**NORTON FITZWARREN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 7th November, 2016 in the village hall.**

**Present:** Cllrs. Ken Hayward, Chairman, Paula Knott, Vice Chair, Nita Wyatt, Mike Palmer,

Paula Clinchant, Adrian Jones, Trevor Battle. Clerk: Janet Gobey

Also present: District Cllr. Roger Habgood and sixteen members of the public.

The meeting started at 7pm with open discussion for the public, matters raised were:

1. Volume of traffic through the village.
2. The news that Norton Manor Camp is closing in 2028, the marines will be deployed to Plymouth.
3. The Remembrance Service will start at the village hall and then proceed up to the church.
4. Lighting through the churchyard, Cllr. Habgood offered to take this up with Taunton Deane.

**1.11.16 Apologies for absence**

Cllr. Jean Adkins is unwell and County Cllr. Mike Rigby is unavoidably detained.

**2.11.16 Declarations of Interest**

Adrian Jones and Paula Knott declared an interest in item 9 as members of the

Playing Field Committee.

**3.11.16 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd October, 2016.**

The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Members agreed to take item 5, Vacancy for Parish Councillor next.

**5.11.16 Vacancy for Parish Councillor, to co-opt a new candidate onto Parish Council.**

Two candidates came forward. The Chairman invited them to give their reasons

for wishing to join the Parish Council. A secret ballot was taken and Graham

Withnell was elected and took his seat at the table.

The meeting was adjourned for five minutes to enable the Clerk to complete the

paperwork.

**4.11.16 Police Matters**

The Chairman read the report from PCSO Emma Carter. Concerns were raised

about several accidents which have taken place on the bridge over the WSRA railway

line on the B3227. Somerset Highways have agreed to install new warning signs.

**6.11.16 Morse Road parking issues.**

The Chairman read an email from a resident in Morse Road who is having difficulty

accessing and exiting her driveway, she has requested if the Parish Council would

support yellow lines opposite the entrance to the village centre car park. Following

discussion the Chairman proposed a request is made to Somerset Highways,

agreed unanimously.

**7.11.16 To consider purchase of soft closing gate for Vilberie play area.**

Various options were considered, the Chairman proposed purchasing the soft

closing mechanism for the existing gate, as the most economical option, seconded

Mike Palmer and agreed unanimously.

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**8.11.16 Broadband speed in village**

Item deferred until Cllr. Mike Rigby can be present, in the meantime a survey

will be undertaken to determine blackspots in the village. A notice will be

placed in the Norton News.

**9.11.16 To consider setting up a nature reserve and walk at the playing fields in**

**Stembridge Way.**

Unfortunately the small field will not be viable for football due to the high cost

involved in upgrading the land. A suggestion was put forward to turn the land into a

nature reserve, Paula Knott, Adrian Jones, Phil Bareham and Janet Gobey will form a

group and take this forward and consult with the school.

**10.11.16 Update regarding Vehicle Activated Signs for Pen Elm.**

Paula Knott and the Clerk met on site with Somerset Highways to agree the locations

of the two junction warning signs, one will be placed just before Langford Lane going

west and the other just before the cottages travelling east. It is hoped they will be

installed by the spring.

**11.11.16 New village name signs for Norton Fitzwarren**

Council approved the amended draft of the shaped sign with the ‘dragon’ emblem.

Highways will order the signs, which should also be in place in the spring.

**12.11.16 Planning: (a)**

25/16/0017 Widening of access to highway ‘Loxley’, Norton Fitzwarren – no

comment as this has now been approved by Taunton Deane.

25/16/20 Variation of condition 5 for annexe to be used as holiday let at

‘Farthings’, Langford Lane. – No objection by Council.

**(b) Applications received since issue of agenda:**

25/16/0016 Erection of single storey detached dwelling, Rectory Gardens, Rectory

Road.

Council raised concerns regarding previous flooding of the site, sewerage disposal,

and several other points. The Clerk was requested to write Taunton Deane to

raise these concerns and request that an independent Flood Risk Assessment is

carried out.

**(c) Approvals and refusals:**

25/16/0017 Widening of access to highway ‘Loxley’, Norton Fitzwarren-

approved.

**13.11.16 Update for new playing field.**

No update has been received from Matthew Bale, Taunton Deane. Council agreed

to make a Freedom of Information request for the meeting notes and other

paperwork concerning the acquisition of the access to the new playing field by the

Asset Team.

**14.11.16 Finance:**

**(a) Income received (for notification only):**

SCC rent for six months for nursery building at recreation ground £425.00

**(b) Payments for approval and any subsequently received:**

Bernard Perry – repairs to bank at Halse Water £2966.40

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Donation to Heartstart Charity £150.00

Village Hall – grant towards new boiler £5,000.00

Website for one quarter £35.96

Clerk’s salary and expenses £729.78

HMRC £111.24

Proposed Mike Palmer to approve the above payments, seconded Adrian Jones.

**15.11.16 Reports:**

(a) SCC - No report

(b) TDBC – No report

(c) Clerk

Highways have written to the residents’ concerned about their hedges encroaching

onto the public footpath.

The Environment Agency are currently carrying out their annual maintenance to the

Norton Brook and Halse Water.

**16.11.16 Correspondence**

As list provided by the Clerk and filed with the minutes – no discussion.

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

Monday, 5th December, 2016 at 7pm in the village hall.

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