

MINUTES OF NORTON SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 10th JULY 2023
AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, NORTON VILLAGE HALL

23/1943 PRESENT:

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

23/1944 APOLOGIES:

Cllr. L Holt

Oliver Patrick (Unitary Councillor)

23/1945 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nothing to report

23/1946 PUBLIC TIME

23/1946/a Public Time

A MOP thanked everyone who attended the BBQ evening at the Jubilee garden.

A MOP reported the possibility of an abandoned car on Sandy Lane. The Chairman said she would have a look and report back.

Action: Chair

23/1946/b P.C.S.O. Report:

Nothing to report. Clerk had emailed the PCSOs following the June meeting but had not had a response. Clerk will email again.

Action: Clerk

23/1946/c Unitary Councillor report:

Cllr Hewitson reported that Unite union members working on Somerset waste collections planned to take industrial action starting on Wednesday 12 July. He reported that they intend to strike on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, each week for the four weeks from Wednesday 12 July to Friday 4 August. Somerset Council is hopeful that industrial action can be avoided and will inform the PC with any updates as they happen.

Cllr Biddle asked for clarification on the alternative collection days that had been specified, if industrial action does take place as they coincide with Higher St and Little St being closed for a week due to resurfacing work. Cllr Hewitson said he would find out and get back to the PC.

Cllr Hewitson also reported on the planning application in Little Street. He confirmed that following a site visit, the conservation officer was happy with the work and detail, including the use of timber cladding instead of ham stone that the PC requested. This planning application has now been approved.

23/1946/d CLT Update: Cllr Harris updated the PC on the latest news and reported a rise in sales and transactions from this time last year.

23/1946/e HYG Report

Nothing to report

23/1946/f Allotments Report

Cllr Holt had emailed the Clerk and Chair to inform them that the setup to the Unity Trust Bank for the Rodbard and Bailey Allotments Trust, was taking time as there were some issues with the signatories with the current bank setup.

Action: Cllr Holt/Cllr Matraves

23/1946/e Bus update

Nothing to report

23/1947 MINUTES

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

Proposed: Cllr. Biddle

Seconded: Cllr. Matraves

Agreed unanimously.

23/1948 MATTERS ARISING

23/1948/a Unity Trust Bank Set-up:

The Clerk reported that she had now started the initial set-up of a bank account with the Unity Trust Bank. The Parish Councillors that had passed on their details to the Clerk as signatories were asked to sign the appropriate form for the next stage of the process.

Action: Clerk

23/1948/b Car Boot in the Rec?

The Parish Council was approached by a resident of Norton who asked if it was possible to hold a car boot sale in the recreation field. This was met with mixed feelings. There were some concerns/questions raised that the Parish Council would like to see answered before giving any permission to hold one or a maximum of two car boot sales in a year. The concerns raised were:

1. Village Hall – the village hall committee members present, felt the likelihood would be that permission would not be given for car boots to use the village hall for toilets and kitchen facilities.
2. Village Hall – could not be held when any event had been booked at the village hall.
3. Parking – a big concern for the Parish Council was parking and the disruption and congestion this would bring to the streets in Norton.
4. Access to the recreation Field – access is narrow with only one way for entrance/exit.
5. Travellers – a big concern for the Parish Council. Travellers move very quickly onto sites they perceive as perfect for ‘setting up’. They start with a car getting access and then follow with vans etc. The damage travellers cause to sites they gain access to, costs thousands of pounds to clear afterwards and the Parish Council would be responsible to pay for the clear.
6. Safety – this is a small recreation field designed for children and families to have a safe area to play safely. Glass or other dangerous materials could be broken and left on site for an injury to happen.
7. Insurance – the insurance is something that the group who wanted to run the car boot would have to put in place.
8. Cancellation – if permission were given, there would have to be a strict 24 hr cancellation notice if the weather became unsuitable for cars on the recreation field.
9. No food vans would be permitted.
10. Time of Year – the bottom half of the recreation field gets very wet, so the summer months would only be possible.
11. Question was asked if there was a more suitable location.
12. With reference to: ‘when we see Ilchester have raised £9,000 so far from sales this year’, it was pointed out that Ilchester is a town and the location of their car boot sales is perfect for access without affecting the town. The same with the car boot that is held at Yeovil showground – location is perfect.

The MOP was asked to attend the September Parish Council meeting with solutions to the issues above before the Parish Council would consider allowing a car boot sale to take place.

23/1948/c Broken tree in the rec

The Chair reported that another tree that had recently been snapped off. This area would be monitored.

23/1948/d Cost of new signs for rec

Following the June meeting the Clerk had requested 3 quotes from companies for new signage for the rec. Only one company had responded. Clerk would chase. **Action: Clerk**

23/1948/e Fingerposts – possible funding

Following the June meeting the Clerk had requested 3 quotes from companies for the refurbishment of two fingerposts. Only two had responded. The Clerk pointed out that some of the fingerposts were not traditional and were of the modern type. Clerk asked if they wished to have them replaced with traditional fingerpost or like for like. Clerk will get quotes for both types. The Clerk also reported that she had been looking at available funding for this project. She had found two sources of funding that might help but until she had quotes she couldn't apply. Clerk to speak to companies again. **Action: Clerk**

23/1949 PLANNING:

23/1949/a Matters For Report

Nothing to report

23/1949/b Decisions Notified:

APPLICATION NO. 22/02733/LBC

PROPOSAL: Listed Building consent to allow revision to approved plans 18/00727/LBC to allow amendments to finish and design (Brook Coach House).

LOCATION: Brook Coach House, Little Street, Norton Sub Hamdon, TA14 6SR

This has now been approved by Somerset Council

23/1949/c Applications for consideration.

Nothing to report

23/1950 **FINANCE:**

23/1950/a Matters for report:

Unity Trust Bank Account for the Parish Council: The Clerk reported that the first stage of the application for the Unity Trust Bank has been completed.

End of 1st quarter accounts:

1. End of 1st quarter figures

Current account	£	100.00
Reserve Account	£	<u>42,347.97</u>
Total	£	<u>42,447.97</u>
There was 1 cheque outstanding/unbanked:	£	<u>90.00</u>
Total as cash book	£	<u>42,357.97</u>

The books will now be given to the Internal Auditor for examination

23/1950/b Matters for resolution

Resolution to pay August invoices with no August meeting:

August payments are to be approved by email at the time the August PC meeting would normally take place, by a minimum of 2 Parish Councillors. Cheques will be signed by two signatories and then paid by the clerk to the relevant payees and reported at the September meeting. They will be included on the September Agenda as paid with the relevant cheque number against each payment. This is only relevant for any payments that have either been signed off in the last budget, or where a resolution has been made at a meeting. This includes salaries, grass cuttings, land maintenance (budgeted items), plus play equipment and gate for the church (items where a resolution has been made).

Proposed: Cllr. More

Seconded: Cllr. Biddle

Agreed unanimously.

Action: Clerk

23/1950/c Cheques Payable

			Chq no:
Louise Brooks	Salary – June 2023	£ 523.63	1671
HMRC	NI & PAYE June 2023	£ 28.00	1672
Louise Brooks	Expenses & home office Allowance – June 23	£ 70.00	1673
Somerset Landscapes Ltd	Rec Grounds maintenance Jan-Mar 23	£ 269.81	1674
Down2Earth SW Ltd	Rec Grounds maintenance Apr-June £280.00 - plus boundary stone trim - £40.00	£ 320.00	1675
Louise Brooks	Norton 360 deluxe protection for PC laptop	£ 23.99	1676
Somerset Landscapes Ltd	Rec Grounds maintenance Apr-June 23	£ 1095.77	1677

Proposed: Cllr. Matraves

Seconded: Cllr. More

Agreed unanimously

23/1951 **VILLAGE HALL:**

Cllr Cole reported that the committee has agreed to have the hall painted internally and externally.

23/1952 **RECREATION GROUND:**

Nothing to report

23/1953 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

All correspondence received had been circulated to all Parish Councillors.

Asset of Register: The Clerk reported that she had now received notification that The Lord Nelson was back on the register for the next 5 years.

23/1954 **FOOTPATHS:**

The Clerk reported that the Footpath Liaison Officer was being very proactive regarding getting other footpaths added to the cutting list.

Cllr Matraves reported the gate at the approach to Glebe Wood. Cllr Cole said he would talk to the landowner responsible. **Action: Cllr Cole**

23/1955 MEMBERS' REPORTS.

Cllr Harris reported that the jetting at New Road that the Clerk had requested following the last meeting had now been completed.

Cllr Harris reported that the dog bin at the bottom of the recreation field had not been emptied. Clerk to report to localities at SC. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Harris reported that the car park on the left hand side that the Parish Council are responsible for looks untidy with brambles growing out again. It was felt that it would be easier if Mark Paull was asked to flail it rather than getting people to form a working party as it is very high. Clerk will speak to Mark Paull to get a price for cutting and removal of the waste. Clerk to also email Mr Caswell, Headmaster of the school, to ask that the rest of the carpark owned by SC is tidied up.

Cllr Matraves reported a couple of footpaths gates that need attention, Cllr Cole to speak to landowner.

Action: Cllr Cole

Cllr Matraves reported a wall starting to bow outwards into the road. Cllr Cole to investigate.

Action: Cllr Cole

Cllr Biddle request clarification on when cars need to be moved for the resurfacing work to be carried out on Higher Street and Little Street. Clerk to ask Cllr Hewitson.

Action: Clerk

The Chair, Cllr More, requested jetting at Little Norton.

Action: Clerk

The Chair, Cllr More reported on the first LCN meeting that the chair and the Clerk attended.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

Reminder – NO MEETING IN AUGUST

The next monthly meeting will be held on MONDAY SEPTEMBER 11TH 2023.