

MINUTES OF NORTON SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL
VIRTUAL MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11th JANUARY 2021
VIA ZOOM AT 7.30 P.M.

21/1599 PRESENT:

Mrs S. More (Chairman), Mr S. Maunder (Vice Chair), Mrs P. Biddle, Mr J Cole, Ms R.Cumberbatch, Mrs L.Brooks (Clerk), and 1 member of the public.

21/1600 APOLOGIES:

Mr R.Middleton (Personal – agreed with Chairman)

Mr B.Matraves (Family commitments)

Mark Keating (County Councillor) – Council redeployed commitments

Mike Hewitson (District Councillor), (moving house)

21/1601 PUBLIC TIME

21/1601/a Public Time

Nothing to report

21/1601/b P.C.S.O. Report:

Nothing to report

21/1601/c District Councillor: District Councillor Mike Hewitson was not present at the meeting and no report had been received.

21/1601/d County Councillor:

A report from Councillor Keating was received. The Clerk forwarded it to all Parish Councillors. Councillor Keating was not present at the meeting.

21/1601/e CLT Update:

Nothing to report

21/1601/g Hamdon Youth Group:

The Youth Worker is once again furloughed.

21/1602 MINUTES:

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

Proposed: Cllr.Biddle

Seconded: Cllr.Maunder

Agreed unanimously.

21/1603 MATTERS ARISING

- 1. No litter Pick for 2021:** The Clerk reported that there would be no public litter pick for 2021 due to Covid restrictions.
- 2. Cost of Heart defibrillator for the hall:** The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the current cost for a defibrillator (the same as the one that is at the shop from the same supplier) would be approximately £1,700.00 (that includes the outdoor heated cabinet). The Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee decided to reconsider this in April (the start of the next financial year). The Chairman asked the Parish Clerk to find out how many times the shop defibrillator had been used. This was requested to be put on the Agenda for April, the start of the new financial year. **Action: Clerk**
- 3. Attenuation Pond:** On the 19th December 2020, the Parish Clerk had received concern from residents in New Road about how high the attenuation pond was after heavy rainfall. The pond was close to the top. However, following no further rainfall, the pond did drain away over the following week. The main concern residents and the Parish Council have is the safety of the pond with it not being fenced off. This was raised by the Parish Council originally when the planning application was first received, and then again back in 2019, when the first residents moved into Bramley Fields. The Parish Council have always maintained that they wanted a condition in the planning approval that stated that the attenuation pond had to be fenced off, as they have always been concerned about the safety aspect of having an open deep pond in a central part of the village. This attenuation pond is located opposite a primary school, visible to a main road into Norton and at the entrance to Bramley Fields - a family orientated development. In 2019, The Clerk had written to the head planner at SSDC, Simon Fox, to once again ask why the condition had not been added to the approval of this development, and to request that the developer had to do this. His response had been that it was not a requirement to have attenuation ponds fenced in South Somerset. The Parish Council wrote back in response to this saying that they were extremely disappointed by his reply and felt their concerns were not being listened to.

They also stipulated that if something happened the responsibility would lie with SSDC after the Parish Council had raised their concerns yet again, which had been totally ignored.

Clerk asked to raise their concerns again with head of Planning and include photos of the attenuation pond in December 2020, when it was full. The Parish Council would like to see the attenuation pond have at least a life saving device installed by the side and a depth marker added, but preferably have it fenced off with a proper post and rail fencing as well. Clerk to speak to Mike Hewitson about whom to address this to at SSDC.

Action: Clerk

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE NEXT PUBLIC MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE HALL:

1. Boules Court

21/1604 PLANNING:

21/1604/a Matters for report:

Nothing to report

21/1604/b Decisions Notified:

20/02785/HOU - Portlake House, Great Street, Norton Sub Hamdon - Creation of a standard size tennis court as per LTA guidelines, including 9ft high chain link fencing (part retrospective) - APPROVED

21/1604/c Applications for consideration.

Nothing to report

21/1605 FINANCE:

21/1605/a Matters for report:

1. Payment of loan for village hall has been paid - £2,280.81 on 4th January 2021.

2. End of third Quarter Balances.

Current account	£	100.00
Reserve Account		<u>£ 34,880.61</u>
Total		£ 34,980.61
There were 5 cheques outstanding:		<u>£ 634.00</u>
Total as cash book		£ 34,346.61

3. VAT Return - £ 1,397.71 (online 30.12.2020)

4. Precept – the precept was applied for on the 4th January 2021.

5. Wayleaves Payment – Western Power Distribution £45.67 received.

21/1605/b Matters for resolution

Nothing to report

21/1605/c Cheques Payable

Louise Brooks	Salary – December 2020	£	431.53 chq no: 1495
Louise Brooks	Expenses & home office Allowance – Dec ‘20	£	70.00 chq no: 1496
Louise Brooks	Zoom Account for Parish Council Meetings Dec	£	14.39 chq no: 1497
Down2Earth SW Ltd	Grounds Maintenance Oct-Dec 2020	£	256.00 chq no: 1498
Somerset Landscapes Ltd	Grounds Maintenance Oct-Dec 2020	£	537.94 chq no: 1499
Cox and Co Ltd	Payroll services for Jan/Feb/March ‘21	£	90.00 chq no: 1500

Proposed: Cllr.Maunders

Seconded: Cllr.More

Agreed unanimously.

21/1606 VILLAGE HALL:

Cllr Cole reported that the village hall had once again been closed due to Covid Restrictions. Potholes should be repaired this month. Clerk to chase

Action: Clerk

21/1607 RECREATION GROUND:

MUGA – should be relined this month. Clerk to chase

Action: Clerk

21/1608 CORRESPONDENCE:

All correspondence that the Clerk has received had been emailed to all Parish Councillors.

21/1609 FOOTPATHS:

Councillor More reported that Austin Harding had now walked all footpaths and reported any issues he had found. She has requested that all further issues that are found are reported directly to herself and the Clerk to report to SCC.

Chairman also requested a note to be included in the newsletter, reminding the owner or occupier of land with a public right of way that goes across it, that it's their responsibility to maintain and avoid putting obstructions on or across the route, such as permanent or temporary fences, padlocked gates or barbed wire. It is also important to make sure vegetation does not encroach onto the route from the sides or above. Stiles or gates on a public right of way is also their responsibility, and must be maintained so it's safe and reasonably easy to use.

Action: Clerk

21/1610 MEMBERS' REPORTS:

Trees for the Rec: Unfortunately many trees that were planted last spring just before the first lockdown, were lost in the very dry weather. The Clerk is looking to get 2-3 replacements of more mature trees to go into the hedge at the bottom of the rec.

Action: Clerk

Face Masks in the shop: Cllr Cole reported that some residents are going into the shop and Post Office and not wearing masks. He requested that a piece be included in the newsletter reminding everyone that if you enter the shop or Post Office that a face mask must be worn at all times, unless you are exempt. Clerk to include a piece in newsletter.

Action: Clerk

Minchington Bus Shelter: Cllr Cumberbatch reported that paint was peeling off the wall and it required repainting. She offered to source some appropriate paint and carry out the re-paint **Action: Cllr Cumberbatch**

Parking at junctions: Again, people seem to be parking right up to junctions making visibility very dangerous. Junctions in particular that are bad are Higher Street to Great Street and New Road to Great Street. A reminder to be included in the newsletter.

Action: Clerk

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10pm

The next VIRTUAL meeting will be held on Monday 8th February 2021 at 7.30pm