

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on  
Wednesday 09<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

**Present:** Mrs C Stodgell (Chairman), Mr A Turner, Mr B Jeanes, Ms C Smith, Mr M Dennis, Mrs C Vaughan, Mr Cable, Mrs J Leader, Mrs M Burt, Mrs H Griffiths.

**Members of the Public:** Cllr. D Fothergill (SCC), Mr J De Winton, Mr J Farmer.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Ms E Turney, Mr I Fugett, Cllr. P Stone, Cllr. S Buller.
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019** – The Chairman invited any amendments or comments to the minutes, there were none, Mrs Vaughan proposed the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> September were a true record; Mr Cable seconded the proposal, which was carried.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Mr Jeanes declared an interest in item 17, Payment List.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – The Chairman addressed the public inviting them to ask general questions unless they were attending for a specific agenda item.
5. **MATTERS ARISING -**
  - Policing matters – Corr. A6841.** PCSO Sam Bushen and PCSO Scott Windsor regarding unregistered tractors, which had been reported by a parishioner, they will contact the Clerk with rules and regulations on this once they have more information. Other Cllrs. raised the recent vandalism and antisocial behaviour in the village. After some discussion about those who may be responsible for these acts, one of the Cllrs. mentioned that a parishioner intended to have discussions with the parents of those who may be responsible.
  - Welcome Booklet** – Mr Fugett sent his apologies; however, he is nearly finished with the booklet and is just waiting on some contact details, which Ms Turney has not yet been able to obtain.
  - 106 Monies – Village hall.** Mr Jeanes reported no further update.
  - D&S Fire & Rescue Consultation.** The decision has been delayed until 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
  - Finger Post update:** These have been ordered, a further update on these will be given next month when Cllr. Stone returns.
  - Nine Acre Lane to Loscombe Meadow update: Corr. A682.** Email and details of sale from Mrs De Silva. After some discussion the Chairman suggested we contact Mr Tim Walker to see if he can help decipher the ownership.
  - Lime Tree and Church Road. Corr. A6843.** John De Winton has kindly paid for the replacement Lime Tree and is undertaking the watering when required, the Chairman thanked Mr De Winton.
  - Access Knapp Lane to Lockyer's Field. Corr. A6844.** G Parsons. Strongvox stating he had met with SCC and they are still insisting Strongvox put a footpath through to Knapp Lane, he had asked if there was any further support the PC can offer them. After discussion, and confirmation from Cllr. Fothergill that the footpath plans may now not require removal of the hedge, it was decided the Clerk should write to Mr Parsons and clarify that the PC supported the reasons for not having a footpath based on the plans which originally included removing a large part of the hedge. If a footpath can be put in place without this removal, there may not be any objections from the PC; however, we request a copy of the revised plans be made available to us. The point was also made that the issue of the path was largely between SCC and Strongvox.
  - Laptop update:** Mr Willis is able to source a laptop within the agreed budget and is ordering this.
  - Lightsource Landscaping: Corr. A6846.** Cllr. Stone prepared a letter which had been sent asking for an update on the landscaping which was an agreement of the Lightsource planning, a holding response was received advising us they were looking into the matter and will be in contact soon.

**ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING** – None.

**County Council Report** – Cllr. Fothergill reported that earlier this year the UK lost its measles free status due to increased number of confirmed cases. SCC are urging those who missed out on getting the vaccine to make an appointment and to get vaccinated. Applications for new school places for 2020 are now being considered and SCC encourage everyone concerned to put down their three preferences, not just their first choice in order to assist the process. Two new schools have opened in Taunton, Hazelbrook at Selworthy Special School, and Nerrols primary school, totalling 500 new

school places. Over 7000 children visited libraries across Somerset taking part in the 'Space Chase' summer reading challenge. Hundreds of children and families took part. Gritting routes have increase and Cllr. Fothergill requested the PC check the grit bins and contact SCC by 31 October informing them of which bins need refilling, Mr Dennis agreed to inspect these on our behalf. Somerset's Registration Service is now ready to receive couples wishing to take vows in an opposite sex civil partnership now that the legislation had been passed by government,

6. **RESIGNATION OF CURRENT VICE CHAIRMAN AND ELECTION OF NEW VICE CHAIRMAN. Corr. B6852.** Due other commitments, Mrs Vaughan has resigned from her role as Vice Chairman. Cllr. Stone had confirmed his willingness to stand to the Chairman and she proposed Cllr. Stone for the position; this was seconded by Mrs Leader, which was carried.
7. **APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT BY NORTH CURRY PARISH COUNCIL.**  
**24/19/0037/CQ - Prior approval for proposed change of use from agricultural building to dwelling house (Class C3) and associated building operations on land at Knapp Lane Farmhouse, Knapp Lane, North Curry.** Mr Turner explained the application, which is very similar to the previous one submitted by Mr Farmer in 2018 for the Dutch barn on their property. Mr Farmer was advised by the Planning Department to resubmit the application under the CQ regulations, which permit development on agricultural buildings. After some discussion, the Chairman proposed we support the application with two of the four former comments from the last application; No other agricultural barns to be built on the site to replace this converted barn, and there be no further development permitted without gaining planning permission, this was seconded by Mr Turner which was carried. Mrs Vaughan was against the proposal.  
**24/19/0038/T - Notification to re-pollard 12 lime trees within North Curry Conservation Area at Monks Walk, The Fosse, North Curry.** The Chairman stated Cllr. Stone had passed on comments as the Tree Warden that he had no objection to this application. Mr De Winton mentioned he has these works completed every 7 years. Mr Turner explained where the trees are situated, and what the works entailed, he then proposed we support the application; this was seconded by Mr Jeanes, which was carried.
8. **TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE RESPONSE TO A358 CONSULTATION – R. LANDER.**  
A copy of the report and Mr Landers suggested response had been sent to the Cllrs. prior to the meeting, Cllr. Stone had sent his comments, which included mention of a link to the M5 Southbound, as shown on earlier route options. The Chairman asked if there were any further comments, then proposed the suggested response letter from Mr Lander should be sent with Cllr. Stones comments added, this was seconded by Mrs Leader, which was carried.
9. **REMEMBRANCE DAY PREPARATIONS AND CONSIDERATION OF DONATIONS**  
The Chairman read out the list of payments and donations made last year which were; £30 to the Bugler, £50 to the Organist and £150 donation to the Royal British Legion. As a small increase was made in 2018, she proposed we issue the same amounts this year; this was seconded by Mrs Leader, which was carried.
10. **VE CELEBRATIONS. Corr. 6848.** The Chairman explained the British Legion will not be putting on any activities for this, and asked what the Cllrs. wanted to do in order to celebrate or support the day. The Church are going to ring the bells on Friday, Mr Sidley had offered to work with a delegate on the PC to make some arrangements, Mrs Vaughan and Mrs Leader volunteered to be the contacts for this and it was pointed out by Cllr. Fothergill that the celebrations fall on the Friday. There was preferred emphasis on activities on the Friday so as not to interfere with the annual village May Fair.
11. **TO DISCUSS SPECIFICATION AND BUDGET FOR REPLACEMENT OFFICE BLINDS**  
The Chairman reminded the Cllrs. that the replacement of these had been agreed earlier in the year then handed over to the Clerk who read out the three quotes obtained for blinds similar to those in the hair salon next door. After discussion it was decided that they so not need to be similar and a budget of up to £100 be agreed for these. Mrs Leader volunteered to check the required measurements before the Clerk begin ordering these. The Chairman seconded this, which was carried.
12. **TO DECIDE REQUIREMENTS AND DECISION AND APPROVE COST FOR A BUS SEAT AND POSSIBLE SHELTER AT BOROUGH POST BY THE BUS STOP**

Ms Turney had sent her apologies and Cllr. Fothergill is still waiting for an answer regarding the shelter, therefore this is to be delayed until next month.

**13. CONSIDERATION OF SIGNS FOR NINE ACRE LANE**

Cllr. Stone has reported he is working on some wording for the signs for Nine Acre Lane and this will now be deferred to next month.

**14. TO CONSIDER REMOVAL AND ASSOCIATED COST RE ASH TREES AT STOKE ROAD AND WHITE STREET**

Cllr. Stone reported he is still obtaining prices for felling the two Ash Trees at the Copse on White Street corner, however, he proposes that if the PC are in agreement for a sum of up to £250 be approved and he will go with the lowest price. This was seconded by Mrs Vaughan, which was carried.

**15. TO CONSIDER THE REQUEST FOR A NOTICE BOARD ON NEW BRIDGE**

Email from J Gibson requesting a notice board at New Bridge in order that farmers contact details can be held there in case of livestock issues as she had recently come across a spate of either escaped or dead livestock. After discussion, it was decided that unfortunately this was unlikely to be practical due to the changing tenure of the fields.

**16. CORRESPONDENCE**

**A6841 – A6849** already covered in matters arising and previous agenda items.

**A6850 J Wedley** – email from J Wedley regarding parking at Cricket Cottages. Mr Wedley has met with Cllr. Fothergill and another member of SCC who have offered possible solutions, however Mr Wedley does not believe these are practicable, he is still concerned regarding emergency parking on the double yellow lines, however, emergency vehicle and disabled badge holders are permitted to park on these. The Councils discussed the parking issues throughout the village, they agreed the Clerk should reply and explain that unfortunately, the Parish Council cannot be responsible for providing additional parking at Cricket Cottages; this may be something the residents themselves can agree a way forward on.

The Chairman invited comment on any other correspondence; Mr Turner updated the group on the dog rescue centre at Knapp, explaining that the details of this are offline until the enforcement process begins.

**17. FINANCE – The Monthly Account** was presented by Mr Jeanes, detailing all receipts and payments. He reported that he is in the process of setting the Clerk up with view only access to the Lloyds Stable account, however, this level of access is not possible with the main Parish Council bank account, and if the Clerk were given permissions for the this account, it would mean the Clerk has full access as a signatory. After some discussion and it was decided this would be discussed and considered again at a later date.

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

CHEQUE NO:	PAYEE	AMOUNT
BACS	Clerk Salary	674.05
BACS	NCVH (September room hire)	42.48
BACS	Insurance	1205.41
BACS	Ink	72.67
BACS	NC Stable Charge - Gas	3.16
BACS	NC Stable Charge - Electricity	81.74
BACS	NC Stable Service Charge	157.00

BACS	PKF Littlejohn LLP - External Audit	360.00
BACS	HMRC - NI & PAYE + Stable tax	12.00
BACS	Grass cutting September	24.50
BACS	Plusnet	25.74

## 18. COMMITTEE / DELEGATE REPORTS-

**Footpaths** – Cllr. Stone reported another new kissing gate had been fitted, cutting back of stiles continues and the railing on the new steps at Moredon has now been repaired.

**Playing Fields** – Mr Turner reported that the zip wire had now been replaced; they have had their annual inspection and have needed to replace all the toddler swing seats. They will be purchasing an additional picnic bench, and they have patched the hole in the fence, he also reported the wrap around care in the Pavilion is going well.

**Village Hall** – Mrs Burt reported that the hall now have blackout curtains for Film Club. New stage lighting a ladder suitable for adjusting these will be purchased. The VH are also moving forward with the purchase of a projector screen. Some repairs and replacements are to be made to the hall and they are still looking for a booking secretary.

**Tree Warden** – Cllr. Stone reported the damage to the saplings at Loscombe Meadow.

**Road Safety** – Committee remains to be established, it was decided to suspend this group until required.

**Allotments** – nothing to report

**Stable** – nothing to report

**Flood Warden** – Mrs Vaughan reported a blocked drain at Church Road, Clerk to report to SCC.

**White Street** – Cllr. Stone reported that the new football season saw a good turnout.

**Wildlife Group** – School are having an environment week beginning 21 Oct and we will be doing guided tours of the community woodland with pupils on Thursday 24th as part of the activities that week. Mrs Vaughan and Mr Jeanes reminded the group of Apple Day on 20<sup>th</sup> October from 2pm, the entry is one apple.

**Speedwatch:** The Clerk read the monthly report from Mr Meehan, to be published in the Newsletter.

**SALC:** nothing to report

**Speed Policy Group** – nothing to report

**PUBLICITY** – Speedwatch, Remembrance Day, parking issues, recycling, drains and litter pick.

## 19. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION- none

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS** – Mr Jeanes outlined some details of Remembrance Day and confirmed the tasks he will do. Mrs Vaughan requested the Clerk write to SCC Highways on behalf of the PC and request they review the lighting hours for the streetlights at Overlands and Loscombe Meadow due to its apparent association to the spate of antisocial behaviour in those areas.

**There being no further matters to discuss, the meeting closed at 09.20pm**

Following the meeting there was a discussion about the autumn litter pick, the date of 23<sup>rd</sup> November was chosen.