

Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th May 2022 at North Curry Village Hall (Meeting Room)

Present or comments received: Mrs C Stodgell (Chairman) Mr P Stone (Vice Chairman), Mr M Dennis, Mr B Jeanes, Mrs J Leader, Mrs H Griffiths, Mr I Fugett, Mr A Turner, Ms C Smith, Mr P Deacon, Mr A Hardwick, Cllr David Fothergill (County Councillor), Cllr Sue Buller (District Councillor).

Maria Perry (Clerk) and 6 Members of the public

The Chairman explained we had omitted to add The Queens Jubilee Celebrations to the Agenda and will discuss this as item 3a on the Agenda.

1. PRELIMINARIES

To receive and approve apologies for absence. Mr G Cable and Mr M Wilkins.

Approve and sign minutes for the previous meeting dated: 13th April 2022. Mr Jeanes highlighted a spelling mistake on page 2032 plague should read plaque. Ms C Smith highlighted she was listed under attending the meeting when apologies were sent. The Chairman corrected the minutes Mr I Fugett proposed the minutes were a true record of the meeting this was seconded by Mr B Jeanes 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: Mr M Dennis made the Council aware of the attack on Mr C Pine while he was working in a field in Creech St Michael, Cllr Buller reported unfortunately there has been a lot of anti-social behaviour in Creech St Michael which is being kept an eye on.

Flooding Matters: No Flooding matters to report. Mr P Stone reported they have started work on the river again and Mr I Fugett reported they have widened the hedge and filled in the ditch with hard-core and no pipes. Mr P Stone to look in to it and write a letter if required.

Trees Church Road: Mr P Stone reported we are having works done on three of the Lime Trees in Church Road and removing the mistletoe. He explained Mrs J Ryan is still expressing concerns about her door and confirms he had investigated this and there are no roots going towards the house. He has replied to her email.

Update on Annual Parish Council meeting: The Chairman explained the meeting went well and disappointed in comments regarding the website, this should be an Agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting and was please to assure Parishioners we had already started a programme on the Greenway allotments to tidy them up and remove the sheds, when they expressed their concerns.

Update on SIDS: The Chairman confirmed the SIDS are on order and Mr P Stone confirmed the posts were also on order and these will be fitted by Somerset West & Taunton Council. Mr Stone explained we need to employ a trained person to install the SIDS, the Chairman reminded Mr Stone that 3 quotes were required.

Update on Oxen Lane Bus Shelter: It was confirmed that work had started on the ground work for the Bus Shelter to be installed. The Chairman asked the Clerk to find out when the work will be completed in order to arrange the installation of the shelter itself.

Update on tractor activity throughout the village: None.

County Cllr. Report – weekly updates being forwarded by email

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

24/21/0014 Erection of 1 No dwelling and garage on land north of the Warren, now known as The Wilderness, Stoke Road, North Curry (amended scheme to 24/18/0036). Mr M Taylor the applicant was present at the meeting. Mr A Turner explained the application and that we had discussed this application last year and is still ongoing. He explained this is a revision of the current application reducing the size of the overall building by 20% and the position of the building. After much discussion Mr A Turner proposed that North Curry Parish Council supports the application, the Parish Council are pleased to see the revision and hope the development proceeds soon, this was seconded by Mrs J Leader and carried. 6 for, 3 against, 1 abstained.

Cllr D Fothergill and Cllr S Buller and Mrs R Hill left the meeting 9pm.

3a) Jubilee Celebrations update: Mr M Dennis reported on the organisation of the two events the Beacon Party and Picnic at the Playing Fields Pavilion. The alcohol license has been applied for, the Beacon Party poles are up for the Marquee, risk assessments are done for both events, and adverts are out, to put up on next door, Website, Facebook and posters are starting to go up around the Parish.

4. **To discuss Footpaths updates and any queries, consider purchase of seat for Loscombe Meadows footpath** – (Cllr. P Stone, Public path Liaison Officer) Corr: A7280 & A7281 Mr P Stone explained a local resident regularly walked the Loscombe Meadow footpath has mobility issues, he requested if a seat could be installed, however, we had been alerted by Mrs H De Silva a piece of wood had been fixed on the entrance of 9 Acres Lane to Loscombe Meadows to her fence and this to her resembled a stile, we believe it was put there for a temporary seat. Mr P Stone suggested to purchase a new seat which could be positioned along the lane closer to Loscombe Meadow. After discussion it was agreed for Mr P stone to come back with more samples of durable seats. The Chairman proposed for the monies to come from the footpath funds 50% and CIL money 50% and decide on the purchase of the seat and costs at the next meeting, this was seconded by Mr I Fugett, which was carried.

5. **Allotments.**

1) To discuss clearing/tidying of Greenway Allotments. The Chairman explained at the APM meeting allotment holders were complaining about the sheds and untidiness of the allotments, a skip was suggested. After discussion, the Chairman proposed, in principal, we write to the allotment holders to inform them the sheds will be knocked down and once the sheds are removed the skip will be there for a week for non-vegetation rubbish to be discarded from around the allotments, this was seconded by Mrs J Leader, which was carried 1 abstained. It was agreed that Mrs J Leader should talk to Mr J Boddy to speak to allotment holders about the proposal. Mr B Jeanes reported the grass was very long around the communal areas.

2) To discuss Loscombe Meadows Allotment dip tanks. Mr Jeanes requested to take this to the next meeting as prices need to be obtained, all agreed.

6. **To discuss and agree village grass cutting tender.** The Chairman explained we have received one tender of £70 per cut and one at £85 per cut. After discussion the Chairman proposed to offer Josh Williams a 1 year contract until the end of March 2023, this was seconded by Mrs H Griffiths, which was carried.

7. **Electric Vehicle Charger update.** The Chairman explained Mr Jeanes has sent his report to All Councillors prior to the meeting giving examples of price comparisons for installation and running costs of two Electric Vehicle Chargers. Mr Jeanes went through his report in great detail and after discussion it was agreed a package deal was more viable. He asked the council from the information given if we wanted to go ahead with the project monies to cover the cost possibly coming from Light Source/Facilities Fund. Mr A Turner proposed that we get a detailed quote before we go ahead with it, this was seconded by Mr P Stone, which was carried. 2 against.

8. **Finance:**

Payment List:

Monthly Payment List - MAY 2022	Cheque No.	Total	VAT
Clerk-Maria Perry - May 2022	BACS	647.28	0.00
Plusnet (bill not issued as yet)	DD	20.00	0.00
Service Charge	SO	115.25	0.00
IONOS monthly Hi Drive Storage fee	DD	3.00	0.60
Jubilee Flag - reimburse to Clerk MP	BACS	15.39	3.08
MyWheelieBin.com 40pmh signs - reimburse to clerk MP	BACS	15.99	0.00
North Curry V.Hall - Hire 13/04 27/04 Inv3677	BACS	28.44	0.00

- a) **To approve Town Farm Stable Budget:** To be approved at the next Parish Council meeting in June 2022
- b) **To approve the final end of year accounts for the period ended 31st March 2022:** Mr B Jeanes explained the final year accounts for the period ended 31st March 2022 had been sent to ALL councillors, Mr Jeanes proposed to approve the accounts, this was seconded by Mr A Turner, which was carried. 1 abstained.
- c) **To approve and sign the Annual governance statement 2021/22 in section 1 of the Annual Return for the year to 31st March 2022.** Mr Jeanes explained a copy of the completed form had been sent to ALL, which consisted of questions, these should all be ticked as yes, he highlighted one box 7 was ticked as no due to the quarterly reconciliation checks not being carried out and confirmed we would have to send

an explanation to this. Mr B Jeanes proposed to approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement, this was seconded by Mr A Turner, which was carried, and 2 abstained.

- d) **To approve the accounting statements 2021/22 in section 2 of the Annual Return for the year to 31st March 2022:** Mr B Jeanes explained the previous accounting statement sent had an error in Box 8 which had been updated on the copy to be signed. Mr B Jeanes proposed we approve and sign the accounting statements 2021/22, this was seconded by Mr A Turner, which was carried. 2 abstained.
- e) **Annual Audit:** Mr Jeanes explained Mr O Cullwick will carry out our internal audit he will sign the internal audit form and the return will then be sent to PJF Littlejohn, external auditors.
- f) **Monthly Account:** The Clerk reported the Monthly Bank report Mr B Jeanes proposed this was a true record this was seconded by Mr A Turner, which was carried.
- g) **Payment list:** Read out after the Clerks salary.
- h) **Finance Panel meeting :** To be approved at the next Parish Council meeting in June 2022
- i) **To reaffirm the revised Financial Regulations:** To be approved at the next Parish Council meeting in June 2022
- j) **To reaffirm the revised Risk Assessment Schedule:** To be approved at the next Parish Council meeting in June 2022
- k) **To approve Clerk's salary:** Mr Jeanes explained the Clerks salary was discussed and agreed at the FAP meeting held 27th April 2022. He explained NALC had notified us of a pay increase for 2021-22. Therefore, the pay needed to be back dated as 13 months behind. The increase gives the Clerk an extra 0.19p per hour which has been calculated to add to this month's Salary. It was also agreed to put the Clerk up one salary scale with effect from 1st April 2022 increasing the hourly rate to £10.84. He also explained it was agreed to increase the monthly hours from 62 to 72 hours per month Mr Jeanes proposed to increase the Clerk salary to the pay scale mentioned above and to increase the monthly hours from 62 to 72, this was seconded by Mr A Turner, which was carried. Mr Jeanes explained the total pay for processing this month including all back pay, overtime and pay increases is £1,038.01. The Clerk read out the monthly Payment list which included the increase to the Clerks Salary, the Chairman proposed to approve all payments, which was seconded by Ms C Smith, which was carried.
- l) **To consider the addition of any end of year surpluses to the Facilities Development Fund to rebuild reserves:** To be approved at the next Parish Council meeting in June 2022
- m) **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) update:** To be approved at the next Parish Council meeting in June 2022

9. **Correspondence.** The Chairman has received a letter regarding Mr O Cullwick's qualifications etc., from Mr a Meehan asking for it to be read out at the Parish Council meeting. This was forwarded to all Councillors on receipt and placed in correspondence. Prior to this in readiness for the AGM, the council had received the applications from Mr Cullwick and the other 3 applicants for the 2 vacancies on the Council. These were forwarded to the existing Councillors to study. Corr: B7286 the Chairman highlighted this article regarding BT landlines are being removed from 2025 and replaced by a new digital phone requiring access to the internet. Mr P Stone asked if the school monthly Newsletter can be circulated to all, the Chairman explained this can be accessed via the School website. Mr P Stone requested if we could review correspondence sent the chairman agreed to place it as an item on the Agenda for next month.

10. **Committee /Delegate reports – (Please send written reports prior to the meeting and these will be included on the minutes.)**

Footpaths (PS): Mr P Stone explained he is trying to find the owner of the gates at Widness Drove. The footpath the County Council cut the green lanes ask if Mr P Stone could I make sure they are all clear. He explained that he had not looked into the replace of the map in the bus shelter and asked Mr P Deacon if he could help with replacing it. Mr Deacon agreed.

Village Hall (BJ): Mr B Jeanes explained the energy survey report has still not been forwarded.

Stable (BJ): Mr B Jeanes asked if anyone knew of a carpenter to look at the fire doors, Mr Deacon said he knew someone who may be able to help.

Wildlife Group (PS): Mr P Stone explained they are reviewing the whole structure and environmental things at present.

- 11. Publicity Inputs:** Welcome to the new council in the Pink Sheet, the Queens Jubilee events on Facebook and a thank you to Parishioners who attended the Annual Parish meeting and to express it would be nice to see a few more Parishioners at the next year's meeting.
- 12. Matters for Discussion:** The Chairman asked if we could we look in to binding of the minutes and see how it has been done in the past. The Clerk to investigate with the County Archives. Mr B Jeanes suggested a gift for Mr R Lander, all agreed. Mr B Jeanes proposed we spend £75, this was seconded by the Chairman. It was discussed to ask him to attend a Parish Council meeting to receive our thanks and the gift. Mr A Hardwick thanked the Council for voting for him and he was looking forward to getting involved. Mr I Fugett ask if we can make the APM more interesting and discuss this as an Agenda item.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 10.35pm.