

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held via Zoom on
Wednesday 10th June 2020**

Present or comments received: Mrs C Stodgell (Chairman), Mr A Turner, Mr B Jeanes, Mr Cable, Mrs C Vaughan, Ms C Smith, Mrs H Griffiths, Mrs Leader, Mr Wilkins, Mr Dennis. Cllr. Stone.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Fothergill,
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th MAY 2020** – The Chairman invited any amendments or comments to the minutes. Mrs Vaughan proposed these were a true record of the meeting, seconded by Mr Cable which was carried.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** –The Chairman declared an interest in items 12 & 13, Mr Dennis in item 12, Mr Jeanes in item 13 and Mr Wilkins in item 9.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – None received by email or phone prior to the meeting.
5. **MATTERS ARISING:**
Policing matters – Mr Dennis reported a spate of break-ins locally, note to be put in the village newsletter. .
Dog fouling warning signs at Horsecroft Lane – Cllr. Stone had put a notice up in the lane and has also received some requests from parishioners for more signs to be put up.
County Cllr. Report – Cllr. Fothergill sent his apologies, however, the Clerk has been sending updates as they are received and updates on SCC business can be viewed on the website.
6. **APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT BY NORTH CURRY PARISH COUNCIL**
24/20/0018 - Variation of Condition No. 02 (approved plans), removal of Condition No's. 3, 4, 6, 7 and 12, variation of Condition No's. 5, 8, 9, 10 11 and 13 of application 24/16/0042 for residential development on land south of Knapp Lane, North Curry. Mr Turner explained why this had come forward and proposed we support the application, seconded by the Chairman and carried. Mr Turner will respond to the planning department.
7. **TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE SUBSCRIPTION FOR CLERKS AND COUNCILS DIRECT (£12.00)** – The Chairman explained this is an annual subscription for the Clerk and proposed this continue, seconded by Mr Jeanes which was carried.
8. **CONSIDER AND APPROVE TRANSFER AGREEMENT OF LOCKYER'S FIELD ALLOTMENTS- 8. TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE ADOPTION OF THE LOSCOMBE FOOTPATH.** The Chairman explained all the paperwork had been completed and received from Mr Tim Walker ready for the Chairman's signature. Helen De Silva has requested we pay her legal costs for the transfer approximately £500. After much discussion it was proposed by Mrs Leader that we put things on hold and request Strongvox to meet this payment due to being part of the planning agreement, which should have been passed to them. Mrs Griffiths seconded this which was carried.
9. **TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER PAYMENT FOR FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE AT LOSCOMBE MEADOW** – Following last month's meeting; Cllr. Stone had requested and received quotes for the maintenance of the footpath. Two quotes were received from J Attwood (£350.00) and R Perry. Cllr. Stone proposed we accept the cheapest quote of £195 from R Perry; this was seconded by Mr Jeanes which was carried. Mr Jeanes raised the request made to the Parish Council that the cost of the maintenance cost for the past year be reimbursed to the management committee; the Chairman proposed we should not pay these costs, seconded by Mrs Leader which was carried.

- 10. TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW CLERK** - The Chairman began by thanking Mr Jeanes for all the work and time he put into this. We had 27 applicants; many were from the jobsite Indeed and were not suitable. The Chairman, Mr Jeanes, Mr Turner and Mr Dennis being the agreed interview panel selected four candidates to interview and held these via Zoom on Friday 5th and Monday 8th June. After much consideration, it was decided that (subject to references) the post be offered to Mrs Maria Perry. The Chairman proposed that subject to the references being in order we employ Mrs Perry, this was seconded by Mr Jeanes, which was carried. Mr Jeanes offered to contact Mrs Perry and agree a starting date once the references in order. The Chairman had been notified by the current Clerk that all applicants through Indeed are automatically informed they have been unsuccessful after an agreed date, and that those selected for interview that were unsuccessful be contacted by her.
- 11. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE COMMENTS REGARDING THE CYCLING AND WALKING MANIFESTO FOR SOMERSET** – Mr Jeanes had requested this be an agenda item and gave a detailed account of the manifesto. After some discussion, Mr Jeanes proposed the Parish Council give their support to the manifesto, seconded by Cllr. Stone and carried. Mr Jeanes will respond on behalf of the PC.
- 12. CORRESPONDENCE** – Most correspondence is related to Covid-19 and has already been forwarded to all Councillors.
- There were 4 emails from Cllr. Stone regarding footpaths;
- a). **Footpath at New Bridge** - Cllr. Stone explained the reasons, along with photographs, as to why he needed to request the Environment Agency to open up a short section of the bridge in order to replace the one in the garden which floods and the permissive route through the field is currently blocked at this time by the sheep.
- b). **Footpath near the Orchid Field** - Cllr. Stone provided maps showing his proposals and gave a full explanation. SCC to supply the Marlow pedestrian gates and we have already agreed the kissing gates. The Chairman proposed we support these works seconded by Mrs Leader which was carried.
- c). **Rodwell Lane clearance** - Cllr. Stone explained the works needed here and it was agreed to put this as an item on next month's agenda.
- d) **Footpath at Haymoor End** - Cllr. Stone explained the problem and the remedial works needed. He has obtained quotes, one for £250 per cut twice a year = £500 and one for £100 for both cuts. He proposed we accept Mr A Hooper's quote at £100 seconded by Mr Turner which was carried. Cllr. Stone to contact them both.
- Email from T Green. Pond at Helland** - All Cllrs were sent a copy of the correspondence prior to the meeting. As a prospective purchaser, Mr Green requested attending a PC meeting to discuss his plans regarding enlarging the pond and setting up a fishery business. The committee agreed to reply saying we do not get involved in preplanning, however, if and when the planning application comes to the PC for comment he will be welcome to attend the meeting and address the Cllrs. Mr Turner agreed to send the response to Mr Green.
- Allotment complaint** - The Chairman had been contacted by an allotment holder with concern that one allotment may be being used for bonfires by another without that allotment holder's permission. Clerk to check with the allotment holder if he is aware it is going on.
- Email from Mr. Wakefield. regarding the footpath at Nythe Farm, and the installation of the Shepard's Hut** - Mr Dennis left the meeting to allow open discussion. Cllr. Stone has visited and has agreed some modifications to the footpath. Photos before and after adjustments carried out were provided by Mr Dennis prior to the meeting.
- Mr Wakefield also raised the positioning of the Shepherds Hut which he felt had been not been erected as per the planning permission, with the addition of some decking etc. As is the PC general practice of a complaint regarding planning, the Planning Enforcement Officer will be contacted. Mr Turner agreed to arrange a visit to see if there is something that needs to be addressed. The Chairman to reply to Mr Wakefield.
- Road Closure** - Willey Road, Stoke St Gregory 17th June 1 day – BT cable works.

16. **FINANCE** – The Monthly Account was circulated to all Councillors, Mr Jeanes proposed the accounts be accepted, seconded by the Chairman and carried. The payment list has also been sent to Councillors by email, Cllr. Stone proposed the payment list be accepted, seconded by Mrs Vaughan which was carried.

CHEQUE NO:	PAYEE	AMOUNT
BACS	Grass cutting	30.00
BACS	Inkcredible (Stationary)	32.31
DD	Clerks and Councils Direct	12.00
BACS	B. Jeanes	14.39
DD	SALC	114.00
BACS	Mrs C Stodgell	256.00

17. **COMMITTEE / DELEGATE REPORTS-**

Footpaths – Cllr. Stone had already covered the footpaths in the meeting.

Playing Fields – Mr Turner reported that the Playing Fields are still closed due to Covid-19. Mrs Leader reported the tapes had been taken down and the equipment was being used; Mr Turner to follow up. Mr Turner also reported the fence replacement was on hold until lockdown is over.

Village Hall – Nothing to report

Tree Warden – Cllr. Stone reported most of the dead elms on Windmill Hill had been removed except the largest one.

Allotments – Nothing to report outside of correspondence.

Stable – Mr Jeanes reported the repair works covered by the insurance is completed and the toilet repair, not covered by the insurance is in the process of being replaced. Angela Few hairdresser is hoping to reopen soon conforming to regulations.

Flood Warden – Mrs Vaughan reported that the flood gate on Moor Lane had still not been repaired.

White Street – Cllr. Stone reported the pitches are still being mown and the junior cricket teams are beginning to restart practice.

Wildlife Group – Cllr. Stone reported he had recently given tours of the woodland to several groups and one from Transition Wellington are hoping to develop a similar, but larger area near the former Fox's factory at Tone Dale.

SALC: - Nothing to report.

Speed Watch - No action at present, Mr Meeham is in talks to provide extra survey spots in the village

Speed Policy Group –Cllr. Stone had nothing to report although a discussion on the 20 is plenty reference the recent online comments on social media site 'Next Door' took place. A discussion about the finance for road signs etc. for the new proposed 20 limit took place after referring back to previous minutes it was ascertained in principle the Council had agreed to finance the works. The Chairman had a telephone call from Whitewell Cottage in Moor lane asking about extending the 30mph speed limit there, and able to reply it was part the discussions

18. **PUBLICITY** –no Speed watch sessions, break-ins, footpaths at Knapp, best wishes to Clerk.

19. **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION-** Mr Jeanes reported that during interviews for the new Clerk it had been asked if we had a policy for lone workers. This is something we must look into. There are SALC training days for Clerks 16th & June. re Meetings Agendas and minutes Agreed to ask Maria if she could attend.

Mrs Leader asked if we could investigate providing an electric point for bicycles. The Chairman suggested we look into it when the charging points for cars is on the agenda

Mrs Vaughan asked if road markings could be held back if 20 mph signs are imminent and the lines at the junction by the War Memorial are still not re done. Chairman will contact Cllr Fothergill.

Recommended by Mr Jeanes it was agreed to transfer £5000.00 from the Coop deposit account to the Cambridge & Counties account

There being no comments via email, the meeting closed 9.30pm