

**Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held via Zoom on
Wednesday 09th December 2020**

Present or comments received: Mrs C Stodgell (Chairman), Mr A Turner, Mr B Jeanes, Mr G Cable, Mrs H Griffiths, Mrs J Leader, Mrs C Vaughan, Mr M Dennis, Ms C Smith, Cllr. P Stone, Cllr. D Fothergill. 8 Members of the public.

The Chairman invited members of the public to speak: She introduced Mr Cullwick who is moving to the village. He explained he has been a Parish Clerk for the last 14 years and has qualified and is currently the Clerk to Brent Knoll Parish. He offered to assist the Parish Council with administration and finance if needed. The Chairman thanked Mr Cullwick.

1. PRELIMINARIES

To receive and approve apologies for absence. Mr M Wilkins and Ms E Turney

Approve and sign minutes for the previous meeting dated: 11th November 2020. The Chairman invited any amendments or comments to the minutes. Mr Jeanes highlighted on page 1966 item 10 on the Agenda, Manor Farm should be corrected to Manor Field. Mr Jeanes proposed these were a true record of the meeting, seconded by Mrs H Griffiths, which was carried.

Declarations of interest: (Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary interests they have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct): NONE

2. Matters Arising:

Policing Matters – Tony Wearmouth PSCO was contacted and informed regarding an incident where a parishioner reported suspicious strangers taking pictures of properties in Queens Square on several occasions. No reply to date.

Parking on Greenway and by the school – The Parish Council had contacted the headmistress of North Curry School regarding the issue of parking at busy drop off and pick up times. Mrs Morley replied clarifying their plans to improve the situation. Regarding the parking in the village it was suggested it had improved slightly but there still appears to be some illegal parking in Greenway. Mr M Dennis proposed to request that Traffic Wardens should monitor parking around the village, this was seconded by Mr Jeanes, which was carried. Cllr. Fothergill to arrange the Traffic Wardens should patrol the village.

Finger Sign Posts – The Clerk followed up a recommendation to find a company for quotes for maintenance work on the Finger Sign Posts within the Parish and awaits a reply.

General Bins – Cllr. P Stone is continuing to clarify with SW&T how often and who empties general waste bins within the village. It was reported that the residents of Lockyer's field were contacting the Parish Council regarding their dog bin.

Christmas Celebrations – The Parish Council are delighted Parishioners are enjoying and getting into the spirit of Christmas with lots of Christmas Lights and Decorated windows. The Clerk to place a thank you to all in the Pink Sheet. In the Coffee Shop the sale of Christmas Crafts are doing well.

Update on 20mph – Cllr. D. Fothergill gave an update on the 20mph Scheme, the procedures are all in place and pending any objections. It was reported that the 20mph signs at Lockyer's Field were being taken down the Parish Council requested Cllr. Fothergill if he could confirm the reason for this is part of the new 20mph scheme.

Re Stable Rent Relief, grant available – This will be covered in Item 10 of the Agenda.

Eucalyptus Trees Haymoor – The Parish Council are currently awaiting replies of Letters see corr. B6980 & B6981 sent to the Forestry Commission.

Twinning Les Vexin Villages – Mr C Trim who is currently moving back to the village is happy to take lead of the Twinning Association. Subject to his consent, a notice to be put in the

Pink Sheet with his contact details inviting anyone interested in joining the Twinning Association.

Facebook – agreed that Facebook should be added to the Committee/Delegate Reports.

County Cllr. Report – weekly updates being forwarded by email.

3. Planning Applications for comment by North Curry Parish Council:

24/20/0050 Change of use of stable to storage building on land at Newport Hill, North

Curry. Mr Turner explained the application. The location and entrance to the field of the stable is considered dangerous and unsuitable for frequent use. This barn being a previous successful application had been objected to by the Parish Council but granted for private use only. Mr Turner proposed the Parish Council object to the application on the grounds that it is the wrong location for Commercial use, with possible increase of traffic entering and leaving the property this was seconded by Mrs C Vaughan, which was carried.

24/20/0035 Erection of single storey extension to the west elevations of Lillesdon Barn, Lillesdon Lane, North Curry. Appeal Application. Letter of notification of an appeal had been submitted.

24/20/0036/LB Erection of a single storey extension the west elevations of Lillesdon Barn, Lillesdon Lane, North Curry. Mr Turner explained that this application relates to application 24/20/0035 and covers the Listed Building aspect for the application. Mr Turner proposed to support the application provided the Listed Building Officer has no objections, this was seconded by Mrs C Stodgell and was carried.

24/18/0039 Stables Borough Post North Curry – Mr Turner explained that we had received letters from the residents of Backham Cottages regarding this planning application which appears to not comply with the planning conditions. A 6ft high fence and 2m double steel gate has been erected at the entrance of the field behind Backham Cottages. The planning permission states stock proof Fencing and a normal field gate. After discussion Mr Turner proposed to send SW&T planning a letter highlighting this matter, it was seconded by the Chairman and was carried.

4. To further discuss the Somerset Climate Emergency Fund Grant in relation to Electric Car Charging Points and collaborating with other parishes.

Mr Jeanes explained the Electric Charging Point proposal that he distributed prior to the meeting which included in-depth details of the charging points and quotations. He explained that he is still waiting quotation from other companies. He explained the collaboration with Stoke St Gregory Parish Council to apply for the Somerset Climate Emergency Fund Grant together which still had to be agreed at the next Stoke St Gregory Parish Council Meeting. Mr Jeanes proposed to go ahead with or without the involvement of Stoke St Gregory Parish Council this was seconded by Cllr. P. Stone and was carried. The Chairman thanked Mr Jeanes for his input.

5. To further discuss Super speed Broadband within the Parish.

Mr Cable explained that no great progress had been made in investigating the Super speed Broadband. He had been in contact with Connecting Devon and Somerset group as advised by Cllr. D Fothergill. He is in the progress of obtaining a document that maps out the use of broadband in North Curry and suggested that we wait for the document to discuss it further at the next Parish Council meeting.

6. To further discuss dog bin at 9 Acre Lane.

The Chairman explained that Mr Wilkins had found a suitable position in 9 Acre lane to install the dog bin. He suggested beyond the entrance of the lane at the Greenway end, on the left hand side, by the hedge that backs on to the Health Centre. The Chairman asked for volunteers to move the bin from Portmans. Cllr. P. Stone advised that he would investigate the work required first to establish if we would need the work to be completed by specialist contractors. Mr Dennis and Mr Cable

offered help if it was required It was noted that once the bin had been moved SW&T would need to be informed. The Clerk to arrange.

- 7. To further discuss and consider the Limes Trees on Church Road.** The Chairman explained that Cllr. P Stone had been in talks with some of the residents on Church Road regarding the root query with the Lime Trees affecting properties. Cllr. P Stone suggested that the next thing would be to establish what is happening under the ground and for both parties to query cover with insurance companies as well as establishing ownership of the pavement. The Parish Council to contact Highways Somerset County Council to confirm ownership. This to be an item for January's Parish Council meeting.
- 8. To discuss interest of forming a Youth Club in the Parish** –The Chairman explained there had been no replies or interest. It was agreed that should anyone come forward in the future the Parish Council were still interested in helping. Cllr. Fothergill suggested in the future to contact Somerset Community Foundation as they have a Somerset Fund for Community Groups and will help financially.
- 9. Finance: Monthly Bank Report and Payment List:** Mr Jeanes presented the Financial Report and proposed that it was a true record, this was seconded by Ms C Smith and was carried. **Payment List:** Mr Jeanes read out the payment list (see below) and explained the Clerks salary was higher this month due to back pay regarding a pay increase in April 2020 and additional hours. Mr Jeanes proposed to approve the payment list, this was seconded by the Chairman, which was carried.

Monthly Payment List - December	Cheque No.	Total
Clerk-Maria Perry - December Inc. back pay & additional hours	BACS	1024.54
PlusNet (bill not issued as yet)	DD	20.00
Service Charge	SO	165.00
IONOS monthly Hi Drive Storage fee	DD	1.20
Zoom pmt to Maria Perry December	S/O	14.39
Viking Inv 430925 stationery	BACS	36.79
NC Stable Charge - Gas 27/02-27/05	BACS	17.49
Richard Perry - cutting of Nine Acre Lane	BACS	100.00
NC Stable Charge - Elec 02/08-30/11	BACS	46.56
NC Stable Charge - Gas 28/05-30/11	BACS	6.19
Town & Parish Council Website hosting Annual Fee 01/12-01/12/21	BACS	260.00
The Festive Lighting Co - Lights	BACS	121.20

- 10. To discuss Business Grants Available from SW&T.** Mr Jeanes informed the Parish Council of notification of further Business Grants available. He explained the grant available was £1,334. After discussion Cllr. P. Stone proposed to apply for the grant, 7 votes, which was seconded by Mr Turner and carried. The Clerk to apply for the grant.

- 11. Correspondence.** Items A6973-A6979 & B6980-B6981 covered above.

B 6982 Email - re Census 2021 – pending

B 6983 Road Closure - West Hatch Lane, West Hatch to commence 21st Dec for 3 days works by BT Openreach

- B 6984 Road Closure - Top Road, Curry Mallet to commence 4th Jan 2021 for 21 days works to supply water to field
- B 6985 Road Closure - Listock Lane, North Curry to commence 22nd Dec 2020 for 6hrs works by BT Openreach
- B 6986 Road Closure - Ham Road, Ruishton on 9th Dec 2020 for 7 days works by BT Openreach
- B 6987 Road Closure - Bushy Cross Lane, Ruishton 17th Dec 2020 for 1 day works by Wessex Water

12. Committee /Delegate reports:

Footpaths (PS) – Cllr. Stone reported a dead Elm Tree had fallen on Rodwell Lane and this had been cleared. He advised that one of the planks had fallen off of Bills Seat, Mr Dennis kindly volunteered to fix it.

Playing Fields (AT) – The Playing Field and Pavilion are open again and have applied for the SW&T Business Grant.

Village Hall (LT) – Mr David Cruikshank is the new Chairman. The committee are asking for new members to join the committee particularly delegates from the organisations who hire the village hall.

Tree Warden (PS) – Cllr. Stone explained he was called up to Borough Post regarding a Horse Chestnut tree which had been cut down but in fact was part of the planning permission. It was reported a tree had been cut down at Highcroft House. Cllr. Stone to investigate.

Allotments (JL) – None.

Stable (BJ) – None.

Flood Warden (CV) – Mrs Vaughan reported the Flood Gate on New Road has still not been fixed. Cllr D Fothergill informed the Parish Council that Highways have taken a look and a new gate is required and put on order.

White St. (PS) – Junior Football has restarted and the White Street Chairman is looking at improvements needed around the grounds.

Wildlife Group (PS) – Four Owl boxes have been made to install.

Speedwatch (AM) – Request from Mr Meehan asking for Speeding Devices will be on the Agenda for next month to discuss.

Speed Policy Group (PS) – None.

Road Safety (IF) - None.

Facebook (MW) - In the past month the number of page 'Likes' has increased by 40 for a total of **144**, the number of page 'Followers' has increased by 43 for a total of **179**. There have been 1351 people reached by the page and 752 engagements. We made 21 posts in all with by far the most popular being the 'Bogus Callers' post, which reached over 1000 people. It is proving to be a good extra communication tool for the Parish.

- 13. Publicity Inputs.** Primary School Applications deadline 15th January 2021. Twinning to inform parishioners Mr C Trim will take lead and ask for volunteers to join him. General Parking re Greenway, School and around the village. Winter-De-icing 20kg bags of de-icing material available Mr Jeanes can deliver, Happy New Year to ALL, Thank you for part taking in the Christmas spirit with lights and window displays.

- 14. Matters for Discussion.** A discussion took place to improve the Parishioners access to the Pink Sheet, as it is not being delivered at present due to COVID. A suggestion that it could be laminated and put on notice boards around the village or put up in the Post Office or Surgery as a notice. It was agreed to contact the Pink Sheet with the suggestion. It was reported that the Clerk required emails to be synced to the Parish laptop and telephone. A new office package was required. A suggestion of looking at WPS as a free office package was made.

There being no further matters to discuss, the meeting was closed at 21.43pm.

Maria Perry Clerk to North Curry Parish Council.