**NORTON FITZWARREN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 4th March, 2019 in the village hall.**

**Present:** Paula Knott, Mike Palmer, Nita Wyatt, Phil Bareham, Graham Withnell, Adrian Jones,

Edward Firmin. Clerk: Janet Gobey.

Also present: County Cllr. Mike Rigby, District Cllr. Andy Sully and 15 members of the public.

The meeting started at 7.06pm with open discussion for the public, matters raised were:

1. The path from Pen Elm to Cross Keys, Cllr. Rigby reported that this is still in the Small

Improvements Scheme, although funding has been cut, he will keep chasing.

1. Jules Collins, Landlord of the Ring of Bells explained all the improvements he had put in place

to prevent future issues arising of anti-social behaviour and disturbance to neighbours. The Chair thanked him for attending and explaining.

1. Concerns raised about flooding re the planning application 25/19/0004 for the new bridge and

associated works in Station Road. The Clerk will write to Taunton Deane confirming it supports

all recommendations from the Environment Agency, who have objected to the scheme.

1. The pedestrian crossing opposite the Doctor’s surgery floods in rain and is very dangerous

when icy. Cllr. Mike Rigby will take this up with Highways.

1. Complaints about litter along Great Western Way by the main line railway bridge. Council

will look into providing a litter bin next to the dog bin under item 7 on the agenda. Cllr. Mike Rigby will take up the concerns also raised by the residents about the position of the pedestrian crossing for public footpath T18/4.

**1.03.19 Apologies for absence**

Jean Adkins is unwell.

**2.03.19 Declarations of Interest**

Nita Wyatt, Mike Palmer and Graham Withnell declared a personal interest in item no. 5

Paula Knott and Adrian Jones a personal interest in item no. 10.

**3.03.19 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 4th February, 2019.**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

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

**13.03.19 Reports (a) SCC:**

Cllr. Rigby reported the welcome news that Norton Manor Marine Camp will not now

be closing.

A government review of Council funding will be carried out later this year. The County

Council’s budget has improved this year.

Parking: Cllr. Rigby is pursuing the parking issue along Great Western Way and also

receiving many complaints about the proposed bus gate parking restrictions.

Cllr. Rigby will report the flooding issue on the pedestrian crossing in the village centre.

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**4.03.19 Police Matters**

The Clerk read the report received from PCSO Tony Wearmouth and will query who is

to be the new PCSO for the parish and if Beat Surgeries are to be continued.

**5.03.19 Youth Shelter**

Following discussion regarding possible improvements to the lighting on the recreation

Ground. It was agreed to invite a Crime Prevention Officer to meet with the Parish

Council and the Village Hall Committee to discuss any improvements which could be

made.

**6.03.19 To consider funding to 1st April, 2019 for Norton News.**

The issue has been resolved, the £1,500 set aside in the precept for the Norton News

will be paid the first week of April.

**7.03.19 To consider purchase of litter bin on footpath T18/5 by main railway line.**

Proposed Nita Wyatt that a ‘Barnsley’ bin is purchased to be installed by Taunton

Deane. Seconded, Mike Palmer, carried.

**8.03.19 To consider quotes for parish maintenance and emptying dog bins for 2019/20.**

Several quotes were considered, it was agreed to continue with our present

contractor Martin King for grass and hedge cutting, litter picking and pavement

weed spraying. Taunton Deane for emptying dog bins and Philip Chapman for

strimming public footpaths.

Proposed Paula Knott, seconded Graham Withnell, carried.

**9.03.19 Planning:**

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

**(b) approvals and refusals:**

25/18/0010 & 0011 Temporary vehicular access to Langford Mead – refused.

25/18/0034 Refurbishment of fire managed units, Meadow Court, Pen Elm.

Approved.

25/18/0035 Single storey extension, 5 Northwood Close – approved.

**10.03.19 Playing Field Committee**

Volunteers are needed for the Playing Field Committee, adverts will be placed in the

Norton News and Norton Fitzwarren Community page.

**11.03.19 To consider change of Parish Council meeting day to Wednesday.**

It was agreed unanimously to change the meeting day to the first Wednesday in the

month. This will also avoid in future Bank Holidays.

**12.3.19 Finance:**

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

M. King - Litter picking in the village for four months £672.00

HMRC £108.12

Clerk’s salary and expenses £770.58

Proposed Nita Wyatt to approve, seconded Adrian Jones, carried.

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**13.3.19 Reports:**

**(a) SCC –** See page 1.

**(b) TDBC –** On the 1st April the new Council, Somerset West and Taunton Council

commences. The amalgamation of West Somerset and Taunton Deane Councils is

intended to cut overheads and will make large savings in staff and costs. Deane House

has been renovated and its value has been increased.

**(c) Footpaths** – No problems or issues.

**(d) Health and safety –** No problems or issues.

**(e) Clerk**

The wooden fence which was removed along Millhouse Road has now been reinstated.

The broken street light in Vilberie Close will be replaced with a new column, Scottish

and Southern Electric are undertaking the work.

The Quarterly bill for the web site has been transferred to the Parish Council’s bank

account.

**14.03.19 Correspondence**

As list provided by the Clerk and filed with the minutes. Cycling route info to Norton

News.

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

Wednesday, 3rd April at 7.30pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

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