

**Minutes of Newton Poppleford and Harpford Parish Council Meeting
held on 28th October 2013 in the Village Hall at 8pm**

Present: - Cllrs Sanders (Chairman), D Jeffery, H Jeffery, Phillips, Slattery, Tillotson, Pearce.

Apologies: - Cllrs Salter, Cook, Cole and Clarke.

In attendance: D G Atkins (Clerk), District Cllr Potter, County Cllr C Channon.

10/13/27 **Declarations of Interest:** - None at that time.

10/13/28 Minutes of the meeting held on 13th September 2013 were approved and signed, after addition of the Declaration of Cllr Tillotson in respect of a disclosable personal interest in land at the rear of Badger Close (Planning Application).

Proposed	Cllr H Jeffery
Seconded	Cllr Tillotson

10/13/29 **Reports**

A) Chairman's

1. Police – No report. It was again queried why there was no report or attendance. The Clerk was asked to speak to the Police.
2. Any other matters – None.

B) Clerks

1. Receipt, Payments and Balance on the current account to end of September 2013. Noted.
2. Water main replacement up-date – The Clerk pointed out that the works had gone ahead in a very efficient manner and speed; they appeared to be ahead of schedule. He also added that he had received a number of emails pointing out the efficiency of the one way system and asking if it could be continued throughout the whole of the contract. This had been passed to the County Councillor for consideration. It was noted that a number of drivers had ignored the signs which some Members considered were inadequate. It was noted that the Police had allegedly booked a number of drivers not adhering to the law.

Members debated the whole matter and Members of the Public expressed their individual concerns particularly Mr R Swann

together with others whose accesses do not lend themselves to egress from the downward movement of traffic. He pointed out that to gain access would be breaking the law and thus now that the works in the narrow part had been completed, he could see no justifications for continuing with the system. He further questioned who had control of the regulation. Cllr Channon responded it was a matter for South West Water not the County Council. Other Members of the Public voiced their concerns of the difficulties of getting out of their properties on a normal day, due to the number of vehicles passing through the main street. Having debated the issue for sometime it was agreed to leave the system in place for the time being, anyone with further concerns or information could report it.

Proposed	Cllr D Jeffery
Seconded	Cllr H Jeffery

It was further agreed to write to the Police thanking them for their assistance.

3. To report on water installation re. Church and Old Cemetery

The Clerk read from an email from Mr John Slade, Church Treasurer, setting out the current Plan and requesting the Parish Council to install its meter and stop cock ahead of the installation of the Church's which would be on the main footpath. He further pointed out that the Church would receive the full account and forward a quarterly account to the Parish Council based on a reading of the private meter. The Clerk confirmed he would check on the meter as required.

The further question of previous usage over the time that the Hall had not been available. The suggestion made was that the Council pay 50% of the charge in respect of the Hall (£250 per year) thus £375.00 be offered to the Church. It was agreed the Clerk seek the agreement of Mr Slade and report back. The Council approved with one objector.

Proposed	Cllr D Jeffery
Seconded	Cllr Tillotson

4. To receive and note the current Income and Expenditure spreadsheet to date

Probable Y/E position (tabled). Noted. To be updated monthly in preparation for Budget exercise in December/January.

C) County Cllr

1. Cllr Channon referred to the Quarry Liaison Meeting, she said that the Quarry was not likely to produce what it was originally considered to. In respect of the County Road, it is considered that pot holes be filled now but that works to the cracking up weaknesses should wait until the quarry ceases operation. Members expressed their concerns. Cllr H Jeffery considered that due to the dark nights the pot holes are not seen, she hoped works would be carried out sooner rather than later.

Cllr Channon then referred to the School Open Meeting and hoped as many people as possible could attend. It was also noted that the small section of footpath at Parsons Paddock and Parsons Close had been completed which was a vast improvement.

Questions were asked. Mrs Swain asked about the wood chip that was piled on the steep bank going up Four Elms Hill and its likelihood of slipping onto the road and blocking the drains and the matter of the footbridge to Bovis from the main road and its likely installation. Mr Swan responded that it was likely to be next year but that the foundations have recently been installed. The Chairman raised the matter of the red bridge and its protection and indeed the area around it which needed protection from erosion. It had been understood that whilst diggers were on site to remove the old water pipes etc, the large block stone and other works would have been attended to. Cllr Channon pointed out most works were in the domain of the riparian owner. It was agreed to write a letter to the Environment Agency pointing out the concerns of the Parish Council.

D) District Cllr

Cllr Potter said he was disappointed in respect of the unavailability of police to attend the meeting and he hoped that a report would be forthcoming for the next meeting in respect of the operation of the one way system and the incidents dealt with allegedly by the Police. He then referred to the Audit report on the District Council which had received a good review. He warned that difficulties might be encountered in 2015/16. He was pleased that an open meeting was to be held on Monday 11th November 2013 in respect of a Neighbourhood Plan as he advised at the last meeting. He also noted that heavy goods vehicles were going through the village in contravention of the traffic order.

Cllr H Jeffery and the SHLAA Process Review paper

This item was to have featured under the heading Villages Plan, under the Local Plan consideration. The Clerk advised that the Chairman of DMC had said that the document was ready for consideration. However, on checking with Matt Dickins, the Clerk had been advised that due to a few glitches the matter would not now be presented to the DMC Committee until December. Cllr Jeffery gave a brief introduction and said that due to absentees the matters be considered at the next meeting.

The Clerk at this point raised the matter of consideration of the Village Plan and some of the matters that had been requested to be dealt with. He said that the water main had started. Jubilee seats were now installed with one more to be dealt with; Public Notice Boards are now in place, the only outstanding one is at King Alfred Way, awaiting Woodley's Joinery to complete.

2. Cllr Phillips – Grants

To review the recommendations previously forwarded and raised at the last meeting. Cllr Phillips said he hoped Members would go along with his proposals.

10/13/30

Communications – Smiths Gore

1. Harpford Hall – Copied to Members and to the Public. The Clerk said that a Structural Surveyor had visited the Hall and given a cursory overview and would visit again where a key was available (note Mr Taylor has a key), a date is now being arranged.

The Clerk pointed out that the Heads of Agreement letter acknowledged the 5 year break clause and a 6 month notice period. Cllr D Jeffery said Members had visited the Hall whilst on the site inspection nearby and noted the property needed re-painting and the deteriorations of the Bridge (Foot note provided the Council was dealing with the matter and it was resolved satisfactorily then residents of Harpford and the Social Club would be willing to help with a contribution to the re-opening costs).

2. Website – Shan Merritt and Cllr Slattery

Shan gave an update on how the site could be upgraded at a cost. Cllr Phillips agreed that we should upgrade to the

next version. Cllr Slattery said he considered that we should put to together a list of requirements then seek quotes from other providers to see what they could offer. Cllr Phillips intimated that there would still be a need for paper in future years.

Cllr Slattery agreed to email to everyone his suggestions for further consideration and return of comments for discussion before moving forward. Cllr Tillotson questioned 'Were we using the facility to our best advantage'. Shan responded that little enthusiasm had been shown with no input from anyone over recent years and cost was a consideration. The Chairman said it appeared no-one knew what they wanted, future proofing needed, it was agreed for Members to look at other Council sites with particular reference to Feniton and others. It was noted that our site could receive matters considered necessary now. Shan raised the question of advertising indicating some outside interest was being shown with a local veterinary wishing to pay for such a service.

3. **EDDC Invitation**

The Clerk to attend a meeting in respect of the District Council proposed to move its headquarters (a stakeholder meeting) at the Honiton Offices of the East Devon Business Centre. Cllr Slattery pointed out that the Clerk had misread his response. It said he did not wish to attend. The Clerk confirmed this was the case. It was agreed that if the Clerk wanted to attend he could (It being noted that in an email from Cllr Salter he considered it would be a waste of time and money).

4. **EDDC Invitation**

To the Town and Parish Council's Annual meeting at Knowle on Thursday 14th November commencing at 5.30pm up to 3 delegates could attend. Members had received the details but some were not sure about attending. Cllr Sanders said he could. The Clerk agreed to phone round to check.

5. **Any Others, not received at time of printing Agenda – (None)**

2. 131893/FUL The Stables, Hoppins, Southerton, Ottery St Mary

Proposal : Alteration of existing kitchen window to form door;
installation of window in toilet and lay patio in rear garden.

Observations: Parish Council fully support.

3. 13/1896/LBC The Stables, Hoppins, Southerton, Ottery St Mary

Proposal: Alteration of existing kitchen window to form door;
installation of window in toilet and lay patio in rear garden.

Observations: Parish Council fully support.

4. 13/1993/FUL Otter Dene, Venn Ottery, Ottery St Mary,
EX11 1SG

Proposal: Creation of dormer window and external staircase and
balcony to access door in gable end.

Observations: Parish Council support.

5. 13/1480/FUL Vine Cottage, High Street, Newton
Popleford, Sidmouth, EX10 ODS

Proposal: Erection of single storey side extension.

Observations: Parish Council support.

6. 13/1772/FUL 6 Brook Meadow, High Street, Newton
Popleford

Proposal: Construction of garage extension.

Observations: Parish Council support.

7. 13/1564/FUL 14 Chestnut Way, Newton Popleford

Proposal: Construction of single storey extension.

Observations: Parish Council support with conditions.

8. 13/1419/FUL South View, Exmouth Road, Newton
Poppleford

Proposal: Construction of replacement detached bungalow.

Observations: Parish Council support.

10/13/34 Open Session

Mr Swan referred to the balsam bashing and said that he had taken over from Cllr Cook but that there had been a poor response from Parish Volunteers. It was agreed to try and refresh those persons willing to do voluntary tasks in the village. Mr Swann referred to Farthings Lane FP1 and enquired what the up to date position was. Mr Swan replied 'The matter was in the hands of the County Council's Legal Department'. The Chairman closed the proceedings thanking everyone for their attendance.