

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on  
Wednesday 12 JUNE 2019**

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

**Members of the Public:** Cllr. P Stone, Mr I Fugett, Mr A Meehan, Mr & Mrs Caldecott.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Mrs J Leader, Cllr. D Fothergill (SCC)
2. **APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MAY 2019** – Mr Turner reported an error on page 1896 and Mr Jeanes on page 1899, this was noted, and minutes amended. Mr Jeanes proposed the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> May were a true record; Ms Turney seconded the proposal, which was carried. Mrs Vaughan, Mr Cable and Mrs Burt abstained.
3. **CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS – Corr. A6771a&b** – The Chairman acknowledged the two letters received from Cllr. Phil Stone and Mr Ian Fugett requesting co-option. It was decided a closed vote would take place; the vote was unanimous, both Cllr. Stone and Mr Fugett were co-opted back onto the Parish Council, and the Chairman welcomed them back onto the council. The Acceptance of Office and Register of Interests forms were signed and witnessed and they joined the meeting.
4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Mr Jeanes declared an interest in item 16, Payment List.
5. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – The Chairman addressed Mr Meehan and Mr & Mrs Caldecott who had attended to speak regarding item 11 on the agenda.
6. **MATTERS ARISING-**
  - Policing matters** – Mrs Vaughan, reported an incident in the village. After a cold call offering garden services, a worker asked for an extortionate payment, when payment of this amount was refused, he became unpleasant. A note to be added to the newsletter for parishioners to be vigilant when agreeing to services. Ms Turney reported some erratic driving on Oxen Lane and will be reporting the incident to the local PCSO.
  - Welcome Booklet** – Mr Fugett continues to work on the welcome booklet. He needed some information on the Playing Fields, Mr Turner offered to help with this if Mr Fugett is unable to find what he is looking for on the parish website.
  - 106 Monies** – Mr Jeanes reported that all the suggestions for the use of these Village Hall monies had been put forward to their committee; unfortunately most of these were not deemed eligible under the funds guidance for use. The suggestion of a projector screen had been put forward, the committee were going to investigate whether they could obtain a grant for this, but had not made a decision to go ahead with purchase and installation of a projector screen at the time.
  - Sorting planning boxes** – The Chairman informed the Cllrs. that the confidential waste bags had arrived and requested each Cllr. collect a box to sort through, and the Clerk would note each one taken. Ms Turney asked for guidance, the Clerk to extract what was agreed in the April meeting as guidance for the Cllrs to refer to.
  - Business Directory** – Mr Cable continues to work on this.
  - Traffic in Moor Lane/Shambles – Corr. A6772.** Mr Jeanes had researched some potential changes that could be made to the junction in order to encourage drivers to adhere to the road markings. An example layout photo was passed around and discussed. Mr Jeanes had already approached Cllr. Fothergill (SCC) with the picture and he had suggested this pass through the PC before raising it formally with SCC. The Chairman proposed the Clerk contact Cllr. Fothergill asking for this idea to be considered, Mr Jeanes seconded this, which was carried.
  - Online only planning applications – Corr. A6673.** R. Staddon, email confirming that planning applications will now only be available online, adding that if there was an occasion where a paper application was required, then these may be requested from planning, however, whether one would be

forwarded would depend on the nature of the application and the decision will be at the discretion of the planning department. The Chairman referred to **Corr. A6775** also from R. Staddon with relation to online planning applications, confirms that the purchase of a laptop computer for the Parish Council to use, would be considered acceptable use of CIL monies should the parish wish to use these funds. The consideration of purchasing a laptop will be added to the agenda for July.

**ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING-** The Chairman reported that due to minor changes in the audit (AGAR) form, an amended form was to be signed in the council's presence before being sent. Mr Jeanes summarised the amendments and proposed it be accepted, this was seconded by Mr Turner, which was carried.

**Corr. A6774. R. Alford regarding the savings from not installing streetlights at Lockyer's Field.** The Chairman reported that although Mr Alford agreed that an initial offer of funds were made to the PC prior to the S106 Deed of Variation, the matter was not progressed, the funds are now frozen therefore no monies are now available. He was willing to discuss this, the Chairman proposed that Cllr. Stone, Mr Turner and herself meet with Mr Alford to discuss this further; this was seconded by Mrs Vaughan, which was carried. Clerk to set up the meeting.

**Public notice board** – Mr Jeanes reported that that public notice board had now been tidied up and guidelines for its use have been displayed. The Chairman thanked Mr Jeanes and commented on the praise received by parishioners for his efforts.

Mr Jeanes suggested we bring forward **item 11** on the agenda in order that the members of the public need not remain for the rest of the meeting if they did not wish to. The Chairman agreed, and item 11 moved up to **item seven** on the agenda.

7. **TO CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE REQUESTED SPEED LIMIT CHANGE IN MOOR LANE. Corr. A6776.** A letter and petition from Grant and Kate Caldecott. The Chairman summarised the details of the letter, which requests support from the PC to extend the 30mph village speed limit down to the bottom of Moor Lane, by the village sign post and flood gates. This section of road is currently a 60mph zone, and with no verges or pavements, they believe the current speed limit is a danger to pedestrians and horses. Mr Meehan had asked prior to the meeting to address the PC on item 11, unfortunately he choose to discuss the 20s plenty campaign and various speed issues in the village and requested the PC create a speed policy. There was much discussion; the Chairman invited Mr Meehan to raise his concerns formally so that the PC can address them, as a separate agenda item in the next meeting, noting that the PC had not been sited on anything to do with the 20s plenty campaign which is ongoing in the village. Discussion and creation of a speed policy to be added to the July agenda. Cllr. Stone said he would prepare something as a beginning point for the policy before the next meeting. Mr & Mrs Caldecott further explained their reasoning for requesting the speed limit change. The Chairman proposed the PC contact SCC and ask for the extension of the speed limit, this was seconded by Mr Turner, which was carried. Clerk to contact Cllr. Fothergill with the petition and letter from Mr & Mrs Caldecott to request the change.

**8.20pm Mr Meehan left the meeting.** – Mr and Mrs Caldecott were interested in learning about the A358 proposals; the Chairman gave them the most recent correspondence regarding this to read.

8. **TO DECIDE A WAY FORWARD ON THE STABLE HEATING SYSTEM.** Mr Jeanes summarised the options, as discussed in the last meeting, how the system would work and what changes would need to be made for installation and confirmed receipt of the final quote. There was much discussion regarding grants and potential cost savings and the difference in running costs.

**8.25pm Mr & Mrs Caldecott left the meeting.**

Mr Dennis apologised for not having the time to investigate this alongside Mr Jeanes, and commented that some of the figures on savings didn't seem very high or measure up with his own experience of installing green energy sources and proposed that it should be investigated further. Mrs Vaughan suggested that an independent body or energy consultant is contacted to give the PC some accurate

figures on savings and grants available, it was agreed this was a good idea and that there were also non-financial benefits of a greener system to consider. Mr Dennis agreed to look into the options further and report his finding at the next meeting.

9. **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE ADDITIONAL COST OF £30.50 FOR A CONTAINER GROWN TREE INSTEAD OF A BARE ROUTE TREE IN CHURCH ROAD.** The Chairman explained that due to the time of year and weather, and with Cllr. Stones advice, she had authorised payment of this amount for a more established tree. Mrs Vaughan proposed this was acceptable, seconded by Mr Cable, which was carried.
10. **TO CONSIDER USE OF CIL MONIES FOR SCHOOL PLAY EQUIPMENT.** The Chairman commented on the length of time taken to try to reach a firm answer from the Council on the use of these funds for play equipment. The school have tried to provide some assurances of money spent in similar ways. The Chairman proposed the PC give their financial support but that the school underwrite the risk, so should SWT Council decide this is not suitable use of the funds and request the funding be re-paid, that the school is responsible. After discussion, it was suggested that Richard Huish Trust should underwrite the risk, rather than asking the village school to; the Chairman proposed that the Clerk write to the headmistress and inform her of what was discussed and ask her to suggest the best contact at Richard Huish Trust, this was seconded by Mr Dennis, and was carried. Mr Fugett abstained.
11. **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE COST FOR REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT BENCH IN CHURCH ROAD.** Mr Jeanes reported that the cost of a 5ft teak/roble wooden bench, similar to the ones further along Church Road would cost in the region of £472 plus VAT, with an anchor kit costing a further £40 plus VAT. The Chairman requested that the donator of the broken bench is informed of our intention to replace it. Mr Jeanes had already enquired, resulting in there being no reason not to replace the bench. There was some discussion on where the bench could be sourced from. The Chairman proposed to replace the bench, seconded by Mr Jeanes, which was carried, the Chairman added a proposed total cost of up to £550, this was seconded by Mr Turner, which was carried. Mr Turner requested that the bench made from sustainably sourced wood.
12. **TO DISCUSS A358UPDATE FROM R LANDER. Corr. A6777.** The Chairman summarised the letters between Highways England (HE) and Mr R Lander, which had already been circulated to the Cllrs. to review. The Chairman asked for any comments, thanks were noted to Mr Lander for his efforts and continuing to raise questions to HE regarding the proposals.
13. **TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE OPENING A CO-OP DEPOSIT SAVINGS ACCOUNT.** Mr Jeanes reported that an instant access savings account, offering 0.5% interest is now available from the Co-Op. Mr Jeanes proposed opening the deposit account, which the majority of funds can be held in, earning a small amount of interest until they are required; the Chairman seconded this, which was carried.
13. **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE AN AMENDMENT FOR THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS TO CORRESPOND WITH THE RISK ASSESSMENT. Corr. A6778.** Mr Jeanes explained that the internal auditor had noticed an inconsistency in wording between the Risk Assessment and the Financial Regulations concerning the quarterly check on bank reconciliations. Mr Jeanes proposed the amendment be made to paragraph 4.8 of the Financial Regulations to bring it in line with the Risk Assessment, this was seconded by the Chairman, and was carried.
15. **CORRESPONDENCE**  
**A6771 - A6778** already covered in matters arising and previous agenda items  
**A6779 – S. Pritchard SALC ref 75<sup>th</sup> VE Day 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020.** This notice had been forwarded to the Cllrs. prior to the meeting. The Chairman reminded them that Ms Smith had raised the marking of this event at the last meeting. The Chairman proposed the Clerk contact the Legion and the Church to find out if they would like to be involved with the PC plans. This was seconded by Ms Turney, and was

carried. It was believed this would fall the same weekend as the May Fair; however, that should not affect celebrations as the events can be incorporated.

**A6780 – C. Browne. Regarding a bench seat at the top of Oxen Lane, near the bus stop.** The Chairman explained the request and supported the idea, she suggested the Clerk ask if Cllr. Fothergill can come out and view the Lane and advise us where the bench could be positioned. To be added to the July agenda.

**Other correspondence received today – Highways, Stopping up of highway order at 2 Lane Cottages, Windmill Hill** – do not need to comment.

**SWT Council – Extension to Road closure until 16 June** – Greenway – noted

**SWT Council - Night Road closure at Lillesdon, Borough Post and Stoke Road now 29 July – 9 August** –noted

**SWT Council - Road closure notification** – Cathanger Lane, Curry Mallet Parish – noted.

**B6783. A. Meehan. Speed watch figures.** The Chairman requested that the times of the speed watch exercise be recorded in future.

14. **FINANCE – The Monthly Account** was presented by Mr Jeanes, detailing all receipts and payments (including monthly direct debits that are not listed below), he proposed it be accepted, seconded by the Chairman, which was carried.

**Payment list** – The Chairman presented the payment list and proposed it be approved, Ms Turney seconded the proposal, which was carried, Mr Jeanes abstained.

Chq No	Payee	Amount
BACS Transfer	Viking – paper and stamps	29.72
BACS Transfer	Inkcredible – printer ink cartridges	75.10
BACS Transfer	W. Baldwin – Clerks salary	674.05
BACS Transfer	NCVH (May room hire)	60.60
BACS Transfer	B A & M K Jeanes – grass cutting (May)	40.83

Mr Jeanes reported Mrs Hembrow, who undertook the internal audit, asked if instead of payment for her services, a donation is made to North Curry C of E School for books. Mr Jeanes proposed an amount of £30 be donated; this was seconded by the Chairman, and was carried.

#### **COMMITTEE / DELEGATE REPORTS-**

**Footpaths** – Cllr. Stone reported he had been cleaning footpath stiles. He also mentioned there appeared to have been no planting around the solar panels in Knapp and offered to draft a letter to Lightsource. Mr Dennis will provide contact details.

**Playing Fields** – Mr Turner was disappointed to report that the zip wire had broken, resulting in an injured parishioner. The insurance company have been informed and are communicating with the manufacturers.

**Village Hall** – Ms Turney reported that the VH are looking for a new booking secretary and that work is to take place on the walls and slabs around the hall and car park to help with visibility. The Chairman reported the passing of Michael Griffiths former secretary to the Village Hall.

**Tree Warden** – Cllr. Stone reported a complaint regarding a tree on Barton Way which needed trimming; this is currently being addressed by SWT Council. Clerk to write to the land owner on Windmill Hill regarding the dead elm trees.

**Road Safety** – already discussed speed watch numbers from Mr Meehan. Committee remains to be established.

**Allotments** – nothing to report

**Stable** – nothing to report

**Flood Warden** – nothing to report

**White Street** – Cllr. Stone reported there is an apparent problem with dog mess on the football pitches which had resulted in an unauthorised blocking of the public footpath onto the field. Cllr. Stone is looking into the possibility of some fencing along the footpath in order to prevent dog fouling on the pitch.

**Wildlife Group** – nothing to report

**PUBLICITY** - Notice of road closures/amendments/extensions and advising that full details of these are displayed on the PC notice board and website, reminder of the PC vacancies, warning re cold calling offering services, Parish verge cutting information and progress and a link to website.

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION** – Mrs Vaughan mentioned that there would be a talk on dementia coming to the Parish. Draft minutes are to be circulated as soon as the Chairman had reviewed and approved these to enable the Cllrs. to be reminded of any actions required for the following meeting. There was an enquiry into the current situation with the enforcement order in, adjacent to Stoneyhead Caravan Park, Wrantage. Clerk to write to enforcement for an update.

**There being no further matters to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.55**