

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

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

**Members of the Public:** Cllr. D Fothergill, Mr R Lander and Mr D Walker.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Ms E Turney.
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2018** – Mr Akerman proposed the Minutes were a true record of the meeting, Mrs Vaughan seconded the proposal, which was passed.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Mr Jeanes re. the payments list at item 14.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – None.
5. **MATTERS ARISING** – **Policing Matters** – Corr. B6339 G. Golder and Mrs Burt re. allotment break-in was noted. **West Lane Blockage** – Cllr. Stone reported that the Bridleway Association had cleared most of the lane, motorbike barriers were now needed and funding from the PC footpath fund may be requested. It was noted that disabled use would be limited with the proposed barriers but that the surface of the track would make disabled access difficult anyway. **Parish Website** – Corr. A6314 a-d C. Smith & D. Fothergill re. website provision referred. Prices for new websites were in the region of £1600 -£2000. After discussion as to whether a new website was worth it and what was required from it, it was agreed to ask Parishioners views at the Parish Meeting with a note in the newsletter to have a look at the website before coming to the meeting. Mr Cable, Ms Smith and Mrs Leader to meet and summarise the good points of other websites. **Community Fridge** – Mrs Vaughan had visited the Frome Community Fridge where there had been some sausage rolls. It was agreed that the concept was good but that it would be better suited in a bigger town, possibly near a food bank. There was also concern of the effect one in the village could have on the trade of the Post Office. It was agreed that support be offered to other Clerks interested in installing a Community Fridge. 7.50pm Mr Walker joined the meeting. **Allotment Apple Tree** – Corr. A6313 T. Goodall ongoing complaint re. removal of Bramley tree in the allotments referred. Mr Jeanes had set a new gate post to the allotments and met and apologised to Mr Goodall, the new fruit trees had also been planted. It was agreed that allotment holders be asked whether they would like a volunteer to liaise with Marion and the PC on behalf of all allotment holders. **Village Drainage Works** – Corr. A6315 C. Vaughan re. drainage work and Knapp Lane and B6335b D. Honeywill re. Highways meeting re. drains referred. The work was nearly complete and roads re-opened. Little work had been undertaken in Stoke Road as it had been found the main carrier system was significantly damaged, partly due to other services, and more significant work was required. Highways had reported that it would necessitate a significantly longer road closure and more money that wasn't currently available. Cllr. Fothergill would look into the funding issue. Following a meeting with Mr Honeywill, Highways had agreed to clear the mud opposite Trinity Cottages in the new financial year to ensure the drains stayed clear. Concern was expressed about the stones on the verge at Jarveys Cottage being a trip hazard. **Coffee Shop Repairs Update** – The Coffee Shop had re-opened. Mr Jeanes reported that sealant by the window panes was still awaited. Consideration was being given as to how to protect the front of the Stable, possibly with oak timbers between the car park and the building. TDBC Planning to advise re. the need for any permissions. **Speed Info. Device (SID) Changes** – Corr. A6317 Burrowbridge Clerk & D. Grabham re. SID sharing referred. Whilst it was agreed that sharing a SID with other PCs was a good idea there was still concern about finding enough volunteers to regularly resite it. It was agreed that the PC maintain its decision to use SCC services if the price was reasonable. **Church Road Footpath** - Corr. A6324 SCC re. Church Road footpath issues referred, suggesting the PC install a salt bin for use on the path but that SCC did not have suitable signs to install, concern was expressed re. liabilities and the cost of the bin to the PC. After discussion Mr Jeanes proposed 2 x A4 signs be put up warning of the path at a cost of up to £70, Mr Jeanes to purchase. Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed. If necessary further

thought to be given to a salt bin. **Hedge Cutting** – All hedges had been cut or were due to be cut, the PC were grateful. **Knapp Lane Development** – **Corr. A6318 R. Alford, Strongvox re. Knapp Lane development meeting and site traffic** referred. Traffic to access the site via Knapp Lane and Borough Post. A meeting with Strongvox had been held, they would wash lorries down, clean the road after use and repair any damage. They were also encouraging car sharing, agreed to make the path onto Knapp Lane a ramp rather than steps and had been asked to market the properties as Lockyers Field. Mr Jeanes noted that the road had been swept as far as Mr Farmer's but no further despite being needed, Mr Turner to mention this to the site manager. Clerk to contact Strongvox re. removal of Manor Fields signage at Loscombe Meadow. **Corr. A3619 D. Fothergill & B. Jeanes re. Knapp Lane site traffic access** referred, it was noted that SCC could not enforce a one-way system. **St James Court Landscaping** – **Corr. A6316 R. Lander & M. Bale (TDBC) re. St James Court landscaping** referred. Mr Lander raised concern that TDBC Council Members were not aware of the actions of officers. The Chairman proposed the PC write to TDBC supporting Mr Lander concerns and mentioning that the local Ward Cllr. had been involved throughout and could be contacted. Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed. Cllr. Stone mentioned dead elms growing out towards the road at the side of the steps at Moor Lane up to the footpath, he hoped Hi-Line would deal with them. Cllr. Fothergill to take up. **County Councillor Report** – Cllr. Fothergill gave a report covering; improvement in Childrens Services, improved care packages for people leaving hospital, 24 new schools being built starting with Selworthy, N. Curry Primary School becoming an Academy, and the Libraries, Road Safety Strategy, Strategic Housing and Highways England consultations. He also mentioned the need for apprenticeships and the forthcoming A361 road closure.

6. **APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT BY NORTH CURRY PARISH COUNCIL – 24/18/0006 – Erection of garage and alteration to access at 8 Windmill Hill, North Curry** – Mr Turner explained this revised application and the comments given on the previous application. The visibility splay had been improved and would be an improvement on the current situation, a turntable was also proposed. After discussion Mr Turner proposed the PC support the application with a comment asking for planting of a climber to screen the garage wall, replacement of two trees and on the understanding that second hand clay tiles be used for the roof. Mrs Vaughan seconded the proposal, which was passed.
7. **TO CONSIDER RESPONSE TO A358 IMPROVEMENTS CONSULTATION – Corr. A6320 Correspondence re. A358 consultation and final draft** referred. Everyone had seen the draft response to the consultation. Mr Lander and Mr Walker were thanked for their work on the draft. After brief discussion the Chairman proposed the draft be submitted to Highways England, cc'd to SCC, Cllr. Hall, Stoke St Mary PC and TDBC and put on the website. Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed.
8. **TO CONSIDER SCC PROPOSED JUNCTION 25 SCHEME (APPN. 4/38/17/0205) – Corr. A6321 D. Walker re. SCC J25 proposals + notification of delayed consideration by SCC** referred. Mr Walker's concerns re. the draft proposal were noted. Cllr. Fothergill noted that the real restriction on the proposal was the bridge over the Blackbrook. Mr Jeanes expressed concern that if the A358 proposal didn't proceed it would take even longer for residents to get into Taunton. After discussion the Chairman proposed the PC write to SCC outlining the concerns raised in Corr. A6321 as interim comments pending any new proposal. Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed.

Cllr. Stone referred back to **item 7** and proposed that point 26 of the letter be added to the summary to stress that in the case of any shortfall of money, the work at Henlade take precedence over the A358 south of Thornfalcon. Mr Cable seconded the proposal, which was passed with 7 for and 3 against.  
Mr Lander left the meeting.

9. **TO CONSIDER ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE** – Mr Akerman explained the more detailed plans put forward which included a built-up footpath for Greenway on the Health Centre side but no change at the Windmill Hill / Greenway junction due to a roundabout not working due to space and the change of priorities not passing the safety audit. Cllr. Fothergill thought the proposed crossing on Greenway would be a tactile one and said that there would be programmable

20mph advisory signs near the school. Mr Akerman requested that, in place of the change to the junction, two crossing points be put on Windmill Hill, one at the Methodist Church and one at the Portmans footpath exit, with red tarmac being used between those points. Cllr. Fothergill thought this was unlikely to get through as the junction and the pavement were classed as one scheme whereas this was likely to be considered a separate scheme, although he would try to get it through. He would ask about the red tarmac. Cllr. Fothergill asked whether houses in Greenway were happy with the proposals, Cllr. Stone had spoken to some of the residents and they had been happy. Signage was discussed, their being mixed feelings about the proposals. The junctions around Queen Square were also raised as was the laying of white lines at sub-zero temperatures last winter, related emails to be forwarded to Cllr. Fothergill. The Chairman proposed the PC accept the signage as shown in the scheme. Mr Akerman seconded the proposal which was passed with two abstentions and one against. The Chairman proposed the PC accept the Greenway pavement, yellow lines on The Pavement and signage as per plans, and strenuously ask for help re. crossings at Windmill Hill. Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed. Mr Akerman to summarise the decisions in an email to Cllr. Fothergill.

**9.20pm** Mr Walker left the meeting.

10. **TO CONSIDER CLLR. STONE'S TRACTOR TRAFFIC REPORT – An email had been** received from Mr Gothard requesting a letter of support re. his bid for grants for a slurry/sand separation system. There was some concern at the late submission of the request and lack of information but after discussion Mr Akerman proposed the PC write that with reference to a sand separator, in principle the PC support any project that would significantly reduce the heavy vehicles travelling through the village. Cllr. Stone seconded the proposal, which was passed. Mrs Vaughan noted that FWAG ask farmers for slurry containment and waste disposal when asking to expand.  
**Corr. A6322 P. Stone draft Tractor Movements Report** had been circulated before the meeting. There was general support for the paper, and after discussion Mrs Vaughan proposed the report be highlighted in the Newsletter with PC endorsement and put on the website, with hard copies held in the office. Mrs Leader seconded the proposal, which was passed. Cllr. Stone was thanked for his work on the report.
11. **TO CONSIDER VILLAGE ENTRANCE SIGNAGE – SITING AND STYLE –** Cllr. Stone reported that the Windmill Hill and Stoke St Gregory (SSG) signs were to be cleaned. Cllr. Fothergill reported that SSG had permission for a wicker gate at the village entrance. The Chairman proposed that, having agreed SCC signage proposals, any additional road signs be discussed in the future if needed. Mrs Vaughan seconded the proposal, which was passed.
12. **TO CONSIDER APPROVING COST OF PARISH COUNCIL FUNDING A SECOND CUT OF GRASS VERGES –** Mrs Vaughan proposed matters be left as they are, Mr Turner seconded the proposal, which was passed.
13. **CORRESPONDENCE – Corr. A6313 – A6322 & A6324** covered above.  
**Corr. A 6323 Somerset Libraries Service consultation** – Noted for the Newsletter.  
**Corr. A6325 F. Lithgow request for a skate park** – Mr Turner reported that the Playing Field Committee had discussed the request. Concerns included cost, liabilities and maintenance issues. Evidence of strong demand would be needed for further consideration. Mr Lithgow to be asked to survey his friends.  
**Corr. A6326 a&b G. Golder request for churchyard funding + NALC guidance -** The Clerk had advised the PCC that TDBC gave the grants for churchyard upkeep. NALC guidance recently received indicated PCs could not give grants “relating to affairs of the church”, this includes buildings and land. Mr Jeanes proposed that, with regret, the PC decline providing a grant to the PCC as, as far as can be ascertained, the PC is not empowered to make a grant to a church owned burial ground. The Chairman seconded the proposal, which was passed.  
**Corr. A 6327 Fleur White re. Spin Bus use of car park** – Problems were anticipated when Planning meetings and Film Club clashed. To report back at the end of the trial period.  
**Corr. A 6328 Draft Somerset Strategic Housing Framework** – Noted.

**Corr. A 6329 L. Hebditch re. surface of Langlands Lane, Lillesdon** – Clerk to email Highways suggesting in view of the numerous potholes it may be better to re-surface the lane.

**Corr. A 6330 Citizenship Awards nominations** – Clerk to be informed of any nominations.

**Corr. A 6331 G. Cable to D. Fothergill re. road closure signage at Creech St Michael** – Cllr. Fothergill noted that the signage belonged to Wessex Water for their Ham works. Mrs Vaughan asked for the NC roadworks signage to be collected as the work was complete.

**Corr. A 6332 Notification of changes to TDBC handling of cash payments** – Noted.

**Corr. A6333 – T. Watkins re. shortage of newsletter delivery volunteers** – Issues noted.

**Corr. A6334 SLCC Data Protection requirements, course & NALC paper on personal data breaches** – The Chairman proposed £36 be paid for the webinar, Mr Jeanes seconded the proposal which was passed. Mr Jeanes noted that it was potentially not advisable for the Clerk to be the Data Protection Officer.

**10.05pm** Cllr. Fothergill left the meeting.

- 14. FINANCE – Monthly Account** – Mr Jeanes presented the monthly account and proposed it be accepted. Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed. **Payment List** – The Chairman presented the payment list and proposed it be approved, Ms Smith seconded the proposal, which was passed, Mr Jeanes abstained.

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
BACS Transfer	CPRE subs 2017	£36.00
BACS Transfer	SALC (Training)	£25.00
100330	B. Jeanes re. allotment trees, gate & trough lids	£103.45
BACS Transfer	B. Wellwood - Clerk Salary	£704.40
BACS Transfer	SLCC Webinar	£36.00
BACS Transfer	NCVH Room Hire (Jan.)	£23.27

Mr Jeanes proposed the Standing Order for the Parish Office standing charge be amended in line with Mr Lander's letter, the Chairman seconded the proposal, which was passed.

**15. COMMITTEE/DELEGATES REPORTS**

**Footpaths** – Cllr. Stone was dealing with fence issues at Borough Post following a change in land ownership. **Playing Fields** – Mr Turner reported the grass cutting contractor had been changed.

**Village Hall** – Mrs Burt reported that it was hoped to replace the kitchen floor. **Tree Warden** – Nothing to report. **Road Safety** – Mr Akerman reported receipt of the Wrantage SID report.

Speedwatch had also been carried out in Wrantage with 240 vehicles passing in 50 minutes, of which 5 were speeding. **Stable** – Betty Koppa was retiring and a new cleaner was sought. **Flood Warden** – Nothing to report. **Allotments** – Covered above. **SALC** – Nothing to report. **White St.** – Cllr. Stone reported that consideration was being given to putting a bridge across a ditch, funding from the footpath fund to be an agenda item in March.

- 16. PUBLICITY INPUTS** – Input to cover Cllr. Stone's paper, the library consultation, a warning about thefts, info. about TDBC bill payment and a reminder about the Annual Parish Meeting.

- 17. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION** – Cllr. Stone reported an increase in kissing gate costs, they would now cost £1132 for 4. The Chairman proposed funding for 3 of the gates out of footpath funds be approved as agreed at the November meeting, Mr Jeanes seconded the proposal, which was passed. Mr Dennis offered to undertake bulk photocopying for the PC if required. Mrs Vaughan raised concern at the parking of a car near Queens House, as this may resolve itself following the drainage road closures it was agreed to M/F this to the March meeting. Mr Turner noted that the owner of Wisteria Cottage was due to have roof repairs undertaken with scaffolding, the timing could clash with the May Fair.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15 pm**