

MINUTES OF NORTON SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8th APRIL 2024
AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, NORTON VILLAGE HALL

24/2048 PRESENT:

Cllr. S More (Chairman), Cllr. B. Matraves (Vice Chair), Cllr. J Cole, Cllr. J Harris, Cllr C Riley, Mrs L. Brooks (Clerk). There were 2 members of the public present.

24/2049 APOLOGIES:

Cllr. P Gartrell

Cllr. Oliver Patrick (Unitary Councillor)

No apologies received - Cllr. Mike Hewitson (Unitary Councillor).

24/2050 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nothing to report

24/2051 PUBLIC TIME

24/2051/a Public Time

Nothing to report

24/2051/b P.C.S.O. Report:

Nothing to report.

24/2051/c Unitary Councillor report:

Neither Unitary Councillor was present.

24/2051/d CLT Update:

Cllr Harris updated the Parish Council on the positive news regarding sales increases year on year. She also informed the Parish Council that a new local fruit and veg supplier would soon be starting to supply the shop and a new stand would be positioned outside the door.

24/2051/e HYG Report

Nothing to report

24/2051/f Allotments Report

Cllr Matraves reported that the water supply upgrade was nearly complete. He also reported that most tenants had now paid for the year.

24/2051/e Bus update

Cllr Harris reported about the completely ridiculous decision by Somerset Council to close the toilets at the bus station in Yeovil.

24/2052 MINUTES

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

Proposed: Cllr. Cole

Seconded: Cllr. Matraves

Agreed unanimously.

24/2053 MATTERS ARISING

24/2053/a Parish Councillor vacancy

The Chair and clerk reported that they had had initial talks with a resident and further updates would follow.

24/2053/b Latest update from SC and Minchington Rec maintenance

The Clerk reported that she had heard from a Unitary Councillor from another division that SC services would be continuing for the time being – SC had yet to produce a price list for services which was then to be distributed to Parish Councils for them to decide what services they would like to sign up for. The SC devolution team were currently still working on the devolution of assets.

The Clerk and Cllr Cole had met SC Localities Manager Steve Fox with regards to taking on the management to some of the services (grass maintenance, dog & litter bins, tree and rose maintenance) at Minchington Rec – The clerk reported that they had been informed that the devolution of assets was their main focus. The Clerk informed Mr Fox that at this stage the Parish Council would not be prepared to take on the play area, insurance and the ancient stone wall, but would do so at a later stage. Mr Fox reported that SC would still be emptying the litter and dog bins on their assets for at least the next few months. The clerk had spoken to Down2Earth SW Ltd regarding the tree and rose management. The clerk asked Mr Fox to submit a quote for grass maintenance from SC and was also getting a quote from Somerset Landscapes. Cllr Matraves spoke about how it was important to take this asset on completely sooner rather than later due to the uncertainty of Somerset Council's future. The clerk agreed with this but the wall needed to be fixed and the rec needs to be in good condition. The clerk reported that she had also asked SC for the matting under the slide to be jetted and also the railing opposite the pub to be replaced. There was a lot of work to be completed before we were at the stage of taking it all on and also need to have something legally in place. The clerk will keep everyone updated to future developments on this.

Action: Clerk

24/2053/c Minchington Rec - Wall update

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she had been informed that approval has been given to repair a longer length of the wall and the SC manager is now contacting the contractor for a start date. The Clerk reported that she had chased again for a date and will keep chasing.

Action: Clerk

24/2053/d Gift of Centenary Garden bench

The Chair reported that whilst at the Recreation field on Sunday for the tree planting, Cllr Matraves unearthed a concrete plinth that was already in situ behind the MUGA. This is where the gifted seat will be fixed. The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she was getting a new quote from Down2Earth on the installation of the bench only. The clerk was also asked to get confirmation from the family who are donating the seat that they are paying for the installation.

Action: Clerk

24/2054 **PLANNING:**

24/2054/a Matters For Report

Nothing to report.

24/2054/b Decisions Notified:

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

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

24/20454/c Applications for consideration.

24/2055 **FINANCE:**

24/2055/a Matters for report:

End of 4th quarter figures

NAT WEST BANK ACCOUNTS:

Current account	£ 100.00
Reserve Account	£ 7,729.46
Total	£ 7,829.46

UNITY TRUST BANK

Current Account	£ 15,716.53
Instant Saver	£ 745.72

TOTAL IN BOTH BANKS £ **24,191.71**

There was no cheques outstanding/unbanked: £ 0.00

Total as cash book £ **24,191.71**

The clerk reported that the accounts would now go to the internal auditor to be checked and signed off. The end of year AGAR forms would also be signed ready for the May AGM where the accounts would be agreed and signed off by the Parish Council and then sent to the external auditor.

Action: Clerk

24/2055/b Matters for resolution

Nothing to report

24/2055/c Invoices Payable – all paid via the Unity Trust Bank

Louise Brooks	Salary – March 24	£ 534.57
HMRC	NI & PAYE March 24	£ 36.60
Louise Brooks	Expenses & home office Allowance – March 24	£ 70.00
Down2Earth SW Ltd	Playground & general maintenance Jan – March 24	£ 320.00
Down2Earth SW Ltd	Repairs to fence at recreation field entrance	£ 165.00
Somerset Landscapes Ltd	Rec Grounds maintenance Jan – March 24	£ 318.91
Hamdon Youth Group	Annual grant	£ 2,196.15
Norton newsletter	Annual payment for monthly articles in newsletter Apr 24-Mar 25 inclusive	£ 60.00
NEST PENSION	Nest pension payment – Direct debit	£ 113.05

Proposed: Cllr. Matraves

Seconded: Cllr. More

Agreed unanimously

24/2056 **VILLAGE HALL:**

Nothing to report

24/2057 **RECREATION GROUND:**

Nothing to report

24/2058 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

All correspondence received had been circulated to all Parish Councillors.

24/2059 **FOOTPATHS:**

Nothing to report

24/2060 **MEMBERS' REPORTS.**

The Chair reported more pot holes at Little Norton. Clerk to take a look and see if they are deep enough to report. Also there are many pot holes in Sandy Lane.

Action: Clerk

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.55pm

The next monthly meeting will be held on MONDAY 13th MAY 2024 at 7.30 pm in the village hall committee room.

PLEASE NOTE- THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE BEFOREHAND STARTING AT 7.10pm