

Minutes of the Meeting of the Newton Poppleford and Harpford Parish Council held on Monday 26th January 2015 in the Village Hall at 8.00pm

Present: - Cllrs H Jeffery – Chairman, Cole, D Jeffery, Cook, Clarke, Phillips, Tillotson.

Apologies: - Cllr Pearce, Ranger, Slattery, Channon CC attending Budleigh Salterton Town Council.

In attendance: - D G Atkins (Clerk & RFO), Cllr Potter DC and 7 members of the public.

Note – The proceedings are now recorded.

Open Session

Shan Merritt raised the matter of the County Council reviewing public transport grants with particular reference to services through the parish, 53, 157 and 387, the latter may be restricted to Wednesdays and Saturdays only. The 157 Sidmouth, Otterton, Exmouth could be cut completely. It was noted these matters were for discussion with full details available on the web.

Resolved to place on February’s Agenda.

The matter of KAW and sewage was also referred to but no further information was available.

10.13.121 Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15th December to be approved and signed.

Cllr Phillips requested a correction to the minutes in respect of 106 funds available to the parish. There was approximately £12,108 available for sport provision and play. Within that amount was £6,000 for land purchase.

It was resolved to talk to neighbouring parishes to see what their views were with regards to spending monies on section 106 and the views of EDDC, that funds could only be used on sport and play.

As amended the minutes were agreed and signed.

Proposed	Cllr	Cook	
Seconded	Cllr	Cole	Nem con

10.13.122 **Declarations of Interest** – None.

10.13.123 **Reports**

A) Chairman’s

1) Police, No report available.

2) Update on Neighbourhood Plan – Dr Coppel.

Progress was noted and that the Steering Committee was requesting further public involvement. Full report attached at Appendix A. Report to be put on the Parish Council web site.

Dr Coppell was thanked for her comprehensive report.

- 3) Current actions list review and update.

Members went through each item and noted the current position. The Chairman advised that this formula is updated from the next minutes.

- 4) Report from Cllr Salter re. Webbers Meadow Maintenance Contract (held over from last meeting) due to Cllr Salter's non attendance over the matter stands referred to the next available meeting.

Cllr Cole advised that the pile of wood removed from Back Brook along with gravel from under the road bridge would be moved in due course. It was also noted that willow planting to edges of the Otter and Back Brook supported by the EA could take place as a local grower had offered to supply the whips. Resolved to agree.

Proposed	Cllr	Cole	
Seconded	Cllr	Phillips	Unan.

It was noted that Cllr Tillotson's son had used his aerial technique to take photos of the area for the use of the Council. Thanks were warmly expressed. The aerial photos would gauge changes in the river course over time, which would provide useful information.

At this point the clerk raised the matter of the new gate from Webber's Meadow to the A3052 including a pedestrian inclusion. Cllr Cole said he was able to get the gate through Richard Spurway and arrange delivery of it.

Cllr Cole raised the fact that a criticism had been raised previously in respect of his enthusiasm to complete projects of self help and therefore he was a little reluctant to move the matter forwards.

- 5) Any other urgent matters.

The question of burials in the cemetery was referred to due to the difficulties and costs of grass mowing. It was noted that as far as the Old Cemetery was concerned, leveling would require a faculty having to be obtained from the Diocese. The clerk explained the previous problem which had arisen many years ago when the then Council had agreed the concept but that the Clerk at that time had not carried the matter forward.

Resolved to investigate further.

Proposed	Cllr	Cole	
----------	------	------	--

Seconded Cllr D Jeffery Unan.

Seat and Picnic Table at Venn Ottery Green.

It was noted that a seat was awaiting placement on the Green and that could have an impact on a picnic table.

It was resolved to contact Mr Martin of VOSRA to meet on site with the clerk and contractor re. siting and need of a table.

Proposed Cllr Phillips
Seconded Cllr Cole Unan.

B) Clerk's

- 1) Finance spreadsheets incorporating monthly receipts and payments. Full analysis to date. In view of the absence of the Finance Chairman the RFO advised of the position in respect of the probable year end balance.
- 2) To agree or otherwise the recommendation of the Finance Committee re. the budget for the year 2015-16 commencing 6th April 2015 and the review of the Clerks pay and conditions, as required by the audit regulation tabled and noted.

It was resolved to agree the precept as contained therein at £37,500 with government grant aid reduced figure £2,146.00.

A review of budget heads was held over pending RFO and Finance Chairman's further consideration, but this would not need any change in respect of the precept requirement. It was further noted that a figure of £10,000 was indicated to be repaid off the loan fund to PWLB. Budget approval to be on next Parish Council agenda.

- 3) 106 funding update (Cllr Phillips) - Cllr Phillips advised he was awaiting further discussions with Sulina Tallack and he asked Cllr Potter to help in bringing a meeting forward at an early opportunity. He further referred to the earlier corrections of the Minutes.
- 4) Venn Ottery Quarry - Water run off. Further update to the clerk's previous verbal report.

Cllr Cole referred to the further cleaning of the ditch at Southerton by the quarry and that the pipe under the road was now working, but that further work was required with the co-operation of Mr Down. It was hoped that further work would be undertaken before the next meeting, the Clerk to inform Cllr Channon of the need to clarify the position (note a response had been emailed that night to the Chairman but had not been opened at the time for the meeting).

5) Date of next meeting noted as 23rd February 2015.

C) County Cllr – No report (see above).

D) District Cllr

1. Cllr Potter again referred to the proposed move of the District Council from the Knowle and re-establishing some offices at Exmouth and a new build of much smaller proportion at Honiton. He further mentioned that the Audit Committee, Overview and Scrutiny were overseeing along with Grant Thornton, the Council's external auditor, the check and balances.
2. Mr Zirker sought an answer as to what questions etc had been asked of Audit. Cllr Potter considered much of this was still under raps but a full report would be forthcoming towards the beginning of March.
3. Cllr Potter referred to this year being election year, making the point he was standing down. Cllr Potter was thanked for all his effort over the last years.

E) Cllr Ranger – Harpford Hall update

1. Cllr Phillips had received a brief resume of the current position, it being noted funds were still being collected and that a sum of £280.00 had been collected and posted from the Church Carol Service to the funds.
2. In respect of Red Bridge, Western Power had been advised of the position of the electricity supply pole and its nearness to the edge of the bank.

F) Mr T Swan re. P3 matter

1. Mr Swan reported that some of the steps on FP17 had been replaced at a cost of £21.55.
2. FP 11 path had collapsed due to flooding. Mr Spurway had been notified and some funds found to enable gabions to be placed therein.
3. Red Bridge/East Devon Way – This matter is still under consideration. EA has no funds currently.

10.13.124 Communications

1. Queen's Garden Parties 2015 – It was agreed to forward the name of Cllr Pearce and Partner as the nomination from the Parish Council.
2. Reply from National Health Service re. Doctors Service areas – No change proposed.

Cllr Cook said she was to take the matter further.

10.13.125 Matters raised by Members

Councillor Cole referred to the perceived problem in respect of the Back Lane at Northmostown and its strategic significance as a relief of the A3052 for walkers, cyclists etc and along with Telecom cabling having been moved, considered urgent action was required. It was resolved to send a letter to the County Council Rights of Way copied to CDE, Cllr Channon and Open Reach to alert them to the problem.

10.13.126 Closure

The Chairman closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Chairman
Date