offered to liaise with Cllr. Stone on the paper. Cllr. Stone said farmers would be consulted before the paper went public. Mr Dennis suggested a sticker system asking if the tractor was being driven well. Mr Jeanes noted that the Ham Sewage Works link road had been started. Mr Turner suggested TDBC be asked to clarify the status of the nursery at Broad Lane.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35 pm