

MINUTES OF NORTON SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13th JUNE 2022
AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, NORTON VILLAGE HALL

22/1790 PRESENT:

Cllr. S. More (Chairman), Cllr. B. Matraves (Vice Chair), Cllr. S. Maunder, Cllr. P. Biddle, Cllr. J Cole, Cllr. R. Cumberbatch, Mike Hewitson (District Councillor & County Councillor), Oliver Patrick (County Councillor), Mrs L. Brooks (Clerk), and 2 members of the public.

22/1791 APOLOGIES:

Cllr L Holt (Holiday)

22/1792 PUBLIC TIME

22/1792/a Public Time

A member of the public came to the meeting to report on the wonderful opening they had of the Jubilee gardens. She thanked both the County Councillors for making the time to attend. She explained how it is still 'work in progress' and will be for many months. She also reported that a couple of people from the Diocese had come along to get quotes for any work they could do. She thanked the Parish Council for paying for the kissing gate and railings refurbishment which looks fabulous.

The same member of the public enquired as to whether you could put bagged dog waste in 'normal' litter bins? The answer to this is 'yes', this is perfectly acceptable by SSDC.

She also asked about the defibrillator outside the village shop and asked if it was working OK? Clerk to find out who is responsible for this.

Action: Clerk

22/1792/b P.C.S.O. Report:

Nothing to report

22/1792/c District Councillor report: There was little to report from SSDC.

22/1792/d County Councillor report:

Both our County Councillors attended the meeting. Councillor Mike Hewitson introduced our new County Councillor Oliver Patrick to the Parish Council. They discussed the huge amounts of training they are currently receiving from SCC. Once all the training has been completed, it will become clearer as to who will be responsible for what and clearer for the Parish Councils regarding items they will need to start budgeting for. They discussed the Local Council Networks that are being set up. LCNs will include city, town and parish councils, voluntary groups, NHS, schools, police, and other interested parties and residents. They will meet in local areas, in every part of Somerset. They'll discuss what is most important for their area and work together to agree how best to achieve it.

Clerk to investigate where Norton fits with other Parishes in relation to LCNs as it is still not decided which Parish boundary Norton will fall in. A full boundary review after the May 2022 elections and ahead of the subsequent elections in May 2027 is still anticipated but remains unclear.

Action: Clerk

22/1792/e CLT Update:

Nothing to report

22/1792/g Hamdon Youth Group:

Cllr Holt sent a report to the clerk to say that she had attended the meeting on May 26th. The accounts appear to be in a strong place for the coming years although it is of note that the current volunteer who works to secure the grant and fundraising income, is stepping down from that position. They have plans for upcoming young people sessions and opportunities, and it's positive to see that attendance numbers are increasing since Covid. The Stoke Parish Councillor has also become a volunteer and he seems very keen to be involved in a hands on way.

22/1793 MINUTES

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

Proposed: Cllr. Biddle

Seconded: Cllr. Matraves

Agreed unanimously.

22/1794 MATTERS ARISING

22/1794/a Defibrillator case: The Clerk had received an email from the Head of Norton Primary School, Jamie Caswell. He explained that thanks to some Department of Education funding, the school now have two defibrillators. One will be kept in the school and is able to be taken out to sports fixtures

and school trips etc. The plan is to position the other one outside the school. This would be accessible to the community including out of school hours (and would be closer to the Village Hall and to residents in New Road/Bramley Fields than the one at the shop). He then explained that to make this available outside the school, it requires a public access cabinet. These cost £400-£500 and would protect the defibrillator from thief, vandalism and the elements.

He emailed to ask if the Parish Council and Village Hall would both consider contributing to the cost of this. The village hall committee has since had a meeting and would be willing to pay half the costs for this.

The Parish Council queried the position of the defibrillator as it would need an electric supply. They agreed to pay half the costs for a defibrillator case to enable it to be accessible for residents of the village (maximum total cost £500.00). The Parish Council would not be responsible for the maintenance of the defibrillator or case as it is being provided to the school with funding from the Department of Education funding and would belong to the school and be their asset – not the Parish Councils and therefore be their responsibility. Clerk to inform Jamie Caswell and the village hall of the Parish Council decision. **Action: Clerk**

22/1794/b Bird box for the rec

The Clerk reported that due to it being the wrong time of the year to install bird boxes, a meeting would be held between the Chairman, Cllr More and the RSPB representative for the area to see what would be a suitable box to have in the recreation field and also the best place to install it. This will be put on an Agenda for the autumn time. **Action: Chairman Cllr More**

22/1794/c Playground update

The Clerk reported that there had been a slight delay with the arrival of the new equipment into the UK and the start of installation was now anticipated to be the beginning of July rather than the end of June. The slide has been sealed off as it was felt it was a safety hazard. This was due to a piece of wood at the top of the slide rotting and had been removed by a member of the public. Signs were also erected to warn people that it was out of bounds. The Clerk reported that new tape and new signs have now had to be replaced numerous times as members of the public were constantly removing it all and using the slide. The Clerk reported that she had taken photos which were dated to prove that it had been sealed off if there was any reports of an accident, whilst it has been marked as out of bounds.

22/1794/d Report of Ham Hill site meeting with Katy Menday

The Chairman reported that last Thursday 9th June, Katy Menday and Rachael Whaites from SSDC very kindly invited to meet the Parish Councillors and members of the public who had shown concern, on Ham Hill for a site visit and tour of their proposed plans for a visitor centre. Everyone seemed very impressed by their plans and felt reassured that the visitor centre would not be seen from Little Norton or Norton sub Hamdon and would have little impact on both villages. They are planning to get the speed limit reduced to a 40mph on Ham Hill as Highways will not allow a 30mph on that road (it is currently 60mph). They have plans also that will eventually stop people parking on the road which the Parish Council felt as a big concern of theirs.

A public consultation would be held by SSDC at Norton village hall on Thursday 14th July between 2pm -7pm for anyone to come along and discuss their plans. Clerk to include this information in the newsletter article. **Action: Clerk**

22/1795 PLANNING:

22/1795/a Matters for report:

Nothing to report

22/1795/b Decisions Notified:

Nothing to report

22/1795/c Applications for consideration.

22/01108/HOU at Tudor Cottage, Great Street, Norton Sub Hamdon

The erection of a shed at the rear of the garden

Due to SSDC time restriction on responding to planning, this application has already been considered by all Parish Councillors who have informed the clerk they had no objections and were in support of this planning application.

22/01391/HOU 20 New Road Norton Sub Hamdon Stoke Sub Hamdon Somerset
 Removal of existing rear conservatory and erection of single storey extension
 The Parish Council had no objections and supported this planning application.

22/1796 FINANCE:

22/1796/a Matters for report:

The Clerk reported that the loan payments of £2280.81 would be debited on 1st July 2022.

22/1796/b Matters for resolution

Nothing to report

22/1796/c Cheques Payable

June Payments			Chq no:
Louise Brooks	Salary – May 2022	£ 494.13	1591
HMRC	NI & PAYE May 2022	£ 4.20	1592
Louise Brooks	Expenses & home office Allowance – May 22	£ 70.00	1593
SALC	Good Councillor Guides – new copies	£ 51.00	1594
Steve Collier Welding Services	Kissing Gates repairs and re-install	£ 425.00	1595
Parish Council websites	Annual hosting & maintenance of website 2022-23	£ 170.00	1596

Proposed: Cllr. Maunder

Seconded: Cllr. Cole

Agreed unanimously.

2/1797 VILLAGE HALL:

Nothing to report

22/1798 RECREATION GROUND:

The Chairman discussed the requests they were getting from people who had booked the hall and wanted to also have the use of the recreation field. The latest request was for a bouncy castle for a wedding. There was a mixed view regarding this due to the safety aspect and it being a public area. However, the Parish Council agreed to allow it as long as the Clerk had visibility of the insurance certificate beforehand (which covered anyone to use it – both wedding guests and members of the public) and the bouncy castle was properly supervised throughout the whole time it was installed.

22/1799 CORRESPONDENCE:

All correspondence the clerk has received has been circulated to all Parish Councillors.

22/1800 FOOTPATHS:

The Chairman reported on an email she had received regarding the cutting of undergrowth of the footpath between Broadmead Lane and Little Norton and also the large overhanging branches in the Church close footpath.

Clerk to find out who owns the land and then to request they cut back relevant undergrowth and branches.

Action: Clerk

22/1801 MEMBERS' REPORTS.

Cllr. Biddle asked if we could look into the refurbishment of a couple of the finger signposts in the village. South Petherton have recently refurbished some of theirs. Clerk to investigate who is responsible.

Action: Clerk

After inspecting the kissing gate by the church, The Chairman asked the Clerk to get a quote for a wrought iron gate to be made to match the railings on the other side of the gate that have also been refurbished. The gate would need to be wide enough to get a ride on mower through is there was ever a requirement. Clerk to speak to Steve Collier.

Action: Clerk

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

The next monthly meeting will be held on MONDAY 11th July 2022 starting at 7.30pm.