

# NEWTON POPPLEFORD & HARPFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting on  
Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016 in the Village Hall at 20.00.

	<p><b>Public session.</b> There were comments about the short period available for setting up the meeting and the suggestion of having meetings in the pavilion was made. It was pointed out that the hedge at the back of the playing field was normally cut by the Parish Council around this time of year.</p>	
	<p><b>Present</b> Cllrs Jeffery (Chairman), Clarke, Coppell, Downen, Kemp, Lipczynski, Ranger, Tillotson &amp; Walker. Tony Le Riche (Locum Clerk), PC S Lee, County Councillor Channon, Paul Humphries, Architect and 9 members of the public.</p>	
	<p><b>Apologies for absence</b> Cllrs Burhop and Zirker</p>	
1	<p><b>Minutes</b> Minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2016 were accepted and signed. Proposed Cllr Lipczynski, seconded Cllr Ranger</p>	
2	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b> Cllr Downen reported that he has a business relationship with a distant relative of the applicant for plan no 16/1988 Land at Bowhayes Farm. Not sufficient to form an interest.</p>	
3	<p><b>Planning Applications</b> <b>16/1883/FUL. Ridgeway, Littledown Lane</b> (site visited). SUPPORT as there were similar developments in the neighbourhood.</p> <p><b>16/2011/ FUL 19 King Alfred Way</b> (site visited) No windows overlook neighbouring properties, evening light to neighbours may be affected. SUPPORT. The Ward Cllr raised concerns that the proposal was overbearing on neighbouring properties and would be submitting her own comments.</p> <p><b>16/2038/FUL. East Hill Pride, Farm Shop. Four Elms Hill.</b> Proposal: Change of use of land for the siting of a log cabin for holiday let purposes. Mr Coles, applicant explained the reasons for this application, being the continued diversity of this business.</p> <p>OBJECT Site is outside the BuAB and in the AONB. The Council felt that this application does not comply with local policies (for example E16), the whole area being in the AONB and deserving the highest protection, the Council had previously supported a horticultural workers cottage on this site on the understanding that the existing building would be moved from site to prevent overdevelopment on a rural site outside the BUAB.</p> <p><b>16/1988/FUL. Land South of Bowhayes farm, Venn Ottery.</b> Proposal: Construction of dwelling (incorporating integral garage) and detached garden store and provision of access driveway, bridge and parking/ turning facilities. Mr Humphries gave a visual presentation to describe the process leading to this application. The site was outside any BuAB but was designed to meet S55 criteria being of outstanding design or innovation. He also displayed</p>	

	<p>a model showing how the proposed building would fit in to the topography of the site.</p> <p>Mr Hughes, Chairman of the Venn Ottery &amp; Southerton Residents Association reported that the Association would be meeting on Thursday to consider any response to the application. In particular, there were local concerns about local flooding, increased traffic, and loss of amenities.</p> <p>Cllr Coppell suggested that not only was the Council being asked to consider whether the building met the criteria of para 55 in terms of design or innovation but also whether these were sufficient to counter the policies of the Local Plan. <b>SITE VISIT on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016.</b></p> <p><b>16/2072/FUL. 20 Little Down Orchard.</b> Proposal: Demolition of existing garage/utility/stores and Conservatory. Construction of new single storey side and rear extension. The applicant described the proposal, which was to remove the existing poorly designed and constructed extension, which also formed the boundary with the adjoining property and replace it with an extension of conventional build which would be set in from the boundary. <b>SUPPORT.</b></p>	<b>A</b>
4	<p><b>County Councillor's report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Channon had attended the Venn Ottery Quarry Liaison Group meeting. She was concerned that DCC had adopted the bridle path even though it was in poor condition and would press for Allied Industries or DCC to carry out improvements.</li> <li>• Restoration of the Quarry was taking longer to complete. This would be monitored.</li> <li>• Most of the local road closures were finished.</li> <li>• Applications relating to Straitgate Farm and Blackhill Quarries were expected.</li> </ul>	
5	<p><b>School road safety &amp; new School Plan</b></p> <p>There had been a meeting earlier in the day to discuss this. The School was preparing a School Travel Plan involving parents and staff. Questions would be inserted in the Neighbourhood Plan too. There is no safe walking route to School and this should be emphasised in the School Travel Plan. DCC will be asked to carry out a survey of pedestrian movements, which would be useful when looking at the planning application.</p> <p>The new school development did not include any on-site parking which was thought would lead to problems in the village car park. Two disabled parking spaces are included in the new school plan, but no other parking or safe drop-off point is in the proposed plan. These and a turning point were needed.</p> <p>The planning application for the school should be submitted this month with a start on site in February 2017. There would be a temporary access to the school higher up School Lane and there would be a temporary prohibition of parking to maintain access for construction traffic.</p> <p>Cllr Channon emphasised that these points needed to be reported to the Highway Engineers and planners so that conditions could be included in any planning consent. As this was Government funded, these things needed to be included from the outset as it was unlikely that there would be any funding afterwards. Cllr Channon would arrange for an Officer site visit to discuss these points.</p>	
6	<p><b>Bus Stops. Lower Way, Harpford.</b></p> <p>Cllr Downen commented that the bus stop was in the wrong place. It was also pointed out</p>	

	<p>that the bus shelter was in poor condition and if you were in the bus shelter, you could not see if the bus was coming.</p> <p>RESOLVED: that steps be taken to move the bus stop to Lower Way on safety grounds.</p> <p><b>Action: to contact DCC to ask them to visit the site.</b></p>	A
7	<p><b>Police Report</b></p> <p>PC Lee reported that there had been 2 crimes in August, 1 theft and 1 criminal damage. This was similar to last year.</p> <p>In September there had been 5 crimes 3 of theft and 2 of criminal damage. This was worse than last year.</p> <p>Speed checks were continuing, including late in the evening.</p> <p>A member of the public reported that a sign in Back Lane had been smashed. Also there was a lot of broken glass in the play area and the Dog bin had been pulled off the post. PC Lee agreed to investigate these.</p>	
8	<p><b>Action List</b></p> <p>This had been circulated.</p> <p>Traffic matters. The poles for VAS Signs were to be installed and then basic training was to be arranged.</p> <p>Pedestrian lights. DCC requested to install remote monitoring. Cllr Channon agreed to chase this up.</p> <p>Tree Audit. A map showing TPO's was needed. Cllr Kemp volunteered to act as Tree Warden but would concentrate on trees in TPO's. This was accepted with thanks.</p> <p>Cllr Tillotson reported that the Dog Bin in Webbers Meadow was not being emptied or was so well used that it needed another bin.</p>	
9	<p><b>Public Toilets</b></p> <p>Cllr Ranger had met the Toilets Cleaner to discuss work and materials. EDDC recommended a deep clean every month. The lights were not working and there was no bin. In the short term it was proposed to purchase a bin for the staff to empty. There would be a meeting of the Working Party to discuss the longer-term strategy for the toilets.</p>	
10	<p><b>Publicity &amp; Communications.</b></p> <p>Cllr Walker made further reference to the short period for set up before the meeting. She suggested meeting regularly in the Pavilion where there was a store for the AV equipment. There was a need to develop links with residents. Agendas went on the notice boards and on the website, with the minutes.</p> <p><b>Cllr Walker offered to prepare a summary of meetings</b> which could go on the two parish notice boards and in the Parish Magazine. This was accepted with thanks.</p> <p>There were also notice boards which were owned by others. It was thought that the Clerk could supply details of ownership so that an approach could be made to put the summary on these as well. Cllr Walker invited Councillors to send her ideas on communications.</p>	A A
11	<p><b>Grievance &amp; Disciplinary Policy</b></p> <p>Cllr Ranger had circulated a draft policy which was based on the Local Topic Note supplied by NALC. RESOLVED: that the draft be adopted as policy of the Parish Council.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Coppell, seconded Cllr Lipczynski. All in favour.</p>	
12	<p><b>Play Area</b></p>	

	<p>It was proposed to use S106 funds to obtain a gazebo in the play area. This needed to be fairly vandal resistant. The Chairman suggested that green oak would work otherwise steel was the only suitable alternative. Councillors preferred wood as it was more in keeping with the area.</p> <p>It was AGREED that proposed designs should be submitted to the next meeting.</p> <p>The Council also needed to look at the Risk assessment before agreeing to take action to replace the broken spring on rocker and deal with vandalism to the cricket nets.</p>	
13	<p><b>Christmas Lunch</b></p> <p>Cllr Kemp reported that applications had been made for funding. The lunch would be held on 20<sup>th</sup> December at 1.00pm. Local businesses would be approached for donations of food and drink. A team of helpers was needed.</p> <p>It was suggested that each of the local surgeries could be invited to nominate 10 local residents to whom the Parish Council could send invitations.</p>	
14	<p><b>Trees on the Village Green.</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported that two quotes had been received for tidying the trees. Application for Tree consent was now needed and residents in the area should be notified before works are carried out. <b>Action: Choice of contractor was delegated to the Finance Committee on the basis of the written quotes.</b></p>	<p>A</p> <p>A</p>
15	<p><b>Projector</b></p> <p>The Council had acquired a projector and other equipment. Council needs to decide about hiring the projector out and at what rate. <b>Action: Delegated to the Finance Committee to decide.</b></p>	A
16	<p><b>Planning Committee report</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported that the Planning Committee had carried out the site inspections previously reported.</p>	
17	<p><b>Financial Management</b></p> <p>Receipts, payments and balances to end July &amp; August were submitted. It was AGREED that <b>these should be considered by the Finance Committee.</b></p> <p>The Council noted that the External Audit certificate had been received with no matters requiring the attention of the Council. This will be put on the website and on the main notice board.</p>	A
18	<p><b>District Councillors' Reports</b></p> <p>District Councillor's Report on activity in the past month: (very brief due to the meeting running late):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raised objections to most recent planning application to change conditions at the Venn Ottery site - by Allied Industries had now stated that quarrying on the Venn Ottery site would cease in December 2016.</li> <li>• attended the public meeting in Sidford on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September to protest about the planning application for the Sidford Industrial site and noted that DCC had also now raised objections to this on the grounds of traffic around the site and local area. Traffic from this proposed planning application would have yet more adverse impact on the already congested A3052 through our village. (NB – the day after the PC meeting EDDC refused the application on numerous grounds).</li> <li>• attended the last consultation meeting at Tipton School on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September to</li> </ul>	

	<p>discuss relocation of the school – again this could potentially have an impact on our local school as children from Tipton St John apply to attend Newton Poppleford School.</p>	
19	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b>  The Working Party would link in to the School Travel Plan.  Application had been made for funding of £6,000 which would cover analysis of the community survey and the Housing Needs Survey.</p>	
20	<p><b>Lateness of the hour.</b>  The Chairman noted that it was 10.30pm and called for the meeting to close, with all remaining business to be adjourned to the next meeting.</p>	
21	<p>Date of next meeting <b>Monday 31st October 2016, Village Hall at 8pm</b>  Items to include:  Projector hiring out &amp; rates of hire.  Citizens Advice. Information Letter re Energy costs, offer to attend a meeting.</p>	