

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on
Wednesday 13 March 2019**

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

Members of the Public: None.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Ms L Turney, Mr M Dennis, Cllr. D Fothergill (SCC)
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2019** – Mr Jeanes and Mrs Leader reported two typing errors in the Councillors Report section, which was agreed and minutes amended. Mr Jeanes proposed the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 13 February were a true record; Mr Turner seconded the proposal, which was carried.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – None.
5. **MATTERS ARISING-**
 - Policing matters** – The lack of police presence in the village was discussed, Clerk to contact PCSO and request they inform us of their upcoming visits.
 - Use of CIL Money – Corr. A6730** from Mr. J. Robinson, SALC, stating that the Parish Council is not generally allowed to provide grant funds to schools, some bypass this by granting monies to groups connected to the school, such as PTAs. He suggested the use of these funds may be acceptable, but recommended we seek the opinion of our District Councillor (Cllr. P Stone). After some discussion, it was decided the Clerk would contact Mrs Morley and the School Governors again to see if they had found any evidence of other schools using CIL funds for play equipment.
 - Highways England A358 Consultation Meeting – Corr. A6731** notes on this from Mr Lander were circulated prior the meeting, the Chairman asked if there were any questions. Mr Turner explained that according to the notes, in order to be consulted on the progress, we needed to register our interest. The Clerk to check with Mr Lander if we have registered, and if not, ensure we are.
 - Welcome Booklet** – The Chairman reported that she had spoken to Mr Patten, who had previously formatted the booklet; he confirmed he would be pleased to do so again. Mr Fugett had already been in contact with Mr Patten and they will work together to update this. One previous advertiser had shown interest in advertising again; these details were given to Mr Fugett.
 - Skate Park** – The Chairman explained that the Clerk had contacted Mrs Lithgow asking for a scaled down version of a skate park to be researched. The Clerk also contacted Duloe and Ilchester Town Councils regarding their skate parks and we are awaiting replies, it was agreed to put this back on the agenda once a response has been received.
 - Conservation Area Leaflets** – Mrs Vaughan confirmed these were now ready to be distributed and thanked the Clerk for producing them. Mr Akerman is also going to help deliver some of the leaflets.
 - Lockyer's Field Footpath – Corr. A6732** The Chairman summarised the letter received from Mr R Alford, of Strongvox in response to our comments regarding the hedge removal and proposed footpath in Knapp Lane. Mr Alford agreed the extra footpath was not needed, and that the suggested sum of £25k, proposed by Councillor Akerman to be paid towards road safety in the parish could be seen as being an inducement.

ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING-

Mr Jeanes reported on the issue of The Chapel footpath (T17/50), which was initially due to be undergoing works for a period of 6 weeks; this was then extended to 8 weeks, and this has now been exceeded; this was also raised by Mr Meehan in Corr. A6736. Mr Jeanes reported that the delay is with SCC who have concerns about the ditch and possible subsidence. Strongvox are waiting for a revised design from SCC before they can proceed. This delay was also confirmed in Corr. A6737 from Mr R Alford of Strongvox, who suggested we contact our County Councillor to see if we can

push for a resolution. After discussion, it was decided the Clerk should write to Cllr D Fothergill to see if he can encourage a resolution, and also update Mr Meehan; it was also suggested by Mr Jeanes that included in the letter is a request to remove the barriers at the Chapel end of the footpath. There was further discussion regarding the Lockyer's Field site, Mrs Vaughan recalled Strongvox saying they would donate some funds to the Parish in relation to no street lighting for Lockyer's Field development, which hadn't been received, Mr Fugett proposed that we request Strongvox to donate some of the suggested road safety funds (as discussed in matters arising) to the school for their new play equipment, this was seconded by the Chairman, which was carried.

6. TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF REMOVAL OF EXISTING LIME TREE IN CHURCH ROAD AND REPLACEMENT

The Chairman explained that it was agreed in principle to accept the estimate from Aboricare at the last meeting and proposed the payment of £445 plus VAT is now paid; this was seconded by Mr Akerman, which was carried.

7. TO CONSIDER NORTH CURRY PAROCHIAL CHARITIES TRUSTEES

The Chairman explained that every 4 years, the PC re-elect their three trustees for this charity who report and present their accounts at the Annual Parish Meeting. The Chairman confirmed she is one of the existing Trustees along with Carol Brown and Alan Dare, the question was asked if any of the councillors would like to become a trustee and represent the council, or should the current Trustees be asked to continue. The Chairman confirmed she was willing to continue, it was discussed, and decided the Chairman would ask the existing Trustees if they would like to continue. If necessary, Mrs Smith said she would be willing to become a trustee.

8. TO CONSIDER SPRING LITTER PICK

The Chairman asked if Mrs Vaughan was happy to continue arranging the litter pick as she had been successful in doing so over the last couple of years. Mrs Vaughan said she would continue to arrange this and suggested a date of 13 April, meeting at 10:30am in the Village Hall car park. The Clerk to liaise with R. Hopkins (Idverde Ltd) to collect the litter.

9. TO FINALISE PREPARATIONS FOR APM

The Clerk read a list of who had been previously invited to last years APM. After discussion, the list was confirmed as; H Morley for North Curry C of E Primary School, North Curry Sport Ltd (White St. Sports Ground), Greenway Playing Fields, Coffee Shop, Village Agent, Mr Akerman for Parochial Charities Accounts and the Police, who would each be asked to present, or report, for a maximum of 10 minutes at the APM on 1st May 2019. Stoke St Gregory PC, Ruishton and Thornfalcon PC, Stoke st Mary PC and Burrowbridge PC will be invited to attend.

10. TO CONSIDER NEED FOR DIRECTORY OF BUSINESSES IN THE PARISH

The Chairman asked if there was an appetite for a NC business directory following Mr Cable previous interest in Parish businesses. After discussion, with Mr Cable agreeing, Mr Turner proposed that Mr Cable explore the possibility of obtaining details for a register of businesses in the Parish, seconded by Mr Akerman, which was carried.

11. TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF £1500 CIL MONEY TO PLAYING FIELDS

The Chairman clarified that this was the CIL money allotted for the playing fields new play equipment and proposed this was paid, seconded by Mrs Vaughan, which was carried. Mr Turner abstained.

12. TO APPROVE CLERKS & COUNCILS DIRECT SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

The Chairman explained the previous Clerk found this very useful and proposed we renew the subscription, seconded by Mrs Leader, which was carried.

13. TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF WEETREE INVOICE FOR LOSCOMBE MEADOW HEDGE PLANTS

Corr. A6733 invoice from WeeTree, payment had been agreed at £30 excluding VAT; however, the actual cost was £38 plus VAT. The Chairman proposed this higher than approved amount be paid, seconded by Mr Cable, which was carried.

14. TO CONSIDER GREENWAY ALLOTMENTS RENTAL CHARGES

The Chairman explained that the rent on these allotments had not increased since 2015, when the cost of £7 for a quarter plot was decided on. After discussion, Mr Fugett proposed that the cost be increased to £10 per quarter plot, seconded by Mrs Vaughan, which was carried.

15. TO CONSIDER LOCKYER'S FIELD ALLOTMENTS: CONTROL, SIZING, COST, PRIORITIES

Corr. A6734 – Plot sizes had been confirmed as 115sq.m, approx. There are currently no details of any sheds being erected, the Clerk to write to Strongvox, ask for sheds, and request dip tanks instead of the proposed taps system. Also discussed was the fence border to the allotments; Cllr. Stone will look into the option of hedging the border as was done at Loscombe Meadow. The Chairman proposed that we charge the same as Loscombe Meadow allotments of £20 per year from April 2020 with priority open to parishioners on a first come, first serve basis, seconded by Mrs Leader, which was carried.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

A6730 - A6734 already covered in matters arising and previous agenda items.

A6735 – Email from T Watkins with concerns for the speed of traffic on Moor Lane and the Shambles, suggesting traffic calming. After discussion, it was agreed the Clerk should write to Cllr. D Fothergill to ask if he would meet with one of the councillors to discuss what measures could be put forward to slow the traffic in this area, bearing in mind this is a conservation area.

A6736 –A6737 – already covered in any other matters arising.

A6738 – SCC notice of road closure in White Street, between Longs Field and Morris Way for 1 day 8am – 5pm 23 April for Wessex Water to carry out works.

B6739 – D. Galley TPO 21 Overlands – noted.

B6740 – V. Mundy. FWAG South West. Auction for farmers to bid for flood prevention works. Mr Dennis added a note along with his apologies, highlighting that farms who pay drainage rates are excluded from this scheme.

17. FINANCE

The Monthly Account was presented by Mr Jeanes, who proposed it be accepted, seconded by Mrs Leader, which was carried.

Mr Jeanes ensured that the cost of £256 per year to Scribe for the new accounts system was approved following the acceptance of them as a provider at the February meeting. The Chairman proposed the payment, seconded by Mr Cable, which was carried.

Office Service Charge Increase – Mr Jeanes explained the charge had increased from £157 per month to £185 per month in line with rising service costs and proposed we agree this increase, seconded by Cllr. Stone, which was carried.

There was some discussion regarding the £20k, which had been transferred earlier in the year from the Cambridge & Counties Parish savings account, and earmarked for the school, however, with the current lack of clarity on whether these funds can be used for school play equipment, the Chairman proposed we transfer the funds back to the C&C bank until further details are available on the use of the funds, this was seconded by Mr Akerman, which was carried.

Payment list

Cheque No	Payee		Amount
BACS	W. Baldwin	Clerk salary for March	656.50
BACS	WeeTree Wholesale Nurseries	Shrubs for Loscombe Meadow	43.84
BACS	Viking Direct	Stationary	41.96
BACS	Clerks & Councils Direct	Subscription	12.00
BACS	NC Stable	Utilities	73.82

BACS	Village Hall	Rent	31.02
BACS	Arboricare Ltd (invoice awaited)	Tree work	534.00

COMMITTEE / DELEGATE REPORTS-

Footpaths – nothing to report

Playing Fields – Mr Turner thanked the PC for the grant money, he also said the playing fields had received some monies from an anonymous donor. There was some discussion around lighting for the MUGA and Cllr. Stone expressed an interest in planting some more trees in the field.

Village Hall – Mrs Birch confirmed the Village Hall AGM was on 30 April 2019.

Tree Warden – Cllr. Stone requested the tree policy be reviewed and added to the agenda for April.

Road Safety – Mr Akerman reported that the camera detected 6% of drivers going 35mph or more. Mr A Meehan has been approved by the Police for the role, but is yet to have his training.

Allotments – nothing to report

Stable – Mr Jeanes reported the boiler is not working effectively, although it was recently serviced. The company who serviced the boiler will be contacted in order to try to rectify the issue.

Flood Warden – nothing to report

White Street – many vehicles were reportedly parked on Morris Way and White Street; however, this was thought to be a one off with no need for further action at this time.

Wildlife Group – a new notice board has been erected by North Curry Wildlife Group and can be found in the wildflower area of the Sports Field on White Street

PUBLICITY - Note about the forthcoming election. Reminder of APM. Notice of White St. road closure. Citizens Advice hours change. Litter pick. Wildlife Group notice board and blog.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION – Mrs Vaughan reported seeing a petition in the Post Office to reduce speed in the village to 20mph. Cllr. Stone had received a request for a bench along the footpath leading from the health centre to Loscombe Meadow, this will be discussed in the April meeting. The A358 discussions continue with various meetings open to the public over the coming months.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm