**NORTON FITZWARREN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday, 3rd April, 2019 in the village hall.**

**Present:** Paula Knott, Chair, Mike Palmer, Vice Chairman, Phil Bareham, Nita Wyatt, Adrian Jones,

Graham Withnell, Edward Firmin. Clerk: Janet Gobey.

Also present: Dr. Joanne o’Hara, Heritage Project Manager, Somerset West and Taunton Council and

7 members of the public.

The meeting started at 7.35pm with open discussion for the public, matters raised were:

1. Inconsiderate parking in Station Road. PCSO Lyndsay Smith will be requested to help.
2. A request for a replacement tree by the flats at Langford Mead.
3. A loose security fence by the main railway line, Network Rail will be notified.
4. A loose bolt on the footpath gate by the steps over the main railway line.

**1.04.19 Apologies for absence**

Jean Adkins is unwell, and County Cllr. Mike Rigby.

**2.04.19 Declarations of Interest**

Nita Wyatt, Mike Palmer and Graham Withnell declared a personal interest as members

 of the Village Hall Committee.

**3.04.19 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4th March, 2019.**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

**4.04.19 Purchase of hill fort land by South West Heritage Trust and to consider the**

 **contribution from the Parish Council.**

Dr. Joanne O’Hara, Heritage Project Manager, Somerset West and Taunton Council

 attended and explained how the hill fort is considered to be one of the most important

 in Somerset and has been for a long time on the “at risk” register due to ploughing. The

 central land will now be reunited with the outer ramps which were owned by Taunton

 Deane Council. The land will be held by the South West Heritage Trust who are working

 on a long term plan for maintenance. An event is planned for the Festival of British

 Archaeology on the 27th July in the village hall. The Parish Council were invited to

 contribute in order to become a partner in the venture.

 Proposed Paula Knott that Council contribute £2,000.00 towards the cost of the

 purchase of the hill fort , seconded

Adrian Jones and agreed unanimously. The Chair thanked Dr. Joanne O’Hara for

attending. Dr. O’Hara and Bob Croft, County Archaeologist, will send an article for the

Norton News.

**5.04.19 Police Matters and to consider advice from the Crime Prevention Officer regarding**

 **the youth shelter.**

The Chair gave a report of the meeting. It was agreed to move the youth shelter to

 the top corner of the field, fence it off from the recreation ground and to make a new

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entrance from the road in order access to the youth shelter is not through the car park

of the village hall.

 The Crime Prevention Officer recommended reducing the level of the hedge or

 removing it to make the recreation ground more visible from the road.

 Proposed Paula Knott to purchase anti-social devices for the recreation ground up to a

 figure of £500.00, seconded Mike Palmer, carried. The Clerk will obtain quotes.

**6.04.19 To consider purchase of a circular bench for the nature reserve.**

Following consideration it was agreed to purchase two benches (not circular) in wood

 or plastic. Quotes will be sought for the next meeting.

**7.04.19 Date of May meeting**

As it is an election year the May meeting cannot be held until after the 7thMay.

It was agreed Wednesday 8th May, 2019 would be the date of the May meeting.

**8.04.19 Planning:**

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

 **(b) Approvals and refusals:**

 25/18/0027 Variation of conditions, Langford Mead.

 25/18/0030 Erection of wooden tennis clubhouse, Montys Court.

**9.04.19 Reports:**

 **(a) SCC –** No report

 **(b) SW & T Council –** no report.

 **(c) Footpaths –** A tree has come down on a footpath to Bishops Hull – this has been

 reported.

 **(d) Health and safety –** (The youth shelter, covered under item 5 on the agenda).

 **(e) Clerk –** nothing to report.

**10.04.19 Finance:**

 **(a) Appointment of Internal Auditor**

Mr. B. Howe will carry out the internal audit at the same rate as last year.

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

Rent for allotment site for six months (1.4.19 to 30.9.19) £300.00

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

M. King for litter picking £672.00 (approved at the March meeting).

 Grant for 2019/20 for Norton News £1,500.00

 HMRC £104.73

 South West Heritage Trust, part payment for purchase of hill fort £2,000.00

 Clerk’s salary and expenses £800.65

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

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

As list supplied by the Clerk – no comments.

**12.04.19 Date, time and place of next meeting**  (as discussed in item 7), Wednesday, 8th May,

 2019 at 7.30pm in the village hall. The meeting closed at 9pm.

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