

**MINUTES OF NORTON SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023**

**AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, NORTON VILLAGE HALL**

**23/1864 PRESENT:**

Cllr. S. More (Chairman), Cllr. B. Matraves (Vice Chair), Cllr. P. Biddle, Cllr. J Cole, Cllr L Holt, Cllr J Harris, Cllr. P Gartrell, Mrs L. Brooks (Clerk), and 2 members of the public.

**23/1865 APOLOGIES:**

Oliver Patrick (County Councillor)

Mike Hewitson (District Councillor & County Councillor)

**23/1866 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Nothing to report

**23/1867 PUBLIC TIME**

**23/1867/a Public Time**

A member of the public discussed the state of the roads and the number of potholes. Clerk reported that the pot holes had been reported but unlikely to be filled until after April '23 due to Highways funds unless dangerous.

**23/1867/b P.C.S.O. Report:**

Nothing to report

**23/1867/c District Councillor report & County Councillor report:**

There was no report for this month and neither Councillor present at the meeting.

**23/1867/d CLT Update:**

The Chairman Cllr More, updated the Parish Council on the latest situation with the shop and CLT Board. She reported that the secretarial role had been split into 3 – members, minutes and general. The advertising campaign had increased but the shop still made a loss in November. The solar panels were still at the discussion stage.

**23/1867/e HYG:** Cllr Holt reported the chair was taking a short break.

**23/1868 MINUTES**

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

Proposed: Cllr. Matraves

Seconded: Cllr.Holt

Agreed unanimously.

**23/1869 MATTERS ARISING**

**23/1869/a CLT representative required**

Cllr More informed the Parish Council that due to time constraints with work commitments, plus already being the representative for the PC to the Reading Room, she had resigned from being the CLT representative. Cllr Harris offered to take on this role but as a liaison representative for the PC only and not on the Board.

Proposed: Cllr. More

Seconded: Cllr. Holt

Agreed unanimously.

**23/1869/b Little Mead lighting – Abri**

Following on from the incident in November 22, the Police had highlighted their concern regarding the lack of street lighting in Little Mead. The Clerk contacted Abri who are responsible for Little Mead who eventually responded. A meeting was suggested between the Abri housing partner for Little Mead and a Parish Council representative to see how Abri can support the issue. Clerk to respond to Abri.

Chairman Cllr More and Clerk to attend meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

**23/1869/c Allotments update**

Cllr Holt gave an update on the allotments. The terms have been updated. There has been one enquiry regarding a vacant allotment. They are still having bank account issues but will set up a new account and go from there.

**Action: Cllr Holt & Cllr Matraves**

**23/1869/d Easter – April's date for Parish Council meeting – change?**

The Clerk pointed out that currently the April meeting was due to fall on the Easter Monday (10<sup>th</sup> April). The Parish Council agreed unanimously that the April meeting should be brought forward a week to accommodate for the Bank Holiday. **To confirm, the April meeting will be held on 3<sup>RD</sup>**

**APRIL 2023.**

The Clerk also pointed out that the May Parish Council meeting was also due to fall on the May Bank Holiday (8<sup>th</sup> May – date for the Coronation Bank Holiday). However, the Monday before also fell on a bank holiday (1<sup>st</sup> May – Spring Bank Holiday). **Therefore, the Parish Council unanimously agreed**

**that the May PC meeting would held on the TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**Action: Clerk**

**23/1870 PLANNING:**

**23/1870/b Matters For Report**

Nothing to report

**23/1870/b Decisions Notified:**

Nothing to report

**23/1870/c Applications for consideration.**

Nothing to report

**23/1871 FINANCE:**

**23/1871/a Matters for report:**

1. The Clerk reported that the second of the two annual loan repayments for village hall has been paid - £2,280.81 (paid on 03/01/23).

2. End of third Quarter Balances

Current account £ 100.00

Reserve account £ 19,571.73

£ 19,671.73

There were 4 cheques not yet showing on the statement as banked £ 483.05

Total as cash book £ 18,188.68

3. The Clerk reported that the VAT return had been completed for the year - £6,881.34

4. The Clerk confirmed that the agreed precept for 2023-24 had been applied for on the 22/12/22.

**23/1871/b Matters for resolution**

Nothing to report

**23/1871/c Cheques Payable**

Louise Brooks	Salary – Dec 2022	£	528.90	Chq no: 1636
HMRC	Ni & PAYE December 2022	£	13.20	Chq no: 1637
Louise Brooks	Expenses & home office Allowance – December 22	£	70.00	Chq no: 1638
Down2Earth SW Ltd	Playground & general maintenance Oct-Dec 22	£	271.66	Chq no: 1639
Cox & Co Payroll Solutions Ltd	Payroll services Jan, Feb, March 23	£	90.00	Chq no: 1640
Somerset Landscapes Ltd	Rec Grounds maintenance Oct-Dec 22	£	571.87	Chq no: 1641

Proposed: Cllr. Biddle

Seconded: Cllr. Matraves

Agreed unanimously.

**23/1872 VILLAGE HALL:**

Cllr Cole reported that new specialised cladding and new windows will be installed on the outside of the rear wall to the hall, hopefully within the next month.

**23/1873 RECREATION GROUND:**

Nothing to report

**23/1874 CORRESPONDENCE:**

All correspondence received had been circulated to all Parish Councillors

**23/1875 FOOTPATHS:**

Bridge damage – the Clerk reported to the Footpaths Liaison Officer a footpath bridge that had been damaged over the Christmas period. The Footpaths Liaison Officer subsequently reported it to SCC Rights of Way team. In the meantime, the missing planks of wood that had been thrown in the river below were removed from the river and put back on the bridge. Footpaths Liaison officer updated SCC but Clerk requested that the bridge be checked by the Rights of Way Team as no one knew who carried out the repair. Clerk to follow up. **Action: Clerk**

**23/1876 MEMBERS' REPORTS.**

Cllr Matraves reported flooding on the track that leads from Rectory Lane to Stoke sub Hamdon.

Cllr.Cole to speak to a landowner. **Action: Cllr Cole**

Cllr Matraves also reported a tree down on the same footpath. Cllr Cole to speak to landowner.

**Action: Cllr Cole**

Cllr Harris requested a push/pull sign on the new wrought iron gate by the Jubilee garden that the Parish Council had commissioned last year. It was felt that people misjudged the gate as fencing rather than a gate. Clerk to get a quote from MOP who made the gate. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Harris asked for a sign off New Road, (to go on the footpath post) which informs people where the Jubilee Garden is. Clerk to ask same MOP to quote **Action: Clerk**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm

**The next monthly meeting will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 starting at 7.30pm.**