

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

**Present:** Mrs C Stodgell (Chairman), Mr A Turner, Mr B Jeanes, Ms C Smith, Mr M Dennis, Mr Cable, Mrs J Leader, Mr I Fugett, Miss E Turney, Mrs C Vaughan

**Members of the Public:** Cllr. D Fothergill (SCC), Mr & Mrs Knight

1. **APOLOGIES:** Mrs H Griffiths
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2019** – The Chairman invited any amendments or comments to the minutes, there were some amendments made to page 1926. Miss Turney proposed the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting were a true record; Mr Turner seconded the proposal, which was carried. Mrs Vaughan abstained.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Mr Jeanes declared an interest in item 13, payment list. Mr Dennis declared an interest in item 6, application 24/19/0047 and 24/19/0048.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – None.
5. **MATTERS ARISING -**
  - Policing matters** – None
  - Lighting up times Loscombe Meadow/Overlands** – The Clerk had not had a response from Highways Lighting-up team after chasing them up again, Cllr. Fothergill will see if he can find out who is responsible and update the Clerk on who to contact.
  - Welcome Booklet** – Mr Fugett is waiting for up to date information on new village hall contacts, he believes this should be complete by February.
  - Finger Post update:** We are still not able to reach Mr Keal, Ms Smith volunteered to reach out on social media to try to find someone to paint the post and fix the new fingers, Clerk to email wider parishes to see if anyone can recommend someone to do this work. We currently have a quote to paint only the new fingers.
  - 106 Monies – Village hall.** Mr Jeanes reported a projector and screen, widening of the entrance to the carpark, main hall floor, the addition of a small under-sink water heater in the Games Room as well as a hearing loop in the Committee Room have all been agreed in principle and he is gathering quotes on their behalf for these different elements. There was some discussion whether the Village Hall needs to contribute towards the grant monies, which Mr Jeanes will investigate. Mr Turner mentioned the letter circulated to the Cllrs. regarding the remaining 106 monies and requested permission to contact the Case Manager at SWTC to determine more details on how the funds can be applied, as they may benefit the Playing Fields, the Chairman gave permission, and her thanks for exploring the option.
  - Nine Acre Lane to Loscombe Meadow update:** Mr Jeanes had visited Mrs De Silva and discovered the land remains under her ownership, but with clauses absolving her from any responsibility for the path. Mrs De Silva is contacting relative authorities regarding the possible adoption of the footpath. There was some discussion; Cllr. Fothergill was willing to look into the possible options SCC may be able to help with for the footpath moving forward.
  - Lockyer's Field/Knapp Lane Footpath.** The Clerk has still not received an update on the footpath from Strongvox; Clerk to chase this, some hedge replanting is due to take place and requested the Clerk contact Strongvox and find out when these shrubs will be planted.
  - Litter pick.** The Chairman gave thanks to Mr Jeanes who reported a strong turnout for the litter pick; he is hoping to add a special thanks to Parishioners who volunteered for the litter pick in the newsletter.
  - Bus stop marking.** The Clerk has requested this, but there has been no confirmation of when works may begin.
  - County Council Report.** Cllr. Fothergill reminded everyone to look out for neighbours and family that may need help over the winter. More information on winter health is available at [www.nhs.uk/winterhealth](http://www.nhs.uk/winterhealth) but residents should contact the SCC contact centre immediately if they are concerned about a person or child on 0300 123 2224. Mindline is also available for emotional support

over Christmas and New Year and can be reached on 01823 276892. Somerset County Council (SCC) are looking for volunteers to help support and enable Somerset's children and young people to have fun and gain confidence. There are two distinct roles available and full training and support will be provided. Please visit [www.volunteering.somerset.gov.uk](http://www.volunteering.somerset.gov.uk) for more information. He also reported a pilot scheme to help ease the pressures on the NHS, which is being spearheaded by SCC and local NHS partners. The trial will see a social worker embedded in the A&E departments in the county's two major hospitals to help support those visiting A&E not needing medical care but not knowing where else to go. Cllr. Fothergill reported figures on road safety in the County, which remain the same as 2017, however, Somerset Road Safety provided help and advice to over 28,000 members of the public so far this year and continues to provide training and education on road safety. Library e-Books, e-Audio Books and e-Magazines can be accessed by Somerset residents on their electronic devices free of charge! With over 15 e-Books to choose from and new titles being added regularly, all residents need to do is become a member of the library. Finally, Cllr. Fothergill mentioned the findings from the speed monitoring exercise carried out by SCC highways, which took place in the autumn. The Chairman gave her thanks to Cllr. Fothergill, and will raise the next steps as an agenda item in the New Year.

**ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING** – Mr Fugett asked when the White Lines in Queens Square would be re-painted, Cllr. Fothergill will follow this up.

**6. APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT BY NORTH CURRY PARISH COUNCIL.**

**24/19/0042 Erection of single storey extension to side and rear of dwelling and replacement stainless steel chimney at Staddles, Rock Hill, Wrantage.** Mr Turner explained the application having visited the site with Mrs Leader, following which, he proposed the PC support the application, seconded by the Chairman and carried.

**24/19/0047 Change of use of an agricultural building for the storage of wood chips and use of a biomass boiler to heat adjacent poultry sheds at Nythe Farm, Unit 3 Nythe Farm Lane, North Curry (retention of works already undertaken)** Mr Turner explained the application which does not affect the building in anyway, this relates to usage. He proposed the application be supported, seconded by Mrs Leader, which was carried, Mr Dennis abstained having declared an interest.

**24/19/0048 Erection of an agricultural building for the storage of wood chips and use of a biomass boiler to heat adjacent poultry sheds at Newport Manor, Newport Road, North Curry (retention of works already undertaken)** Mr Turner explained the application was very similar to 24/19/0047 and proposed we support the application, this was seconded by Mr Jeanes which was carried, Mr Dennis abstained having declared an interest.

**24/19/0021 – Appeal - Erection of bungalow on land to rear of 16 Town Farm, North Curry (resubmission of application 24/18/0012)** Mr Turner explained that the appeal was based on previous applications, which had been rejected by SWTC Planning. After discussion, Mr Turner proposed that the Clerk should write to the Planning Inspectorate and inform them that the latest application (24/19/0046) is a completely new application, which we have commented on and enclose the comments for them to consider, Mrs Vaughan seconded the proposal, which was carried.

**7. VE CELEBRATIONS.** Mrs Vaughan and Mrs Leader had met with Mr Sidley and discussed some ideas for the week leading up to the anniversary and possible activities, including a band on the Friday and a 'bring your own' street party in Church road, culminating with some music in the Church. Mr Sidley is going to find out which local organisations and clubs would like to be involved and suggested a programme of events be put together and issued with the newsletter in April. Mrs Leader and Mrs Vaughan asked if the PC would consider supporting the event by paying for the band and the programme, Mrs Stodgell proposed the PC offer funds of up to £500 for the cost of the band and programme, this was seconded by Mr Fugett, which was carried.

8. **TO CONSIDER THE APPROVAL COSTS OF REMOVAL OF WHITE STREET ASH TREES.** Cllr. Stone was not present so this was deferred until the next meeting when the figures will be available.
9. **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE PAYMENT FOR SIX KISSING GATES.** After some discussion, it was decided this would be deferred to the next meeting in Cllr. Stones absence, Mr Dennis will provide cost details of a similar gate he made as a comparison to aid a decision.
10. **TO DECIDE AND APPROVE COST FOR A BUS SEAT AND SHELTER AT BOROUGH POST BUS STOP.** The Chairman explained that due to personal circumstances, she had been unable to visit the site of the bus stop and progress this further; therefore, this will be deferred until next month.
11. **CONSIDERATION OF SIGNS FOR NINE ACRE LANE.** Cllr. Stone had not submitted an update on this; in addition, it was agreed these should be placed on hold until responsibility of the path has been confirmed.
12. **CORRESPONDENCE. A6870 – A6875** had already been covered in matters arising and previous agenda items.  
**A6876. Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group South West (FWAG).** Promoting awareness to properties on a non-mains sewerage system and the maintenance of soakaways. The information will be put in the newsletter and a notice put on the board.  
**Corr. A6876 –** The Chairman has received a plea from some of the residents in Wrantage to see if the Parish Council can contact the relevant authority and request they are put on the mains sewerage as it's understood this request must pass through the Parish Council. Mr Turner proposed the PC support the request, seconded by Mr Jeanes, which was carried. Clerk to contact Wessex Water to find out how to proceed.  
**B6879 Road Closure** 13 January, Stanmoor Rd at the junction with Athelney Bridge in Burrowbridge will be closed for up to 5 days.  
**B6880 Road Closure** 15 January, Windmill Hill at the junction with Town Close will be closed for up to 7 days
13. **FINANCE – The Monthly Account** was presented by Mr Jeanes, detailing all receipts and payments proposing this be accepted, seconded by Mr Turner, which was carried.  
**Precept.** Following the last meeting, Cllrs. suggested some reasons why the precept amount should remain the same as last year, to include unknown factors and using additional funds for possible extra verge cuts during growing season as well as asking parishioners for ideas at the APM. A decision will need to be made in the meeting in January for submission to SWTC. The Chairman presented the **payment list** and proposed it be accepted, Mrs Vaughan seconded this and it was carried.

CHEQUE NO:	PAYEE	AMOUNT
BACS	Clerk Salary	674.05
BACS	NCVH	33.60
BACS	NC Stable Charge - Electricity	82.05
BACS	NC Stable Charge - Gas	13.48
BACS	Grass cutting	94.50

100341	Strimming	92.00
100342	Legion donation	150.00

#### 14. COMMITTEE / DELEGATE REPORTS-

**Footpaths** – Cllr. Stone was not in attendance. No report.

**Playing Fields** – nothing to report.

**Village Hall** – nothing to report.

**Tree Warden** –Cllr. Stone was not in attendance. No report.

**Allotments** – nothing to report.

**Stable** – Mr Jeanes had offered to cut down a creeper running through to the Stables, which had now been done.

**Flood Warden** – nothing to report.

**White Street** – Cllr. Stone was not in attendance. No report.

**Wildlife Group** – nothing to report at this time but a Wassail is coming up in January.

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

**SALC:** nothing to report

**Road Safety** – Mr Fugett reported that, Mrs Smith, Miss Turney and himself had their first meeting. This will be added back onto reports for the next meeting and Mr Fugett appealed for others to join, Mrs Vaughan said she would not wish to join the group due to other commitments.

**Speed Policy Group** – Cllr. Stone was not in attendance. No report

**PUBLICITY** – Speedwatch, Councillor Vacancy, road Closures, 20kg salt bags available, Happy New Year. SCC web link for volunteers

#### 15. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION- None

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS** – Mr Dennis mentioned an ‘adopt a tree’ scheme that he is considering. He explained this may be a nice community area and perhaps the Wildlife Group and Primary school may wish to get involved. After explaining the premise, he asked Cllrs to consider the suggestion and offer him feedback.

Mrs Vaughan raised the issue of the dead oak trees on New Road, the Chairman and Clerk explained these have been previously brought to our attention and have been reported. Ongoing discussion is in progress between the landowner and Highways tree department at SCC.

Mrs Vaughan also commented that there has been little feedback since the new website was created; Mr Cable will look into this and report back. It was also suggested the website could promote more local news, achievements and services. The Clerk explained she does so as and when requested at the moment through our webmaster.

**There being no further matters to discuss, the meeting closed at 09.47pm**