

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on
Wednesday 14th March February 2018**

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

Members of the Public: Cllr. D Fothergill, Mr A Meehan and Mr D Patten.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Mrs C D Stodgell, Mrs Vaughan apologised that she would be late arriving.
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2018** – Mrs Leader queried the inclusion of consideration of the website at the Annual Parish Meeting, this would be discussed further in light of progress. Mr Jeanes 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** – Nothing to report. **Parish Website** – Mr Cable reported progress following a meeting which had concluded that the structure and layout of the website needed rebuilding but not the scope or content. Following discussion Mr Turner proposed the Parish Council wish to upgrade the look of the website and tasked the sub-group of Mr Cable, Mrs Leader, Ms Smith, Ms Turney and Mr Walton (subject to his agreement) with going forward and obtaining prices. Mr Dennis seconded the proposal, which was passed. Mr Akerman went on to propose that given the above the website not be an agenda item at the Annual Parish Meeting. Mrs Leader seconded the proposal, which was agreed. **Newsletter Deliveries** – Corr. B6361 Mrs T. Watkins re. Newsletter deliveries referred. Mr Cable and Mr Turner offered to deliver newsletters in Knapp, Clerk to inform Mrs Watkins. **J25 Consultation** – Corr. B6359 SCC, D. Walker & R. Lander correspondence re. J25 enlargement referred. The proposed enlargement had been approved, Cllr. Fothergill reported that compulsory purchase of property had already begun. **A358 Consultation** – Corr. A6353 **A358 correspondence re. proposed community forum and B6360 A358 proposals correspondence re. consultation** referred. Clerk to thank those concerned and ask to be kept informed. **Road Safety Improvements** – Mr Akerman raised concern at the lack of any proposal for the Windmill Hill / Greenway junction and asked for improvements where the two footpaths join Windmill Hill as a minimum as traffic would not be slowed by the Windmill Hill junction. Cllr. Fothergill explained why the suggested installation of red tarmac was not acceptable (due to ambiguity to drivers as it is used to refer to a change of speed limit), that he was only allowed one proposal per chosen Parish, that it had been difficult to combine Windmill Hill junction and Greenway pavement and that crossings would have to be a separate proposal. Mr Akerman asked for the technical staff of SCC to put forward a proposed junction improvement for Windmill Hill as they could not accept a change of priority or roundabout. After discussion the Chairman proposed, for clarification, that the pavement along Greenway is what the Parish Council wish to proceed with, Mrs Leader seconded the proposal, which was passed. **Corr. A 6356 A. Meehan & B. Jeanes re. reduction in village speed limit** was raised. Mr Meehan suggested making 20mph speed limits where it currently becomes 30mph. He accepted policing would be an issue but suggested spot checks. Cllr. Fothergill explained that 20mph was generally used when other traffic calming had been put in (including virtual footpaths) and that people wouldn't drive at 20mph unless there was a reason to do so, Mr Dennis noted that Langport had a 20mph zone. Cllr. Fothergill commented that a 20mph zone could be applied for. There was discussion of the increased use of the footpath crossing at the Methodist Church due to the Knapp Lane development. Cllr. Fothergill commented that traffic coming from Greenway would not be sighted if there was a crossing by the Methodist Church and offered to arrange a further meeting between Mr Akerman and Highways to discuss the Windmill Hill issues. **8.17** Mrs Vaughan joined and Mr Meehan left the meeting. **Tractor Report** – Corr. B6364 **a&b D. Patten & C & G Watson comments on tractor report** referred. Mr Patten gave his views relating to tractor traffic and the suggestions farmers pay for repair of roads. There was discussion of

the issues faced by both rural communities and farmers. The Chairman hoped for more parishioner comment on his report and it was agreed that an e-newsletter with the report be sent out and a further request for views be included in the Newsletter. Mr Dennis offered his assistance to the Chairman with liaising with Stoke St Gregory farmers, (SSG PC had not accepted the report). Cllr. Fothergill confirmed that the Highway is defined as the tarmaced highway not verges. **8.30pm** Mr Patten left the meeting. **Rate Relief Support** – **Corr. A6358 Business Rate Relief correspondence** referred. SALC had confirmed that Parish Councils could support Rate Relief applications, the Chairman noted that it was accepted that District Councils get involved with applications. After discussion Mrs Vaughan commented that it was better for the Parish Council to say no to everybody to avoid being seen to be biased, others concurred. **Knapp Lane Development** – Mr Turner note that Strongvox were renting the Sun scaffolding site for parking. **Corr. A6355 K. Wright, TDBC re. naming of Lockyer's Field** was discussed. The PC had proposed the name Lockyer's Field and agreed that the apostrophe could be left out. Mr Akerman raised the ongoing signage referring to Manor Lawns instead of Loscombe Meadow. This had already been raised with Strongvox, Clerk to call Strongvox. **Data Protection Regulations** – **Corr. B6362 Data Protection Regs. correspondence** referred. Further guidance was awaited but the regulations could cause issues for the Parish Council. **Loscombe Meadow Allotments** – **Corr. A 6352 G. Golder re. allotment sheds** referred. To be an agenda item in April to consider the practicalities of the allotments, including sizes, cost etc. It was suggested interest in the allotments be sought in the newsletter. It was also agreed that the clerk ask Greenway allotment holders their views re. what to do with the grass/shed/fruit tree area. **Drainage Improvements Outcome** – The Chairman thanked Cllr. Fothergill for the work undertaken. **County Councillor Report** – Cllr. Fothergill gave a report covering, amongst other matters; the work of the gritters and help from 4x4 drivers and farmers in the snow, the need for more volunteer drivers (item to go in the newsletter), secondary school admissions, the Somerset Rivers Authority becoming a precepting body and an improvement programme for Childrens Services. In response to a query Cllr. Fothergill offered to investigate when the SID system would be coming into play. **8.55** Cllr. Fothergill left the meeting.

6. **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING PREPARATIONS** – Suggestions for how to spend the Community Infrastructure Levy would be an agenda item, suggestions would also be invited in the Newsletter. Other agenda items suggested were a road improvement update and Cllr. Stone's Tractor paper. Mrs Leader, Mrs Burt and Mr Dennis offered to help with teas and coffees, as did Mrs Vaughan and Ms Smith if they were able to attend.
7. **TO CONSIDER PAYMENT OF £470.70 FOR TWO MOTORCYCLE BARRIERS IN WEST LANE, PAYMENT TO BE FROM FOOTPATH FUNDS** – **Corr. A6351 Request for funding for West Lane barriers** referred. Photos of the work and proposals were shown. After brief discussion the Chairman proposed the Parish Council pay £470.70 towards motorcycle barriers from the footpath fund, Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed.
8. **TO CONSIDER CONTRIBUTION TO COST OF BRIDGE ACROSS DITCH AT SPORTS FIELD, PAYMENT TO BE FROM FOOTPATH FUNDS** – Marked forward to April.
9. **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE PAYMENT OF £100 PER SPEED INFORMATION DEVICE INSTALLATION AND AGREE SITES AND FREQUENCY OF INSTALLATION** – **Corr. A 6349 D. Grabham re. SID costs** referred. Mrs Vaughan reported back from the SID meeting she had attended. New sites could be nominated as long as they met the set parameters. SID posts would be installed by SCC f.o.c. and there was no restriction on how long PCs stayed in the scheme. If the SID was faulty no charge would be made. It was still unclear when the new system would begin. It was noted that if the PC bought its own SID it would have to be an SCC approved device, they could only be at a site a max. of two weeks and not return within two months, a suitable post would be required and volunteers would need to be "Chapter 8" trained and have necessary insurances. They had also been told that speedwatch was more effective than SIDs. Mr Akerman proposed that two sites (Wrantage east & west and Stoke Road) have SIDs twice a year, Mr Turner added that PC go ahead on a basis of £100 / SID and put aside £600 per year to pay for them. Mrs Vaughan seconded the proposal, which was passed.

10. CORRESPONDENCE –

Corr. A6350 SCC re. support from residents for parking restriction – Mrs Burt offered to speak to residents and landlords (where known) affected by the proposed parking restrictions.

– Noted for the Newsletter.

Corr. A6354 TDBC re. new Council warding pattern proposals – The projected decrease in population shown was queried. It was suggested similar areas be grouped such as Hatch Beauchamp. Cllr. Stone read out his thoughts on the proposal.

Corr. A6357 L. Coogan request for website link - Link re. Job Centres to be added to website along with Govt. website link.

Corr. B6365 Cllr. Stone re. website and Crimson Hill canal tunnel – Cllr. Stone suggested NC Society be asked to do a leaflet on the tunnel, Mrs Burt would first check what had already been published re. the tunnel.

Corr. B6367 Air Ambulance Bike Ride info. & request for marshalls – Noted, to go in Newsletter.

11. FINANCE – Monthly Account – Mr Jeanes presented the monthly account and proposed it be accepted. Mr Turner seconded the proposal, which was passed. **Payment List** – Mr Jeanes presented the payment list and proposed it be approved, Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed.

| Cheque No | Payee | Amount |
|---------------|--|---------|
| BACS Transfer | NCVH Room Hire (Feb.) | £19.39 |
| BACS Transfer | B. Wellwood - Clerk Salary | £704.40 |
| BACS Transfer | NC Stable elec 85.27 gas 23.29 water 15.95 | £124.51 |
| BACS Transfer | NC Playing Fields Management Committee | £25.50 |

12. COMMITTEE/DELEGATES REPORTS

Footpaths – The Chairman reported that the kissing gates had been ordered, one had been donated by Mr & Mrs Watts of Loscombe Meadow. He was repairing some kissing gates but more metal ones might be required. Two dog gates had been requested (at Broad Lane and Borough Post by Backham Cottages), he was trying to contact the land owners. **Playing Fields** – Mr Turner reported Alex Morrice’s (treasurer) concerns at the way the management committee was set up, to be an agenda item in May for Mr Morrice to report and explain resolution. Mr Akerman noted the need to liaise with Tim Walker if he was willing to. **Village Hall** – **Corr. B6371 Village Hall AGM agenda & 2017 Minutes** was noted. **Tree Warden** – The Chairman had undertaken tree planting at Moredon and along the path at Loscombe Meadow. **Road Safety** – Mr Akerman reported a speedwatch session during the closure of the A361 had shown an increase in traffic but showed a lower percentage over the speed threshold. **Stable** – Betty Koppa had retired, Di Pickles had taken on the cleaning work. **Flood Warden** – Mrs Vaughan noted that the drain at Church Road needed to be dug out, the Clerk had reported this to Highways. **Allotments** – Covered above. **SALC** – Nothing to report. **White St.** – It was reported that there were over 100 children in the football youth teams and that there was now a second cricket team.

13. PUBLICITY INPUTS – Input to cover Cllr. Stone’s paper, the Annual Parish Meeting, the cycle challenge, kissing gate thanks, volunteer drivers being needed, inviting interest in allotments and ideas for spending CIL.

14. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION – Mrs Leader suggested thought be given to a Parish logo, possible the Church. Mr Cable mention Milverton having an emergency plan to cover such matters as getting prescriptions, etc. - to be discussed at the APM.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45 pm