

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on
Wednesday 10th October 2018**

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

Members of the Public: Cllr. D Fothergill.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Ms C Smith and Mr M Dennis.
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2018** – Subject to the addition of Ms Turney’s name at item 1 “Apologies” on p1869, and the amendment of “Keals Fencing” to read “Town Farm” in the payment list at item 13 Mr Jeanes proposed the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 12th September were a true record, Mr Cable seconded the proposal, which was passed.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – As PC representative on the Playing Field Committee, Mr Turner said he would explain item 11 but would not vote.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – None.
5. **MATTERS ARISING – Policing matters** – Mr Akerman reported the appreciated presence of PCSO Rowe on another speedwatch session, he had also heard of some break-ins locally. **Speedwatch co-ordinator** – There had been an expression of interest in the co-ordinator role, the interested party was to take part in a session to find out more. **Corr. A6574 K. Jones, SCC, re. Greenway Pavement** referred. Installation of the pavement was delayed to 2019 due to issues raised causing the safety audit window being missed. It appeared this may also delay the yellow lines. Cllr. Fothergill would chase the matter. **Finger post repair** – **Corr. B6580 B. Keal re. fingerposts** was noted, repainting of the fingerpost at the top of Lillesdon was nearly complete, prices were awaited re the new fingers for posts. Cllr. Stone had pruned the hedge at the Lillesdon footpath. **Knapp Lane verges** – **Corr. B6583 R. Alford & A. Korwin re. verge damage** referred. Photographic evidence of lorries doing the damage had been requested by Strongvox but was not available. **Gritting concerns** – **Corr. A6573 Cllr. Woodman re. gritting of roads** referred. Pre-emptive gritting of North Curry roads would no longer be undertaken and the filling of grit bins would become a chargeable service, possible offered via SALC. Mr Jeanes confirmed he had some bags of grit available from previous years although was unsure of the serviceability of the bags. Cllr. Stone thought the bins were still reasonably full so filling them was not imminent. **Loscombe Meadow Allotments** – **Corr. B6582 R. Alford re. Loscombe Meadow allotment tap boxes** referred. Strongvox were to look at the missing cabinet doors. **NC Society plaque** – **Corr. B6584 A. Billingham re. repainting of village plaque** referred. The NC Society were to consider renewing the paint on the plaque. **Defibrillator check** – **Corr. A6577 PT Electrical re. defibrillator safety** referred. A design error resulted in a possible risk to the vandal if vandalised and the internal light was not working. Mrs Vaughan also commented that the heater didn’t appear to work. Reference was made to consideration being given to taking part in the SW Ambulance Service defibrillator contract when new batteries were required. In the meantime Mrs Leader proposed PT Electrical be asked to make safe the defibrillator and repair the light switch, subject to a max. cost of £150. Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed. **White lines at the Oxen Lane junction** – **Corr. B6581 G. Hughes, SCC re. white lines** referred. There were no funds for more white lines this financial year, Cllr. Fothergill would raise the issues. Mrs Vaughan would also send Cllr. fothergill photos of the re-painted white lines that were again disintegrating. **County Cllr. Report** – Cllr. Fothergill reported on the financial difficulties faced by SCC which resulted from increased demands and spending in Children’s Services and Adult Social Care which accounted for 2/3 of the total budget, costs in other areas having been cut. He also mentioned the Somerset Home First initiative for hospital patients resulting in the saving of 7,500 bed nights by facilitating patient’s support in the home on discharge and a new fostering website, there being a severe shortage of Foster Carers in Somerset. The schools admission deadlines were mentioned and he urged eligible residents to have their flu vaccine. Reported potholes had reduced over the summer and the Library consultation results were imminent. He urged residents to use their local bus.

6. APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT BY NORTH CURRY PARISH COUNCIL

24/18/0037/T NOTIFICATION TO FELL ONE LIME TREE WITHIN NORTH CURRY CONSERVATION AREA AT THE NORTH END OF CHURCH ROAD, NORTH CURRY

Cllr. Stone explained the application and Mr Turner proposed the Parish Council support the application with the comment it was in line with the PC policy to replace, over time, trees that are diseased, becoming a hazard or dangerous and that this particular tree has cavities and is affecting adjacent buildings. The Chairman seconded the proposal, which was passed.

7. TO CONSIDER APPROACH TO PARISHIONERS TO GAUGE PARISH MATTERS OF CONCERN TO THEM – Corr. A6575 Draft Parish questionnaire referred. Cllr. Stone suggested

a list of possible concerns be added to encourage responses, Mr Cable had concerns of a spike of expectation and suggested a Facebook page would spread suggestions out. Mrs Vaughan suggested any concerns be sent to the PC in writing. It was agreed the matter be an agenda item in November to decide the way forward and receive ideas of categories if relevant.

8. TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL SESSION OF DROP IN DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING –

Despite chasing, a response from South Western Ambulance Service re. possible training was still awaited, Clerk to chase further.

9. TO CONSIDER DRAFT LEAFLET FOR PARISHIONERS WISHING TO FELL TREES – A

draft letter had been circulated. Cllr. Stone confirmed that a “significant tree” was any tree that needs consent in a conservation area. There was discussion of various approaches to the issue and Cllr. Stone agreed to bring a policy to the next meeting and that the letter would not necessarily be standard. Mr Akerman suggested the letter draw attention to the policy

10. TO CONSIDER INVESTIGATING POSSIBILITY OF ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING POINT WITHIN NORTH CURRY VILLAGE – Corr. A6579 T. Stodgell & B. Jeanes re. electric points for cars referred. It was considered that the Community Stable car park had too few spaces to allow

one to be taken up for long periods by a charging car and the Village Hall had not been interested when the matter had been discussed in the past, one concern being the need for different connections although it was noted that owners should have adaptors and a top up can take only 30 minutes. After discussion it was agreed that it was a good idea in principle, although there were possible practical difficulties. Clerk to approach Langport TC to ask about their charger and the matter would be discussed in November to see whether to raise the matter with the Village Hall again. The Chairman would respond to the lady who had raised the issue initially.

11. TO CONSIDER INCREASE OF £500 IN GRANT TO PURCHASE PLAY EQUIPMENT AT GREENWAY PLAYING FIELDS – Mr Turner gave background to the request for increased support, which would be matched by the Playing Field Committee. After discussion, the Chairman

proposed the Parish Council increase their grant by £500, using CIL money if possible and, failing that, Lightsource money. Mrs Burt seconded the proposal, which was passed, Mr Turner abstained.

12. TO CONSIDER ALLOWING GREENHOUSES OR POLYTUNELS ON ALLOTMENTS OVER A SET SIZE AND, IF AGREED, TO CONSIDER ANY NECESSARY CONDITIONS –

Corr. A6576 M. Kimber re. allotment greenhouses referred. Mr Kimber had provided possible conditions which acted as the basis for discussion. After discussion, and in view of the size of the Loscombe Meadow allotments, Mr Jeanes proposed the Parish Council allow, in principle, one greenhouse per allotment at Loscombe Meadow, to a max. size of 8’x10’. Mrs Burt seconded the proposal, which was passed. It was suggested conditions include it the greenhouse being of glass and metal, on temporary, easily removable foundations, any damage to be repaired in two weeks and allotments to be put back to their original condition when allotment given up (unless passed on to next allotment holder) etc. Full conditions to be considered at the November meeting.

- 13. TO CONSIDER AN AUTUMN LITTER PICK** – It was agreed a litter pick take place on Saturday, 17th November starting at 10.30am in the Village Hall car park. Clerk to arrange for rubbish to be collected. Mrs Burt to raise the leaving of the bags in the car park with the Village Hall Committee. Item to go in newsletter suggesting people bring gloves, hi-vis jackets and litter pickers if they had them, although some were available from the Parish Council. Mrs Vaughan to be the contact.
- 14. REMEMBRANCE DAY PREPARATIONS AND CONSIDERATION OF DONATIONS** – The Clerk had got a list of WWI survivors from the Archives but it was long and potentially inaccurate as it was not at the end of the war. Mr Akerman confirmed that the Church proposed a commemoration of Peace with tea and buns and the bells to be rung if possible. Mr Cable and Mr Jeanes would guard the Queen Square and Moor Lane roads during the service. The Chairman proposed a further 50 Orders of Service be printed, Mr Jeanes seconded the proposal, which was passed. The Chairman proposed a donation of £30 to the bugler, Mrs Vaughan seconded the proposal, which was passed. The Chairman proposed a donation of £30 to the organist or payment up to a maximum of £100 if an organist had to be hired. Mr Cable seconded the proposal, which was passed. Mrs Burt would contact the West Hatch organist. The Chairman proposed a donation of £125 to the Royal British Legion, Mrs Leader seconded the proposal, which was passed. Cllr. Fothergill reported on the planting of the Somerset Memorial Wood, 30 acres outside Monkton Heathfield with 11,281 trees to be planted to represent all who died.
- 15. TO CONSIDER PURCHASE OF A PROJECTOR FOR SHOWING PHOTOS AT PLANNING MEETINGS** – After discussions of the pros and cons, Cllr. Fothergill reporting that West Monkton had to buy a light screen to go with their projector and needing to switch lights on and off, Mr Turner proposed the Planning Committee continue as they are, circulating photos electronically where possible and using photocopies. The Chairman seconded the proposal, which was passed.
- 16. CORRESPONDENCE- Corr. A6573 –A6577 and A6579 – B6584** covered above.
Corr. A6578 P. Stone & others re. Wildlife Group lottery award – Cllr. Stone reported receipt of an Awards for All granted summarised what it would be used for, including a noticeboard, wildlife camera, study equipment and tools, pond line, planting etc. The Chairman advised the Wildlife Group to check their insurance cover. Cllr. Stone to investigate the possibility of the PC paying for the purchases although Mr Jeanes and the Clerk thought it unlikely to be possible due to VAT rules.
Corr. B6586 SCC – Ham Rd. temporary closure notification - Noted.
Corr. B6587 SCC re. school admissions – Noted, it was expected that schools would tell parents about secondary school applications.
Corr. B6589 Fit for my future Somerset consultation – Noted.
Corr. B6590 Notification of s106 payment – Noted, this would cover the White St. store cost.
Corr. B6592 R. Ellis thanks re. contribution to children’s activities and craft days – Noted.
- 17. FINANCE – Monthly Account** - Mr Jeanes presented the monthly account, noting that Town Farm Stables and White St. Sport would be repaying their element of the insurance costs and proposing the account be accepted. Mr Turner seconded the proposal which was passed. Expected payments in and out and money transfers were discussed, after which the Chairman proposed notice be given to Cambridge and Counties for the transfer of £5000 to the Co-Op account, noting that it could be transferred straight back if not required by the end of the notice period. Cllr. Stone seconded the proposal, which was passed.
Payment list – Mr Jeanes presented the payment list, noting that the Stables would repay any income tax element linked to their employee, and proposed the payments be made. Mr Akerman seconded the proposal, which was passed.

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
BACS Transfer	PKF Accountants - External Audit	£240.00
BACS Transfer	NC Stable elec 49.78 gas 1.34	£51.12
BACS Transfer	B. Wellwood - Clerk Salary	£719.49
BACS Transfer	HMRC - Clerk N.I + Stable tax	£159.36

BACS Transfer	PT Electrical - re. defibrillator testing	£75.36
BACS Transfer	NCVH Room Hire (September)	£23.27

External Audit Report – The report had been returned with no issues raised.

Precept – Invitation to offer comment prior to preparation – Comments were invited on the draft 2019/20 precept which would be considered at the Finance Panel on 24th October. TDBC to be asked what the new rateable value will be. Mr Akerman noted the need for £1000 from CIL money and money for Speed Information Device hire. The Chairman suggested the Village Hall grant be revisited in view of the CIL grants they had received.

18. COMMITTEE/DELEGATES REPORTS

Footpaths – Cllr. Stone had cleared Manor Lane footpath and was working on consents for further kissing gates. **Playing Fields** – Mr Turner reported a quote of approx. £4500 had been received for the replacement of the floodlights. **Village Hall** – Nothing to report. **Tree Warden** – Covered above. **Road Safety** – Mr Akerman reported a speed check on Stoke Road found approx. 8% of vehicles to be speeding. **Allotments** – Covered above. **Stable** – Mr Jeanes reported the return of the car park puddle, he would try to deal. He confirmed the Coffee Shop water heater was their responsibility. **Flood Warden** – Nothing to report. **SALC** – Nothing to report. **White St. + Wildlife Group** – Covered above.

19. **PUBLICITY INPUTS** – Input to cover Remembrance Day service and road closures, Primary school admissions dates, the community litter pick, the Ham Road closure, flu jabs and a theft alert. If the was sufficient space, it would also include notes about parking at the bottom of Portmans, the need to keep using the bus, scam emails, aerosol recycling and the fostering website.

20. **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION** – Mr Akerman reported the Church had received a grant for the grounds from Awards for All, it would be used for the chain link fence. He also reiterated that the Church was willing to have a mobile phone mast in the tower but that the mobile phone companies were not interested. Cllr. Stone mentioned that it was hoped to combine the purchase of the PC kissing gates with one for the Church to reduce delivery costs, two invoices would be required. Mr Gable reported work on moving the data across to the new website had started, GDPR compliance would be complex to build in and would cost £60 extra. He hoped to have something to show the November meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.07 pm