

MINUTES OF NORTON SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2019
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 P.M.

19/1372 PRESENT:

Mr S. Maunder (Chairman), Mrs S. More (Vice Chair), Mr C Campbell, Mr J Cole, Mr R. Middleton, Mrs L. Brooks (Clerk), Mrs S. Seal (District Councillor), Mark Keating (County Councillor), Mrs E Maunder and 2 members of the public.

19/1373 APOLOGIES:

Mrs P. Biddle (Holiday)

Mr B Matraves (Work Commitments)

19/1374 PUBLIC TIME

19/1374/a Public Time:

Nothing to report

19/1374/b P.C.S.O. Report:

The PCSO was not present and no report had been received.

19/1374/c District Councillor:

Councillor Seal reported that the Woodland Play Zone at Ham Hill is nearly complete and will be open to the public at Easter. A recent tree health and safety check has taken place and the Rangers are working their way round to any tree that has been highlighted, which has to be felled.

She also reported that following the litter problem on Ham Hill last year, it has been decided by the SSDC that from April 1st 2019 all the litter bins will now be removed making it a litter bin free zone. It has been proven successful to do this in other 'green areas' in the UK and it is therefore felt to be the only option to try and ensure that people take their rubbish with them, rather than allowing it to blow all over the historic Country Park site. Clerk to include this in the newsletter. **Action: Clerk**

Councillor Seal also reported that the Council will enter Purda from March 18th. This is the pre-election period in the UK, specifically the time between the announcement of an election and the final election results which affects civil servants. The time period prevents Councils from making announcements about any new or controversial government initiatives which could be seen to be advantageous to any candidates or parties in the forthcoming election.

19/1374/d County Councillor:

County Councillor Mark Keating was present at the meeting. He had emailed a monthly report previous to the meeting to the Clerk who had forwarded it to all the Parish Councillors'. He had also sent a second email regarding the road gritting decision to reinstate some of the routes that had been previously cut.

19/1374/e CLT Update:

Mrs Maunder reported that both the shop and the Post Office are continuing to do well.

19/1374/g Hamdon Youth Group:

Mrs Maunder reported the exciting news that HYG re due to move into their new home in Stoke in April. She also reported on receiving recent money they have received through grants, donations and awards including from Wessex Water, Awards For All and The Nortonian Magazine. On the 3rd March a fund raising quiz will be held at The Lord Nelson where all proceeds will go to HYG.

19/13675 MINUTES:

The Minutes from the January meeting have been circulated. They were agreed and signed.

Proposed: Cllr.Campbell

Seconded: Cllr. Middleton

Agreed unanimously.

19/1376 MATTERS ARISING:

1. Pumping Station Update: The Clerk has been in regular contact with Wessex Water over the recent disruption in Higher Street regarding the lorries and late night work at the pumping station. Wessex Water reported that the rising main at the pumping station burst which had to be treated as an emergency. Tankers were used to take away waste from the site while the issue was being resolved. If left unresolved, it could cause pollution and drainage problems in the area. They have identified this rising main as high risk and have measures programmed to reduce the risk. In the short term they'll be installing Variable Speed Drives to better manage the flow and pressure in the rising main. They'll also be installing a burst detection system on the main. Both of these measures are programmed for the next two to three weeks. They also assured us that the problem is not related to

capacity after the Clerk asked the question. They're also planning to replace the rising main with a new pipe and work is currently in design which is programmed for this year. They have also written to all Higher Street residents outlining the problem and apologising for the disturbances.

2. Litter Pick 2019 - The Clerk confirmed that the litter pick would take place on Saturday 16th March. The Clerk reported that both the equipment had been booked at SSDC as well as the Reading Room hired to host the event. Posters will go up in the next 2 weeks. **Action: Clerk**

3. Website: Following on from the news last month that Mike Orchard will be closing down the village website, the Clerk reported that she had been looking into where we stand as a Parish Council regarding websites.

She reported that due to the new Transparency Code that came into force last year, which the Parish council adopted, it is a Government legal requirement that they have access to a website to publish all Parish Council details – Agendas, Minutes, Parish Councillors, audit, etc. – this can either be on a village website (like we have been doing), or have their own website as a Parish Council, which was now a necessity. She explained that the closure of the village website would also mean that the village newsletter would no longer be able to be viewed online. Therefore, she proposed that the new Parish Council website should also have a page to include the village newsletter which could be uploaded every month. As the Clerk to the Parish Council, once the website has been designed and built, she would be responsible for (after training) uploading all monthly documents.

She discussed the 3 quotes (2 in writing and the third verbal (waiting for a written quote), which she had emailed to all Parish Councillors prior to the Parish Council meeting. She also discussed a free website that The Clerk would be responsible to design and build that had been recommended from SALC and another Clerk from a neighbouring Parish. This would involve a lot more hours work, but the Clerk proposed that she would suggest getting paid for approx. 10 hours and the rest of the time she would donate free of charge.

The Clerk reported that she was waiting for one more quote from a local company and then a decision would have to be made at the meeting in March meeting. The Clerk would be looking to have the website up and going live by May.

19/1377 PLANNING:

19/1377/a Matters for report:

Nothing to report.

19/1377/b Decisions Notified:

Nothing to report

19/1377/c Applications for consideration.

19/00023/HOU Homestead, Higher St. - Alterations and construction of new apex roof over existing two storey side extension, rebuild and enlarge existing single storey utility boot room. Remove existing detached garage building and construct replacement workshop/garage building. No Objections

19/1378 FINANCE:

19/1378/a Matters for report:

Nothing to report

19/1378/b Matters for resolution

S137 PAYMENTS

1. S137 Payments : The Clerk had received two requests for donations of the S137 payment: St Margaret's Hospice and Yeovil Shopmobility. It was proposed to grant St Margaret's Hospice the full £200 due to the amount of support they have given to residents of Norton sub Hamdon.

Proposed: Cllr. Maunder

Seconded: Cllr. Middleton

Agreed unanimously

19/1378/c Cheques Payable

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|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Louise Brooks | Salary & Allowances – January 2019 | £ 338.80 chq no: 1396 |
| Somerset Landscapes Ltd | Grounds Maintenance Oct-Dec 2018 | £ 345.36 chq no: 1397 |
| Yeovil St Margaret's Hospice | S137 Payment | £ 200.00 chq no: 1398 |

Proposed: Cllr. Campbell Seconded: Cllr. Cole Agreed unanimously.

19/1379 VILLAGE HALL:

The village hall committee are looking into getting quotes for a noticeboard to go outside of the hall.

19/1380 RECREATION GROUND:

Nothing to report

19/1380 CORRESPONDENCE:

Land between Chiselborough and Norton (along the headland – Landowner Mr Holloway)

The Clerk received an email from the landowner regarding the above private land. This is not a footpath or a permissive path. However, Mr Holloway has allowed walkers to walk along the headland as the road here is dangerously narrow. He recently put his in-lamb ewes in the field and put 'no access' signs at every entrance. Last year his sheep were attacked on more than one occasion so therefore he decided to put these signs up to prevent it happening again. However, people are still walking there with dogs and are completely ignoring the signs. Twice the sheep have been chased by dogs and have got out of their field. The Holloway's are currently unsure as to whether they will open this land up again or close it off permanently, as people do not seem to have any respect for the Landowner's animals or request to keep off private land. The Clerk was asked by the Parish Councillors to include something in the newsletter and on the notice board. **Action: Clerk**

19/1381 FOOTPATHS:

Gate: The Clerk has received a complaint that the gate (at the far end of the field) on the footpath that runs from Broadmead Lane to Little Norton has dropped and is therefore now hard to shut. Also, the metal kissing gate on the same footpath at the Little Norton end is in a bad state. Clerk to report both to John Forrest. **Action: Clerk**

19/1382 MEMBERS' REPORTS:

Broadmead Lane – Councillor Cole reported the drain at the end of Broadmead Lane needs cleaning as it is blocked. Clerk to report to Highways **Action: Clerk**

Sandy Lane – Councillor More reported more pot holes on Sandy Lane. Clerk to report to Highways

Action: Clerk

Minchington street light – Councillor Maunder reported that one of the street lights are not working and requested the street light telephone number. **Action: Clerk**

Yellow Lines – Clerk to confirm the parking distances for vehicles on junctions

Action: Clerk

The Clerk reported that the Parish Notice board was not locking and in bad repair. Clerk told to get some quotes to replace it. Put on next agenda. **Action: Clerk**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20pm

The next meeting will be held on Monday 11th MARCH 2019 at 7.30pm in the COMMITTEE ROOM, VILLAGE HALL