**NORTON FITZWARREN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 1st February, 2016 in the village hall.**

**Present:** Ken Hayward, Chairman, Paula Knott, Vice Chairman, Mike Palmer, Trevor Battle,

Paula Clinchant, Jean Adkins. Clerk Janet Gobey

Also present: County Cllr. Mike Rigby, Borough Cllr. Andy Sully and 8 members of the public.

The meeting started at 7.05pm with 15 minutes open discussion for the public, matters raised

were:

1. Update regarding the gravel recycling works, further information received from Somerset

County Council and concern raised about an article regarding the management of West Somerset Railway Association. It was requested that WSRA attend a meeting to clarify the situation.

It was generally agreed that it was not appropriate at this time to request a meeting and it was not the Parish Council’s business to interfere in the management of WSRA.

1. A complaint on behalf of the residents of Beauford Park about the mud on the pavement

and the poor state of repair of the roof on Forge Cottage.

The Empty Homes Manager at Taunton Deane has had the roof made safe and Somerset Highways will be requested to remove the mud from the footpath.

**1.02.16 Apologies for absence.**

Nita Wyatt, on holiday, Joyce Parsons, ill, Adrian Jones, Paula Knott, work

 commitments.

**2.02.16 Declarations of Interest –** none declared.

**3.02.16 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 4th January, 2016.**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**4.02.16 Police Matters**

The chairman read a report from PC Charlie Gear. A complaint was received from

 a member of the public that messages left were not responded to and that the

 ansaphone message was not welcoming.

**5.02.16 To consider installation of a defibrillator for the village.**

As the representative from the South West Ambulance Service could not attend,

 deferred until the next meeting.

**6.02.16 To consider grant application from the Youth Club.**

A grant application has been received for £1,640 to cover the rent for the skittle

 alley for two nights per week for 41 weeks. A representative from the Youth Club

 gave details of the funds held by them and the activities of the club over the year.

 Proposed Jean Adkins that the rent for the skittle alley for two nights per week, a

 total of £1,640 is paid by the Parish Council for the financial year April 2016 to

March 2017,

Seconded Mike Palmer, carried. The Youth Club will need to re-apply in March

2017.

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**7.02.16 To consider application from the Allotment Association to install hedging.**

The application is, in the first instance for permission to plant hedging on the

 outside of the fence, adjacent to the footpath to increase security on the

allotment site. An objection was received from a member of the public to this

proposal. After much discussion it was agreed to obtain advice from the

Environment Agency to enquire if they had any objection to this proposal and from

SCC Rights of Way as to whether the hedge will adversely affect the public footpath.

To be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

**8.02.16 Grant application for hedging whips –** deferred until the next meeting.

 Council agreed to take item 12. Reports (a) SCC next as Cllr. Rigby had to leave early.

**12.02.16 Reports**

 **(a) SCC** – Cllr. Rigby reported that Council’s request for the 40mph limit to be

 reduced to 30mph from Cross Keys to Burnshill Cottages has been approved by

 Somerset Highways. The 40mph section from Cross Keys to Staplegrove traffic lights will also be reduced to 30mph. The work will be included in the 2016/17

 programme. Confirmation will be sent to the Parish Council.

 Regarding the section from Pen Elm to Cross Keys, Cllr. Rigby is still working towards

 a reduction in speed limit or other speed reduction measures.

**9.02.16 Planning (a):**

25/15/0043 Erection of conservatory 21 Rectory Road, retention of works

 already undertaken). Ken Hayward declared a personal interest in this item

 as the owner is known to him. No comment by Council.

 **(b) Applications received since issue of agenda –** none received.

 **(c) Approvals and refusals:**

4/25/15/0035 Demolition and rebuilding of Brock House Children’s Centre -

 application approved.

 25/15/0040 5 dwellings at Beauford Park – application withdrawn.

 25/15/0042 Removal/variation of condition no.3 archaeological work prior to

 installation of Solar Farm on land east of Monty’s Farm – application approved.

**10.02.16 To consider lighting for the path through the churchyard.**

As a representative from the Church could not be present – deferred until the

 next meeting.

**11.02.16 Parish Council reserves – to consider projects for the future.**

Ideas put forward were:

 Nature Trail by the public footpath along Halse Water

 Metalled path from Pen Elm to Cross Keys

 To purchase new village name signs and to relocate the original signs to Great

 Western Way.

 To include on the maintenance schedule grass cutting on the bank of the B3227

approach road.

Litter picking in the village – the Clerk to get quotes

Proposed Ken Hayward to immediately request, in the meantime, a litter pick for

the whole village except the new build areas, under the maintenance budget, as the litter in the village was very bad, carried unanimously.

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**12.02.16 Reports (Continued.)**

 **(b) TDBC** Cllr. Andy Sully reported that planning permission had been granted for

 2,000 houses for Comeytrowe.

 Cllr. Sully is meeting with Barratts Site Manager to investigate ownership of the

 faulty lights along the public footpath adjacent to the main railway line.

 the Vehicle Restraint System is now being installed on the relief road.

 **(c) Footpaths** – Footpath T18/4 Prowses Meadow to the railway bridge will be

 closed from 29th February for six months due the ongoing development at the old

 cider site.

 **(d) Clerk**

A reminder that Blackdown View will be closed for one day on 15th February for

 road works.

 Work by Western Power to underground the cables for the new playing field should

 commence on the 4th April. The electricity cables in Manor Park are also to be

 replaced at the same time.

Somerset Highways will raise the installation of the bus gate at their next meeting

with developers.

**13.02.16 Finance:**

 **Payments for approval and any subsequently received:**

Parish Council website for one quarter £35.96

 Clerk’s salary and expenses £724.77

 Proposed Jean Adkins that the above payments are approved, seconded

 Paula Clinchant, carried.

**14.02.16 Update regarding extension of 30mph limit.**

(See item no. 12(a) SCC)

 A request was made for more mobile speed cameras through the village on a

 regular basis and on Great Western Way.

 Thanks were made to Mike Palmer for attending the Crime and Prevention

 meeting.

**15.02.16 Correspondence**

The Chairman requested that anyone wishing to nominate a candidate for the

Citizenship Award to contact the Mayor’s Office at Taunton Deane.

 Other correspondence placed on the table for members to view if they wished.

**16.02.16 Date, time and place of next meeting.**

 Monday 7th March, 2016 at 7pm in the village hall.

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