**NORTON FITZWARREN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 5th February, 2018 at the village hall.**

**Present:** Paula Knott, Chair, Mike Palmer, Vice Chairman, Nita Wyatt, Graham Withnell,

Phil Bareham, Adrian Jones, Ken Hayward, Clerk: Janet Gobey.

Also present: District Cllr. Andy Sully, PCSO Graham Phimister, SCC Cllr. Mike Rigby and ten members of the public.

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

1. A sign “Pedestrians crossing” for Pen Elm. Cllr. Mike Rigby will take this forward and also

request that the 30mph sign be extended to beyond Pen Elm.

1. The footpath on the A358 from Cross Keys to the bus stop need widening. Cllr. Rigby has

put in a bid under the Small Improvements Scheme for improvements to this path.

Cllr. Rigby will update when this has been decided.

1. Lawrence Burr, PCC requested if a link could be set up between the school and the Parish

Council.

1. The track from the playing field gate to the pavilion is deteriorating. Cllr. Adrian Jones will

ask the NFPFA if some maintenance could be carried out.

**1.02.18 Apologies for absence**

Cllrs. Jean Adkins and Paula Clinchant

**2.02.18 Declarations of Interest**

Paula Knott and Adrian Jones declared a personal interest in items 6 and 9.

**3.02.18 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8th January, 2018**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

**4.02.18 Police matters**

The Chair welcomed PCSO Graham Phimister, the new PCSO for Norton and thanked

him for attending. PCSO Phimister read his report. One query raised regarding the

vehicles racing along Great Western Way. This has not been raised as an issue

lately.

Council agreed to take Reports (SCC) next as Cllr. Rigby has to leave early:

**12.02.18 Reports (a) SCC**

Cllr.Mike Rigby apologised for not being able to attend recently.

A consultation regarding funding cuts to libraries is being carried out, Cllr. Rigby

Is trying to prevent Bishop Lydeard library from closing.

A consultation is also taking place regarding the dualling of the A358, options are

being considered.

The dispute between Carillion and SCC will hopefully be abandoned as Carillion have

now gone into liquidation.

An agreement needs to be in place for funds collected under the Community

Infrastructure Levy to be shared between TDBC and SCC, Cllr. Rigby will try and get

this implemented.

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**5.02.18 To consider grant for repair of floodlights at All Saints Church**

Lawrence Burr gave details of the grant requested. Council agreed to pay 50%

of the cost as it is important to light the footpath through the church and will

organise the repairs. Proposer Ken Hayward, seconder Nita Wyatt, all agreed.

**6.02.18 Purchase of item of exercise equipment to replace ‘Skier’ on the playing field.**

Council agreed in principle to pursue and the Clerk will look into obtaining a grant

towards the cost. Two quotes were obtained, it was agreed to continue with

Wicksteed. Wicksteed will re-assemble the ‘Skier’ and offered advice so

that it complies with current Health and Safety legislation.

**7.02.18 Update regarding purchase of Speed Indicator Device.**

To be placed on the next agenda as a reply is awaited from nearby Parish Councils

regarding sharing costs.

**8.02.18 Update regarding closure of footpath T18/9**

A plan for a new footpath, footpath diversion of T18/7 and the site of the new

bridge from SCC was discussed.

Rights of Way, SCC are not responsible for the weirs, that is the responsibility of the

riparian owners. It was agreed to set up an on-site meeting with Rachel Pearce to

discuss the plans and inspect the weirs.

It was generally agreed to accept the plan if the additional footpath was installed.

**9.02.18 New Playing Field**

**(a) To consider proposal from West of England developments**

The revised plan and the draft Design and Access Statement from West of England

developments was discussed in detail, many concerns were raised and factual

inaccuracies were identified in the Design and Access Statement. At a previous

meeting Council agreed to support Taunton Deane in their pursuit of

a Compulsory Purchase Order for access rights to the new playing field.

**(b) To consider legal advice received from Council’s Solicitor**

Chair, Paula Knott proposed the following resolution:

Council resolves that in view of the confidential nature of the legal advice which

is to be discussed, it is in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily

excluded from the meeting and be instructed to withdraw. Seconded Mike Palmer

and agreed unanimously. This item will be deferred to the end of the meeting.

**10.02.18 Planning:**

**(a) Applications received since issue of agenda**

None received.

**(b) Approvals and refusals**

25/17/0023 Change of use of land from agricultural to playing field adjacent to

playing field, Stembridge Way. Application approved.

**11.02.18 Finance:**

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

TDBC charges for photocopying for June to Sept. £31.38

TDBC electric lighting for 2017 for the church tower £176.41

Clerk’s salary and expenses £764.15

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Proposed to pay Paula Knott, Seconded Mike Palmer, carried.

**12.02.18 Reports**

**(a) SCC –** see page 1.

**(b) TDBC** 7.2 million pounds has been received from the Government to enable

the relief road to be built before the development and to increase the amount

of affordable housing to 25%.

TDBC’s budget has been set and an increase of £5 per year for band ‘D’ dwellings is

forecast.

Council owned houses are due to be upgraded and Taunton Deane aim to build

more in the future.

**(c) Footpaths**

Council’s PPLO Phil Bareham has passed the strimmer course and will, in the

summer try to keep the hill fort paths clear.

**(d) Health and safety** – nothing to report.

**(e) Clerk -** nothing to report that is not covered by the agenda.

**13.02.18 Correspondence**

Discussion, no comment, but placed on the table for members to view if they

wished.

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

Monday, 5th March, 2018 at 7pm in the village hall.

As a result of the motion agreed earlier the public were asked to leave the meeting,

(no press present) so that Council could discuss confidential legal advice regarding

the proposed development of the playing field in Stembridge Way by West of

England developers.

**9.02.18 (b) To consider legal advice from Council’s solicitor.**

The legal advice was discussed in detail and as a result Council agreed to continue

their support of the Compulsory Purchase Order for access rights being sought by

Taunton Deane.

A response to their proposal will be sent to West of England Developments and a

meeting will be requested with Taunton Deane. Agreed unanimously.

The meeting closed at 9.30m.

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