

MINUTES OF NORTON SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024
AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, NORTON VILLAGE HALL

24/2035 PRESENT:

Cllr. S More (Chairman), Cllr. B. Matraves (Vice Chair), Cllr. J Cole, Cllr. J Harris, Cllr. P Gartrell, Cllr C Riley, Mrs L. Brooks (Clerk), Cllr. Mike Hewitson (Unitary Councillor). There were 5 members of the public present.

24/2036 APOLOGIES:

Cllr. Oliver Patrick (Unitary Councillor)

24/2037 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nothing to report

24/2038 PUBLIC TIME

24/20238/a Public Time

A MOP discussed the recent flooding in the village and the issues with sewage. She informed the Parish Council how Little Street residents had come together and written a newsletter to keep everyone informed with the recent flooding and meeting with Wessex Water. Please see report below in Matters Arising regarding Wessex Water report. The MOP asked for flooding to be included on the monthly agenda. The Chair said this would not be done as flooding was not a regular occurrence in the village. It would be reported as and when it occurred. The Chair asked the MOP to consider becoming the village flood warden.

A MOP asked if the Parish Council could enforce the way people were parking at the bottom of Little Street. The Chairman responded that the Parish Council had no influence over this at all and suggested the neighbourly thing to do would be to knock on the door of the landowner and speak to them in person. Cllr Hewitson said he would speak to the landowner himself. The clerk had already included a piece about sensible parking in last month's newsletter.

24/2038/b P.C.S.O. Report:

Nothing to report.

24/2038/c Unitary Councillor report:

Cllr Hewitson gave the Parish Council an update on Somerset Council. He explained that they had now been granted permission from the Government regarding capitalisation direction – where the council is allowed to borrow money or sell assets to pay for day-to-day running costs.

24/2038/d CLT Update:

Cllr Harris reported that the shop sales were continuing to do well. The roof is currently being repaired.

24/2038/e HYG Report

Cllr Bailey was present at the meeting to discuss a drop in the amount of funding from Stoke Parish Council. He explained that over the last 13 years the support from both Parish Councils had helped HYG to become a successful place for young people to meet and learn life and social skills and community values. He expressed his disappointment that Stoke had cut their funding by two thirds which would mean a drop in the services they would be able to provide. He thanked Norton Parish Council for their continued support.

24/22038/f Allotments Report

Cllr Matraves reported that they had held a successful fundraiser recently at the pub to raise funds to tidy the site. He also reported that the banking had now been sorted out and most allotment holders had now paid their rent for the year.

24/2038/e Bus update

Nothing to report

24/2039 MINUTES

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

Proposed: Cllr. Matraves

Seconded: Cllr. Gartrell

Agreed unanimously.

24/2040 MATTERS ARISING

24/2040/a Parish Councillor vacancy

The Clerk reported that SC had received no requests to fill the vacancy by an election. This meant that the Parish Council were now in a position to Co-opt someone. The Chair informed the Parish Council that they knew of someone who may be interested and would speak to the person concerned to see if they wished to proceed.

Action: Chairman/Clerk

24/2040/b Latest update from SC

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from Highways to say they would be continuing with some services to A & B roads plus for this year only would be filling grit bins. A price list of services would shortly be sent to all Parish Councils. The clerk reported that she had finally got a meeting booked (18th March) with a manager from SC regarding the management of Minchington Rec so things could move forward. The Clerk would report back at the next Parish Council meeting. **Action: Clerk**

24/2040/c Wessex Water – report following meeting

A MOP and clerk discussed the findings from a recent meeting with Wessex Water. The clerk had received a report earlier in the day that had been circulated to all the Parish Councillors before the meeting. She reported that she had also had a telephone call with Wessex Water earlier to discuss timescales of the remedial work that Wessex Water had listed. The remedial work included:

- 60m of 150mm sewer to be lined on Glebelands / Rectory Lane due to significant infiltration entering pipework.
- 170m of 150mm sewer to be lined in Little Norton due to very significant infiltration entering pipelines.
- Pressure plates to be installed on manholes located on Rectory Lane to protect the public sewer from Fluvial (river) flooding.
- Manhole injection sealing to prevent significant infiltration identified within chambers located in Little Norton, Skinners Lane, Rectory Lane
- Removal of land drain connected into the public sewer located in Little Norton
- 1500m of Wessex Water public sewer to be surveyed to locate significant infiltration feeding into network from the areas of Minchington Close, New Road, Great Street and Little Street.
- Internal review of routine jetting maintenance on public sewer running to Norton Sub-Hamdon Sewage pumping station and maintenance of inlet manhole feeding from Chiselborough.

The clerk explained that due to much of the work listed above requiring roads to be closed, Wessex Water would now apply to Somerset Council for permission to do so.

24/2040/d Minchington Rec - Wall update

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she had been pushing for an answer on the wall restoration. More of the wall had now come down, which the clerk had reported to Somerset Council. Cllr Hewitson said he would also speak to the manager at SC. **Action: Clerk/ Cllr Hewitson**

24/2040/a Tree planting for Prue

The planting of the trees would take place on Sunday 7th April at 11am

24/2040/a Defibrillator update

The Clerk updated the Parish Council on the defibrillator. Cllr Cole and Cllr Harris reported that the village hall was still waiting for their money back that they had given in good faith. Once this had been returned the Parish Council would then investigate ways to get a defibrillator installed on the outside of the hall. The treasurer of the hall committee is in regular contact with the Clerk and is keeping her informed of any developments.

24/2040/a Gift of Centenary Garden bench

The Chair reported that they had been approached by the family of the late Mrs Nicholls regarding gifting a centenary garden bench to the recreation field. Obviously the Parish Council would need to lay a concrete plinth for the bench and fix it so it could not be removed. Cllr Harris is going to make contact with the family and inspect the seat first to see if it would be suitable for public use. **Action Clerk/Cllr Harris**

24/2041 **PLANNING:**

24/2041/a Matters For Report

Nothing to report.

24/2041/b Decisions Notified:

Nothing to report

24/2041/c Applications for consideration.

Application Number: 24/00386/HOU - Brook Coach House Little Street Norton Sub Hamdon

Proposal: Erection of detached garden outbuilding. ****SUPPORT****

Application Number: 24/00267/HOU - 7 Broadmead Lane Norton Sub Hamdon Proposal: Erection of single-storey rear extension. - ****Due to time restraints the Parish Council have already responded to this application – SUPPORT****

Application Number: 24/00233/FUL - Turnpike Lodge Norton Sub Hamdon Somerset TA14 6SL

Proposal: Erection of a new two storey, two-bedroom domestic dwelling with new vehicular access

The Parish Council OBJECT to this planning application. The reasons for objecting are:

1. New proposed access. The Parish Council were very concerned with regards to the proposed access being so close to the junction with the A356. Vehicles turning into the village off the A356 do so at

great speed (even though it is the start of a 30mph speed area). Where the proposed access is situated is also a narrowing of this road and invariably when two vehicles meet here one has to stop.

2. Visibility Splay not enough. Although they have allowed a visibility splay of 60m it was felt that this is not enough for this fast narrow area of road. The Parish Council are under the impression that even in a 30mph limit, a requirement to have a clear view of 70m (metres) in each direction is required.
3. Flooding – the area by the A356 floods and when this occurs the road is shut to vehicles. By allowing planning on this site will take away available soakaway for water running off the surrounding land and therefore increase water flow onto the roadside.

24/2042 FINANCE:

24/2042/a Matters for report:

The clerk reminded the Parish Council that her agreed rise in the number of hours would start from April 1st.

24/2042/b Matters for resolution

The Clerk reported that after the current Payroll company informed her of a 20% rise, she had found a much cheaper company to take over. The Parish Council agreed for the clerk to set it up.

Proposed: Cllr. More Seconded: Cllr. Matraves Agreed unanimously

24/2042/c Invoices Payable – all paid via the Unity Trust Bank

Louise Brooks	Salary – February 24	£	534.37
HMRC	NI & PAYE February 24	£	36.80
Louise Brooks	Expenses & home office Allowance – February 24	£	70.00
Cox & Co Payroll Solutions	Termination agreement	£	60.00

Proposed: Cllr. Gartrell Seconded: Cllr. Matraves Agreed unanimously.

24/2043 VILLAGE HALL:

Nothing to report

24/2044 RECREATION GROUND:

Nothing to report

24/2045 CORRESPONDENCE:

All correspondence received had been circulated to all Parish Councillors.

24/2046 FOOTPATHS:

The Clerk reported that she has spoken to the Rights of Way Manager at SC and obtained a self-closing gate for the footpath at the back of Higher Street, leading onto Blackspir Hill. The landowner will install the gate.

Cllr Cole reported a hole in the footpath that runs behind Glebelands. Cllr Cole will speak to landowner.

Action: Cllr Cole

The Chair Cllr More, reported a hole in the footpath behind the allotments. Clerk to report to ROW warden.

Action: Clerk

24/2047 MEMBERS' REPORTS.

Nothing to report

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm

The next monthly meeting will be held on MONDAY 8th APRIL 2024.