

NORTH CURRY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the North Curry Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 12th April 2023 at North Curry Village Hall Meeting Room.

Present or comments received: Mrs Tina Stodgell (Chairman), Mr Tony Turner, Mr Paul Deacon, Mr Adam Hardwick, Mr Brian Jeanes, Mrs Jeanne Leader, Mr Graham Cable, Mr Mike Dennis. Unitary Cllr Fothergill. Three members of the public were present.

1) Preliminaries:

To receive and approve apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Mrs Griffiths, Mr Fugett, Ms Smith, Mr Wilkins, and Mr Stone.

Approve and sign minutes for the previous meeting dated: 8th March 2023: Mr Deacon proposed that the minutes were a true record, Mr Cable seconded, and all were in favour bar two abstentions due to absence.

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

2) Matters Arising:

Policing matters: None.

Update on defibrillator for the Village Hall: Electrical supply is now done, just waiting on delivery and installation of the AED. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Parish Council and SWAST has been signed.

Update on Wrantage SIDs: Locations have been agreed with local residents, just waiting for a meeting with Highways at the end of the month to agree so equipment can be ordered. Mr Deacon asked if there would be any enthusiasm for trying to get the 40mph section of Wrantage reduced to 30mph; the Chairman explained the history of speeding and initiatives in this area. Mr Deacon proposed putting the SIDs where the 30mph limit could be; one at Barcroft Crescent, and the other between Croft Cottages and the Newport turning to North Curry, then use the data to petition for a 30mph limit. Everyone agreed on this plan.

Update on footpath map: The map is now up in the bus shelter; Mr Deacon asked for suggestions for locations for the remaining maps. Suggestions were the Village Hall, The Mill in Wrantage, and the village pub. These will be investigated.

Update on flooding on Broad Lane: Cllr Fothergill has written to the owner of the field but has not had a response yet. He has also asked for a review of the flood gate management system before they are next needed and has asked that the Parish Council are involved in the discussion.

Update on allotment fencing: Contractors started work yesterday and should be finished within the next few days. The fallen tree at Loscombe Meadow has now been cleared as well.

Update on Greenway Playing fields lease: The committee are working on the documents which are not finished yet. Mr Jeanes reported that the Village Hall would be interested in joining a discussion on how they could work together. A liaison will happen with relevant committees to see if this can take place.

Update on Queen Square line markings: The Clerk has emailed Highways; someone will come and inspect the area around the end of this month or beginning of next month. They then have up to 3 months to install the lines, so will be completed by end of July latest but hopefully sooner.

Update on car parking at Cricket Cottages: The Clerk will ask the PCSOs again; it is becoming more of a problem with people assuming it is alright to park like that. A member of the public was present for the discussion and will also report to the PCSOs. Cllr Fothergill will investigate who owns the car park to see if they can help.

Update on a possible tree planting initiative within the Parish: This will be discussed next month when Mr Stone is back.

Unitary Cllr. Report: weekly update being forwarded by email.

3) King Charles III Coronation:

a. Coronation mugs: The mugs have been ordered; most payments have been received but still waiting on a few. The Clerk will put a note in the pink sheet that spare mugs have been ordered if anyone would like one still.

b. Consider plaques for Commemorative trees: The oak trees have now been planted; the memorial tree for the late Queen is in Longs Field, and the Coronation commemoration tree for the King is in Loscombe

Meadow. It has been suggested that small metal plaques be installed stating what each tree commemorates. Mrs Leader will look for wording ideas and sizing, and the Clerk will price up some options. Both will discuss with Mr Stone. On the note of plaques Mr Jeanes shared that Mr Varley has the stone for the Jubilee plaque for the stable and will start work soon.

- c. **Celebration events:** To follow Royal guidance the Coronation Big Lunch will be on Sunday 7th May starting at 12pm on the playing field. The Pavilion is reserved and will be open for toilet facilities. Some parishioners will be asked about possibly performing at the event. Mr Turner will be there to sort out parking. People are to bring picnics, tables, and chairs. No BBQs or dogs will be allowed. The Chairman will be on hand some of the time at the Pavillion. Various other street parts are being organised. Mrs Leader will discuss hanging the commemorative quilt with the Church.
- 4) **To discuss traffic problems on Windmill Hill:** A letter has already been circulated by the resident to explain the issue. The resident was present to explain that he has noticed his makeshift barricade has worked very well as a traffic calming measure, encouraging vehicles to slow down before hitting the 20mph zone, as well as making it safer to exit Horsecroft Lane and use the school crossing. Highways has been involved in a discussion on how to make this a more permanent solution, suggesting possibly creating a 'build out' to create a chicane. Priority signs and possible street lighting methods were discussed. Mr Turner proposed to support the Unitary Authority investigating the issue and coming back to the Parish Council with a solution; Mr Hardwick seconded, and all were in favour.
- 5) **To discuss and agree appointment of Internal Auditor for 2022-23:** Thanks were given to Owen Cullwick who kindly did the audit last year; he is an experienced and competent Clerk and did a great job last year. He has offered to do it again this year and has suggested the 27th of April. Mr Jeanes proposed to go ahead with appointing Mr Cullwick again this year; Mrs Leader seconded, and all were in favour.
- 6) **Finance:**
- a. **To consider Provisional Accounts 2022-2023:** Mr Jeanes presented this first draft, explaining that some areas need to be updated. Payments to the Playing Field and White Street for grass cutting don't seem to have been paid this financial year; Mr Jeanes will double check. The provisional accounts draft will be considered at finance meeting end of month before final Parish Council approval to go to audit.
- b. **Monthly accounts:** The Clerk presented the monthly accounts. The Chairman proposed the accounts to be a true record, Mr Dennis seconded, and all were in favour.
- c. **Payment list:** The Clerk presented the payment list; the Chairman proposed to proceed with the payments, Mr Dennis seconded, and all were in favour. The Clerk will check when the Toddler Group room hire grant is due to end.

Monthly Payment List - April 2023	Cheque/ BACS/DD	Net	VAT
B&Q Roofing Felt (Lillesdon Bus Shelter) Refund to Phil	BACS	£26.00	PAID
Josh Williams grass cutting (Inv: 40)	BACS	£75.00	
SW&T 4th quarter dog bins (Inv: 64097530)	BACS	£346.32	£69.26
Stable utilities (Inv: 8)	BACS	£187.59	
NCVH- Toddler Group (Inv: 3942)	BACS	£40.96	
NCVH- Room Hire (Inv: 3957)	BACS	£23.27	
NCVH EV electricity refund (Jan + Feb inv: 3028)	BACS	£202.64	
Screwfix- wall fixings office shelf (refund to Paul)	BACS	£8.49	
NC Music Festival Donation	BACS	£250.00	
Clerk salary	BACS	£669.87	
BT Telephone (M007 DB)	DD	£24.95	£4.99
Ionos Website and renewal (Inv: 203035473142)	DD	£124.00	£24.80
Ionos HiDrive (Inv: 203035367671)	DD	£3.00	£0.60

- 7) **Correspondence:** Item A7405 was covered in agenda item 4. Item B7406 gives details of Somerset Day. Item B7407 discusses the 'Happy to Talk' bench initiative, but it was decided not to pursue. Item B7409 shared the news of Mrs Carter's passing; she was a valued parish councillor and involved in the Village Hall. Condolences have been passed on.

8) Committee reports:

Speedwatch (AM+PD): Mr Deacon met with Mr Meehan to get up to speed on the matter and current issues. Moor Lane SID decision should be soon. Once Highways has confirmed locations, kit will be ordered.

9) Publicity inputs: Publicity inputs will include invitation to apply for surplus Coronation mugs, details for the Big Lunch event, a further parking reminder, and a short piece on the May Fair.**10) Matters for discussion:**

Chairman: Would like to minute thanks to Cllr Sue Buller for devoted service to North Curry during her term as councillor at SW&T and wish her well for the future. The Chairman would also like to thank Cllr Buller for nominating her for a certificate of thanks in recognition of her service to the Community of North Curry which was awarded at the Service of Thanksgiving at Taunton Minster 26th March by the Chair of Somerset West and Taunton.

Mr Jeanes: There is a new environmental group for North Curry- please flip through the leaflets that have been posted and support if possible!

Mr Hardwick: Witnessed the SIDs recording someone at a speed of 53mph! There is still lots of speeding being spotted. It might be possible to cap the speed it will show at 40mph to stop any 'competition' or 'personal records'. Mr Deacon shared that Speedwatch data was used to prosecute someone doing 81mph in Curry Rivel before.

Mr Turner: Asked whether anyone has a horticultural interest in Queen Square Gardens; caring for plants and pruning. Mr Jeanes will speak to someone who has previously done it.

The meeting concluded at 9:30pm.