

NEWTON POPPLEFORD & HARPFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on
Monday 28th November 2016 in the Village Hall at 20.00.

	<p>Public session. There were no comments raised at this point in the meeting</p>	
	<p>Present Cllrs Jeffery (Chairman), Burhop, Coppell Downen, Kemp, Lipczynski, Ranger, Walker & Zirker. Tony Le Riche (Locum Clerk), PC S. Lee and 9 members of the public.</p>	
1	<p>Apologies for absence Cllrs Clarke, Tillotson and, County Councillor Channon</p>	
2	<p>Minutes Minutes of the meeting held on 31st October 2016 were accepted and signed. Proposed Cllr Walker seconded Cllr Ranger.</p>	
3	<p>Declarations of Interest Cllr Burhop declared a personal interest in Plan No 16/2491/FUL – Mouse Hall.</p>	
4	<p>Action List VAS Poles: training to be followed up. DCC to be requested to erect poles asap. Action: Locum Clerk. Play Area: Finance Committee to be delegated to accept a quote for repairs. Parishes Together: Funding for ditch maintenance. Howard Hughes was preparing a list for the Venn Ottery area, also Clerk DGA was pulling a list together. Action Clerk (DGA) Personnel: The Clerk was to retire on 31st March 2017 and his hours were reduced to 6 per week from his return from sick leave. A job description had been drawn up and the post was advertised on the website. Advertising in the Sidmouth Herald will cost £191 +VAT – AGREED. The closing date for applications was 18th December with interviews being held on 17th January 2017.</p>	<p>A</p> <p>A</p>
5	<p>Police Report PC Lee was based at Middlemoor at the moment, due to an injury. In October, there had been 2 crimes and 23 incidents, mainly car accidents. In November, there had been 1 crime and 7 incidents. He reminded the meeting that everyone should be extra vigilant during the dark evenings and report anything suspicious.</p>	
6	<p>Planning Applications 13/0316/MOUT Construction of 40 dwellings (including 16 affordable), doctor's surgery and associated infrastructure, open space and landscaping (approval of details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale reserved by outline planning permission) Land South Of King Alfred Way, Newton Poppleford. The Council noted that an appeal has been submitted and AGREED to make further representations on the basis of pepper potting affordable houses throughout the development as had been achieved satisfactorily at Gerway, Ottery St Mary. This would contribute to social integration and community cohesiveness which is considered to be vital in this small village.</p>	

	<p>16/2491/FUL Construction of first floor extension to existing bungalow and addition of pitched roof to garage. Mouse Hall, High Street, Newton Poppleford. Cllr Burhop reminded the meeting of his declaration of interest and took no part in the discussion. A Site Visit had been held. Objections had been submitted based on loss of privacy and increased ridge height, which had not been allowed in relation to a number of properties close-by. It was also suggested that the design of the dormers was overbearing on the neighbouring property. OBJECT on the grounds of loss of privacy and resulting loss of amenity, raising the ridge height which had been refused on similar properties nearby, design of the dormers was overbearing for this property.</p> <p>16/2702/MFUL Demolition of existing school buildings and the construction of a new two storey school building together with revised pedestrian access, provision of landscaping, sport pitches, sports area and the retention of existing hard play area and vehicle access. Newton Poppleford Primary School, School Lane, Newton Poppleford. Mr Vaughan, the head Teacher was able to give further information and answer questions. It was noted that there was no dropping off or picking up point. Mr Vaughan said that the new building was being funded by the Education Funding Agency and they did not include parking in their remit. The Governors and DCC were investigating land to the south of the School. There were many comments that the design was not suitable for a new building in the AONB and unlike any other building in the Village. A design similar to the existing school would be far more acceptable. The EFA had only put forward one design whereas it was suggested that there should have been several options, bearing in mind the location and prominence of the building. Concern was expressed regarding management of construction. School Lane was a busy road with access to various properties. Some trees would be lost to facilitate construction. There should be further landscaping to soften the overall impression of the site.</p> <p>RESOLVED: that EDDC be informed that the Parish Council welcomes the proposal to build a new school for the Village but feels that the design should be reviewed to produce a scheme that is more suited to a site in the AONB and one that is more in keeping with other properties in the Village. It is suggested that a design with a traditional roof or similar to the existing school building would be preferable. The introduction of some cladding could also soften the building. Construction of the new building will need careful management. There should be conditions to enforce this including the contractor being a member of the Considerate Constructors scheme.</p> <p>TREE PRESERVATION ORDER TPO NO: 16/0015/TPO PROPOSAL: Newton Poppleford Green (land at the war memorial), Station Road, Newton Poppleford, The Council noted the making of this TPO and went on to discuss works to the trees. Cllr Ranger informed the meeting that the Officer's report gave details of the type of works that could be carried out to the trees. RESOLVED 1 that the works be limited to light pruning over the path and adjoining properties and removal of dead wood. 2 that fresh prices be sought for this work.</p>	A
7	<p>Gazebo in the Play Area The Locum Clerk displayed 5 options for a gazebo / shelter in the Play Area. The Council considered that there was scope for a gazebo related to the toddler area and another one near the MUGA for older children.</p>	

	<p>The Council expressed a preference for the Creative Play option, with the roof extended, for the Play Area and Playdale Encounter 6 for the MUGA.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Clerk approach EDDC for further advice on funding both of these options through S106 funding.</p>	A
8	<p>Toilets The Chairman reported that the Cleaner had now finished and the new contractor, Spotless Cleaning, had done the deep clean and were now working daily. Some signs were needed and the Clerk would arrange to buy these. The electrician would carry out a formal inspection on Wednesday and arrangements would be made for a plumber to inspect after that. Cllr Zirker had met with the electrician who had pointed out that a new consumer unit would be needed and it was likely that a new hand dryer would be needed. The Council had included a sum in next year's budget for refurbishment of the toilets, this needs further exploration at the next meeting.</p>	
9	<p>Draft Budget The Finance Committee had proposed a budget which had been circulated to members. This included extra provision for various items (including toilet refurbishment and a regular part-time handy man) with a result that the precept would increase from £37,500 to £42,500. It was noted that this was the first increase for several years and there was to be an improvement in services.</p> <p>RESOLVED: 1 that the draft budget be approved as the basis for the Parish Council's activities for 2017/18. 2 that a precept of £42,500 be issued on EDDC.</p>	A
10	<p>Road safety on Four Elms Hill Cllr Downen reported that there was concern at the increase in accidents on Four Elms Hill.</p> <p>Cllr Ranger concurred with this and pointed out that trees overhang the South side causing bright and dark patches which was particularly bad at this time of year when the sun was low.</p> <p>The visibility mirror had condensation obscuring it at this time of year.</p> <p>Cllr Channon had received information about 30mph repeater signs which said that they were not permissible on this stretch of road but they had been used in similar areas elsewhere. However, the speed limit went from 40mph – derestricted – 30mph and it was felt that removal of the derestricted zone might help to control speed.</p> <p>Action: Cllr Kemp agreed to ask the Police for statistics about accidents in this area. Action: The Chairman agreed to speak to Cllr Channon about signs, removing the derestricted zone and the need to get a response about moving the bus shelter.</p>	A A
11	<p>Finance Committee The minutes of the meeting held on 5th October 2016 had been previously circulated. RESOLVED: that the minutes be adopted.</p>	
12	<p>Receipts, payments and balances to end October. The Council received and noted a schedule of Receipts, payments and balances to the end of October</p> <p>Bonfire night income and expenses The Council received and noted a schedule of Receipts, payments relating to bonfire</p>	

	<p>night, which showed a surplus of £915. Cllr Zirker was asked to recirculate the accounts for HM The Queen's Birthday celebrations. He pointed out that a slight loss was made. The Council considered the power supply at the Pavilion. Action: Cllr Zirker agreed to investigate the possibility of uprating this.</p> <p>RESOLVED: that the surplus from bonfire night be retained as a fund to support future events.</p>	A
13	<p>County Councillor's report Cty Cllr Channon's report was read out and was noted. Parts of the report had been discussed in connection with other items.</p>	
14	<p>District Councillors' Reports Cllr Ranger had circulated her report, which was received with thanks Cllr Ranger also reported that there were 40 neighbourhood plans being prepared in East Devon. 1 was complete and in force, 1 would go to referendum shortly. She suggested that the NP Team were progressing as well as many other Parishes. Shan expressed concern at the leading nature of some of the questions in the NP questionnaire but was informed that these had been considered thoroughly and it was important that any policies included in the NP were evidence based. It was clear that there was some reluctance to return questionnaire but efforts were being made to improve the return rate. Forms were going to Devon Communities Together for analysis.</p>	
15	<p>Footpaths Ted Swan, the Footpath Warden, reported that there were no problems arising from the heavy rain. A fallen tree had not caused an obstruction but probably helped to protect the bank. The Council was aware that works were needed to control erosion in this area. Cllr Downen suggested that a second bridge would soon be needed as flood water was cutting a deeper channel.</p>	
16	<p>Date of next meeting Tuesday 20th December 2016, Harpford Hall at 8pm</p>	

Chairman