**NORTON FITZWARREN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 3rd April, 2017 in the village hall.**

**Present:** Ken Hayward, Chairman, Paula Knott, Vice Chair, Mike Palmer, Nita Wyatt, Adrian Jones,

Jean Adkins, Graham Withnell, Paula Clinchant. Clerk: Janet Gobey.

Also present: District Cllr. Andy Sully, County Cllr. Mike Rigby, Lawrence Burr, Deputy Churchwarden, Phil Bareham, Footpath Liaison and eight members of the public.

The meeting started at 7.05pm with open discussion for the public, matters raised were:

1. Evidence of drug use has been found at the churchyard PCSO Emma Carter will include the

churchyard in her patrol.

1. Sections of fence in Station Road have been broken and removed – the Clerk will contact

Barratts and request it is repaired.

1. Lawrence Burr gave an update, St. Johns Church, Staplegrove will be closed whilst the pews are removed and chairs installed. All Saints, Norton Fitzwarren will take over services until

St. Johns re-opens.

**1.04.17 Apologies for absence**- none received.

**2.04.17 Declarations of Interest**

Ken Hayward, Graham Withnell and Nita Wyatt declared a personal interest in

item 10.

**3.04.17 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 6th March, 2017.**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**4.04.17 Police matters**

The Chairman read PCSO Emma Carter’s report. No matters raised.

Item 14. Reports (a) SCC was brought forward as Cllr. Rigby had to leave early.

**14.4.17 Reports (a) SCC**

The pedestrian crossing warning sign has been repaired.

 Cllr. Rigby is chasing the installation of the new 30mph limit and working with

 Highways regarding speeding at the western end of the village.

 Proposed cycle route from Bishops Lydeard: the volunteer group are having

 discussions with landowners to request them to donate 2/3 metres of land for

 the project.

 The A358 should be open for two-way traffic in about two weeks.

 Fly-tipping has increased, Cllr. Rigby is investigating the cause.

 Item 14. Reports (c) Footpaths was also brought forward as Phil Bareham has to

 leave early.

 **(c) Footpaths**

The only update is to the works required along the footpath T18/5 by the main

 railway line. The removal of the obsolete lamp posts is delayed as Barratts need

 to liaise with Scottish and Southern Electric and Network Rail in order to complete

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 the works, as soon as a date is agreed by all parties the work will commence. The

 footpath will remain open until then.

**5.04.17 To consider formation of Community Forum**

Don Wyatt, Chairman, Village Hall Committee requested this is placed on the agenda

 for the June meeting when a presentation will be given by Liz Latham. Agreed.

It was agreed item 10 could be brought forward in order that Don Wyatt could

 give an update.

**10.04.17 Update regarding removal of modular building and reinstatement of recreation**

 **ground adjacent to village hall.**

 The building has now been removed by Somerset County Council, Don Wyatt will

 chase up the reinstatement of the recreation ground.

**6.04.17 Vacancy due to resignation of a Councillor.**

The Chairman, Ken Hayward recorded a vote of thanks to Trevor Battle for all the

 work carried out for the Parish Council and for playing a part in obtaining the

 defibrillator for the village.

 Council will be able to co-opt at the May meeting.

**7.04.17 Planning:**

25/17/0008 Application to fell one Cypress Tree at 29 Ellis Grove

 25/17/0007 Replacement of detached double garage with single garage and car port

 ‘Farthings’, Langford Lane.

 25/17/0009 Replacement of two windows and external door to kitchen and

 installation of roof light, ‘Farthings’.

 No response required for the above applications.

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

 (c) Approvals and refusals – none received.

**8.04.17 Update regarding new playing field.**

Little progress appears to have been made. Following discussion it was agreed

 Cllr. Adrian Jones would attend public question time at the full council meeting to

 complain about the lack of progress and a complaint would be made to the Local

 Government Ombudsman.

**9.04.17 To consider alteration to the entrance to the exercise equipment following**

 **concerns raised about children running out into the path of vehicles.**

A volunteer has come forward to alter the position of the gate when it is open,

 to prevent the danger to children. Council thanked the volunteer and Paula Knott

 proposed that the Parish Council pay for any materials needed, seconded

 Mike Palmer, agreed.

**10.04.17 Item taken earlier.**

**11.04.17 Update regarding floodlighting to the church tower.**

The lighting has been repaired and switched back on.

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**12.04.17 Update regarding nature reserve.**

A skip will be ordered to remove the rubbish, unfortunately some of the trees have

 disappeared. The Parish Council’s contractor has moved the concrete pipes to

 improve the access from the public footpath in Manor Gardens and opened up

 a footway through the bank. Footpaths will need to be strimmed round the

 site. The volunteers have cleared away dead brambles from the proposed footpaths

 and are watering the trees.

**13.04.17 Finance:**

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

Rent for six months for the allotment site£300.00

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

Taunton Deane for installation of litter bin at Vilberie Close £396.00

 Chairman’s expenses for six months £75.00

**14.04.17 Reports:**

 **(b) TDBC**

Cllr.Andy Sully reports that the hill fort bridge has now been repaired and thanked

the Parish Council for helping to fund the repairs.

The decision for combining Taunton Deane and West Somerset District Councils has

been passed to the Secretary of State for a decision.

There will be an online consultation regarding the new M5 junction.

**(d) Clerk**

The Clerk has chased up the removal of the old 40mph signs, they will be removed

in the summer.

**15.04.17 Correspondence (not covered by the agenda).**

A request for funding has been received from ‘Life Education’ who are providing an

 education session at the school. Agreed a grant will be considered if a request is

received from the school.

**16.04.17 Date, time and place of the Annual Parish meeting and the Annual Parish Council**

 **meeting.**

Monday, 8th May, 2017 at 7pm in the Reading Room of the village hall. The

 Annual Parish Council meeting will immediately follow the Annual Parish meeting.

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