

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on
Wednesday 8th May 2019**

Present: Mrs C D Stodgell (Chairman), Mr A Turner, Mr B Jeanes, Ms C Smith, Ms E Turney, Mr M Dennis.

Members of the Public: Cllr. D Fothergill (SCC), Cllr. P Stone, Mr I Fugett.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Mrs J Leader, Mrs C Vaughan, Mrs M Burt, Mr Cable.
2. **APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL 2019** – Mr Jeanes reported spelling errors on pages 1898 and 1899, this was noted, and minutes amended. Mr Jeanes proposed the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 10 April were a true record; Ms Turney seconded the proposal, which was carried.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Mr Jeanes declared an interest in item 14, Payment List.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – None.
5. **MATTERS ARISING-**

Policing matters – Mr Fugett, a Parishioner, reported a spate of burglaries and attempted break-ins around the area, this was noted to input a message in the Newsletter alerting residents.

Welcome Booklet – The Chairman explained that Mr Fugett had offered to continue to update the booklet. Mr Fugett has written to the Parish Council requesting co-option, the Chairman suggested we wait to see if he was co-opted in the June meeting, and check progress at that time unless there was another person who wanted to volunteer for the task. It was agreed this would be held until the June meeting.

Suggested notice board rules: The Chairman reported that last month Mr Jeanes had raised the point of the public notice board, and had prepared some guidelines for use. Mr Jeanes confirmed that he and Mrs Jeanes would take be willing to take responsibility for preparing and displaying the guidelines and monitoring the notice board. After discussion, the Chairman proposed the guidelines were adopted; this was seconded by Mr Jeanes, which was carried.

7.37pm SWT District Cllr. Stone entered the meeting.

106 Monies – Village Hall – At the April meeting, Mr Jeanes requested input on behalf of the Village Hall as to what their allocated money could be used for. The Chairman confirmed that the Clerk has written suggesting soundproofing be added to the list of options for use of the monies.

Business Directory - Mr Cable sent apologies so was unable to comment on progress.

Traffic in Moor Lane/Shambles - The Chairman, Mr Akerman and Cllr. D Fothergill met by the Memorial to discuss the issue with traffic in this area, they observed very few vehicles using the junction correctly. Cllr. Fothergill will formally raise the issue with Highways.

Online only planning applications – Corr. B6766 email from Somerset West and Taunton Council (SWT) stating they will no longer be issuing paper planning applications and these will be available online only. There were various responses from other Parish and Town Councils. After discussion, it was decided the Clerk write to SWT Council and advise them that this would cause the PC a great deal of inconvenience as we don't have the facility to print documents any larger than A4 or the facility to display the plans in another form in the meeting. Cllr. Fothergill mentioned he has seen the use of projectors and laptops to display planning applications and this may benefit the decision making as the laptop allows satellite view of the building, after discussion about the facilities available at the Village Hall and the potential to increase room hire, the Chairman proposed we suggest to the Village Hall they invest in a projector and screen, this was seconded by Mr Jeanes, which was carried.

Use of CIL monies – School update – the Chairman expressed the need for a decision to be made on whether the PC would release the CIL funds for the Play equipment and proposed this be added to the agenda in June for a final decision.

Update on dog rescue centre – Corr. B6766 from the planning department advising they were waiting for a decision on the footpath diversion before the application can proceed.

Litter Pick – The Chairman and Mr Jeanes met the volunteers with the necessary equipment. The Chairman commented that the numbers of volunteers were low; however, those who did join in managed to cover most of the village. Thanks were given to Mr Jeanes for stepping in in Mrs Vaughan's absence.

ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING- None.

County Council Report – Cllr. Fothergill reminded us that Somerset Day was 11th May which coincided with many events happening across Somerset that day. He reported that two of Somerset's Further Education Colleges have been part of a successful bid for form new institutes of technology. Bridgwater and Taunton College will join forces with Exeter University and others to form the Institute of Technology in the West. BT have been ordered to pay a penalty fee for the works executed in Taunton last July, which went ahead without approval and were deemed to be in a contravention of safety guidelines. Cllr. Fothergill explained that SCC owns the West Somerset Railways tracks and vast investment has been made to upgrade the Seaward Way level crossing in Minehead. He was please to comment that 1000 people visited Dillington over the bank holiday for the Easter Eggstravaganza.

6. **APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT BY NORTH CURRY PARISH COUNCIL**
24/19/0016/T – NOTIFICATION TO FELL ONE BIRCH TREE WITHIN NORTH CURRY CONSERVATION AREA, 12 CHURCH AT 12 CHURCH ROAD, NORTH CURRY. Mr Turner explained he had not seen the tree in question, however, Mr Jeanes had knowledge of it. After discussion, it was agreed the decision was to be with Mr Galley at SWT Council, and his expertise; he proposed we support the application, seconded by the Chairman, which was carried.
7. **TO CONSIDER ANNUAL INSPECTION OF BENCHES, TREES, MONUMENTS, EQUIPMENT.** The Chairman explained that this was raised last month, Cllr. Stone and Mr Turner had previously been responsible for checking the trees. The Chairman asked if Mr Turner would consider adding the above to the annual inspection list. Mr Turner was willing to undertake this task in conjunction with Cllr. Stone, should he be co-opted in June.
8. **TO CONSIDER REPLACING BENCH IN QUEENS SQUARE GARDENS AND TO AGREE COST.** The Chairman pointed out that this item should have addressed the bench in Church Road, not in Queen Square Gardens. Mr Jeanes had looked at the bench and fixed a temporary support to the seat. After discussion, it was decided this would be an agenda item for the next meeting in order to discuss the options and associated cost.
9. **TO CONSIDER REPORT ON CONVERTING STABLE HEATING TO AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP AND APPROVE WAY FORWARD.** Mr Jeanes reported that three engineers had been to look at the possibility of installing the air source heat pump. Set point and Coleman's had provided quotes, Neil Roberts sent apologies for not providing a quote in time for the meeting. The cost could be significant; however, there may be funding support available. After discussion, it was decided that more information was needed in order to make a decision.
10. **TO CONSIDER ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – REVIEW AND TO CONSIDER DRAFT MINUTES.** Mr Jeanes pointed out some typos, which needed correcting. The Chairman commented that the turnout was disappointing and invited comment. There was much discussion about the format and potential lack of engagement in the Parish, and it was suggested that ideas to improve engagement and turnout for next year become an agenda item in August to enable the Council to canvas the Parish on what they would like to see discussed at the next meeting in April 2020.
11. **TO CONSIDER USE OF SHEDS ON GREENWAY ALLOTMENTS.** A new allotment holder had enquired on the use of the two sheds on the allotment and whether these can be used as a communal area for the users of the allotments. The Chairman explained the history of the grasslands and unlockable sheds that stood there. The Councillors welcomed the suggestion of the social use of

the area and the Clerk will write to the allotment holder and suggest they agree between them how best to utilise the sheds.

12. **TO CONSIDER DONATION TO CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL. Corr. A6758** the Church Flower Festival in June. The Chairman explained this was a three yearly event and the Parish Council donated £100 towards the last festival held in 2016. After discussion, Mr Turner proposed the PC donate £120, this was seconded by the Chairman, which was carried.

13. **CORRESPONDENCE**

A6757 – A6758 already covered in matters arising and previous agenda items

A6759 – Community Council for Somerset. A notice asking the Council to promote opportunities available in the region.

A6760 – Longacre Caravan Sales. Re. Fibre Broadband. - This local business is inviting others in the Parish to join them in sharing the cost of enabling fibre broadband for the North Curry area of the Parish. Details in the post office and Newsletter.

B6761 – Road closure notification – Knapp Lane – noted

B6762 – Road closure notification – Greenway, Portman's – noted

B6763 – Road closure notification – White St in Ham – noted.

14. **FINANCE – a) To approve Town Farm Stable Budget** – Mr Jeanes presented the Stable budget and proposed the PC accept the budget, the Chairman seconded the proposal, which was carried.

b) To approve the final end of year accounts for period ended 31st March 2019 – Mr Jeanes proposed the accounts be accepted; Mr Turner seconded the proposal, which was carried.

c) To approve and sign the Annual Governance statement 2018/19 in Section 1 of the Annual Return for the year to 31st March 2019 – The Annual Governance statements had been seen and read by all Cllrs. Mr Jeanes proposed they were acceptable and that the Chairman and Clerk sign Section 1 of the Annual Return, Mr Turner seconded the proposal, which was carried.

d) To approve the Accounting statements 2018/19 in Section 2 of the Annual Return for the year to 31st March 2019 – The Accounting Statements had been seen by Cllrs. Mr Jeanes explained the figures came from the Receipts and Payments figures, the difference in figures resulted from the addition of the Lockyer's Field allotments and the new kissing gates. Mr Jeanes proposed the completed Section 2 was acceptable and the Chairman and Clerk sign Section 2 of the Annual Return. Mr Turner seconded the proposal, which was carried.

e) Annual Audit – It was confirmed that Mrs Hembrow would carry out the internal audit on 30th May 2019.

f) Monthly Account for April - Mr Jeanes presented the monthly account, he commented on a further VAT reclaim to come, he proposed the Chairman, Clerk and himself discuss the amount to be transferred to the Cambridge and Counties savings account, Mr Turner also proposed that we leave a sufficient amount available for a potential deposit on play equipment for the school if its decided the PC support them, Ms Turney seconded this, which was carried.

g) Payment list – The Chairman presented the payment list and proposed it be approved, Mr Dennis seconded the proposal, which was carried, Mr Jeanes abstained.

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
BACS Transfer	Miss W Baldwin – Clerks salary	£674.05
BACS Transfer	NCVH (April room Hire)	£31.02
BACS Transfer	B A & M K Jeanes – grass cutting April	£65.33

h) Finance Panel Meeting - Mr Jeanes mentioned the insurance was also reviewed in the Finance Panel meeting and deemed sufficient. As Mr Dennis was unable to attend the AGM, Mr Jeanes asked him if he was interested in joining the panel and proposed him as a member, the Chairman seconded this, which was carried.

i) To adopt the revised Financial Regulations – Mr Jeanes explained the suggested changes and proposed the amended regulation be adopted; Mr Turner seconded the proposal, which was carried.

j) To adopt the revised Risk Assessment Schedule – Mr Jeanes explained the suggested changes and proposed the amended Schedule be adopted; the Chairman seconded the proposal, which was carried.

k) To approve Clerk's salary – The Finance Panel recommended the Clerk's salary stay on the same scale point but it was noted that pay scales were increased in April and that as the Clerk had only recently taken up the position, the salary would be reviewed next April.

l) To approve the addition of any end of year surpluses to the Facilities Development Fund to rebuild reserves – Mr Jeanes proposed the surplus funds of £2,369.08 be added to the Facilities Development Fund, the Chairman seconded the proposal, which was carried.

COMMITTEE / DELEGATE REPORTS-

Footpaths, Playing Fields – Nothing to report, **Village Hall** - Mr Jeanes gave the Councillors the Wi-Fi password for the hall. **Tree Warden, Road Safety, Allotments, Stable, Flood Warden, White Street, Wildlife Group** – nothing to report.

PUBLICITY - Notice of road closures. Fibre Broadband, reminder of the PC vacancies. Warning of spate of burglaries.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION – The Chairman reminded the Councillors to complete their expenses forms. Ms Smith also commented that the PC should do something to commemorate VE Day for World War 2 next year as we hadn't made any arrangements to mark it in time for this year.

The meeting closed at 9.35