

MINUTES OF NORTON SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13th MARCH 2023
AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, NORTON VILLAGE HALL

23/1892 PRESENT:

Cllr S More (Chairman), Cllr. B. Matraives (Vice Chair), Cllr. P. Biddle, Cllr. J Cole, Cllr. L Holt, Cllr J Harris, Cllr. P Gartrell, Mike Hewitson (District Councillor & County Councillor)
Mrs L. Brooks (Clerk), and 3 members of the public.

23/1893 APOLOGIES:

Oliver Patrick (County Councillor)

23/1894 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nothing to report

23/1895 PUBLIC TIME

23/1895/a Public Time

A member of the public informed the Parish Council about the May Church coffee morning which will be held in the Jubilee Gardens. There will also be a BBQ community event held in the Jubilee Garden in July with a certain percentage of profits going to the CLT shop.

23/1895/b P.C.S.O. Report:

Nothing to report

23/1895/c District Councillor report & County Councillor report:

Cllr Hewitson reported for the final time as our District Councillor. From the 1st April we will be under a Unitary Council and he will become our Unitary Councillor.

Cllr Hewitson reported that the budget for the new unitary Somerset Council has been agreed and published.

He also updated the PC on the latest planning issues with regards to any outstanding breaches and the situation with regards to the SSDC planning enforcement team.

The Chairman asked Cllr Hewitson to contact The Reading Room committee with regards to the requirement for planning permission to the roof at the Reading Room. Chairman to email the contact details to Cllr Hewitson.

Action: Chairman

Household Support Fund: Cllr Hewitson also discussed The Somerset Household Support Fund. This is funded by the Department for Work and Pensions and administered by Somerset County Council.

The fund is designed to provide short-term financial support to vulnerable households which are struggling to afford household essentials this winter. These households will need help with the cost of food, energy, water bills and other essentials. Information can be found at:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/somerset-household-support-fund/>

Cllr Biddle represented the Parish Council in saying a huge 'thank you' to SSDC for all the support they have given the village and the Parish Council over the years. Without their support we certainly would not have been able to provide many of the facilities we have in the village.

A Parish Councillor asked Cllr Hewitson what the impact would be with regards to the Ham Hill development of the Visitor Centre. The Parish Councillor felt that the traffic issues through Stoke and on Ham Hill were already bad enough.

23/1895/d CLT Update:

Cllr Harris gave her report. The Chairman will meet separately with Cllr Harris and go through the minutes.

Action: Chair/Cllr Harris

23/1895/e HYG Report

Cllr Holt updated us on the latest events at HYG. Cllr Harris also mentioned that the HYG had now booked the main hall for their weekly meetings in Norton as numbers had grown and they needed more space.

23/1896 MINUTES

The Minutes from the February meeting were circulated. They were agreed and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Matraives

Seconded: Cllr. Cole

Agreed unanimously.

23/1897 MATTERS ARISING

23/1897/a New CCTV camera required at the hall

Cllr Harris and Cllr Cole reported that one of the CCTV cameras on the village hall had been removed by SES for repair. It was cheaper for the camera to be refurbished than the cost for a new camera. The Parish Council agreed to pay for the repairs. Cllrs Harris and Cole said the village hall committee would be happy to make a donation. Cllr Harris to liaise with SES regarding the repair.

Action: Cllr Harris

23/1897/b Outdoor lighting in car park.

Cllr Cole and Cllr Harris reported that the lighting in the village carpark was insufficient from the village hall carpark if walking towards the road. There was an outdoor light that no longer works. Cllr Harris will look into costs of an outdoor solar light as this would be a cheaper solution with the lack of an electrical supply. Cllr Harris to report back at the next meeting. The Chairman said the Parish Council would make some sort of contribution to costs.

Action: Cllr Harris

23/1897/c Report following meeting with Abri.

The Chairman Cllr More reported about a recent meeting between herself, the Clerk and the ABRI representative at Little Mead with regards to the lack of street lighting. The ABRI representative agreed that the street lamp that wasn't working would be fixed. She also said she would also arrange a survey to be carried out to see if a further street light could be installed at the far end of Little Mead where there is currently no lighting at all. ABRI representative to email Clerk on any progress.

23/1898 PLANNING:

23/1898/b Matters For Report

Nothing to report

23/1898/b Decisions Notified:

Nothing to report

23/1898/c Applications for consideration.

Nothing to report

23/1899 FINANCE:

23/1899/a Matters for report:

End of Year – The Clerk reported that we were now at the end of the financial year and she would start to prepare the accounts for both the internal auditor and external audit team.

Action: Clerk

23/1899/b Matters for resolution

Nothing to report

23/1899/c Cheques Payable

March Payments:			Chq no:
Louise Brooks	Salary – Feb 2023	£ 528.90	1652
HMRC	NI & PAYE Feb 2023	£ 13.20	1653
Louise Brooks	Expenses & home office Allowance – Feb 2023	£ 70.00	1654
CPRE	Annual membership	£ 36.00	1655

Proposed: Cllr. More

Seconded: Cllr. Matraves

Agreed unanimously

23/1900 VILLAGE HALL:

Cllr Cole reported that the new cladding and windows had now been fitted to the back of the hall. Cllr Cole and Cllr Harris informed the Chairman that they had recently been looking at the village hall lease and saw it was due for renewal in the near future. Cllr Harris and Cllr Cole to look into this and report at the next PC meeting.

Action: Cllr Cole/Cllr Harris

23/1901 RECREATION GROUND:

Nothing to report

23/1902 CORRESPONDENCE:

All correspondence received had been circulated to all Parish Councillors

23/1903 FOOTPATHS:

Nothing to report

23/1904 MEMBERS' REPORTS.

Cllr Biddle reported her concerns back to the PC following the meeting that Chiselborough Parish Council had held regarding the amalgamation of Yeovil District Hospital with Musgrove Park Hospital in Taunton. The amalgamation was already planned to take effect from the 1st April. She was concerned about the proposed closure of the Yeovil stroke unit as well.

Cllr Harris reported that the bus service was going to carry on the £2 single fare and £4 return fare until the end of June.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25 pm

The next monthly meeting will be held on Monday 3rd April 2023 starting at 7.30pm.