**NORTON FITZWARREN PARISH COUNCIL**

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

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

Maureen Palmer, Jonathan Lalgee, Jamie Clutson. Clerk: Janet Gobey.

Also present: Cllrs: Mike Rigby, Andy Sully and Edward Firmin, Andy Lehner, West of England Developments, Carol Lydiate and 18 members of the pubic.

The meeting started at 7pm with open discussion for the public, no matters raised.

**1.12.19 Apologies for absence –** Graham Withnell is away.

**2.12.19 Declarations of Interest.**

Nita Wyatt declared a personal interest in item no 8 as a member of the Village

Hall Committee.

**3.12.19 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 6th November, 2019.**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**4.12.19 Police matters**

A written report has been received, which was read out. The Clerk will enquire as

to whether the incidents have been resolved.

**5.12.19 5G Mobile Network**

Carol Lydiate explained the implications of the proposed 5G wireless technology,

what would be involved, the technology has not been tested and it could be

harmful to health. Cllr. Rigby said Somerset County Council are looking at the issue in

February, Public Health England will be invited to a meeting and a consultation will be

carried out. SWT Council are not making a decision on 5G until the result of the

consultation is known . As 5G would come under ‘permitted development’, planning

permission may not be required. It was agreed to look into the ‘Precautionary

Principal’. Paula Knott, Chair requested more information. To be included in a future

meeting.

**6.12.19 Actions from the last meeting.**

All actions covered by the agenda.

**7.12.19 Planning: (a)**

25/17/0018 & 25/19/0004 Flood alleviation scheme and flood channel works for Ford

Farm, including replacement bridge and road, Station Road.

The Chair read the points raised by Council’s Planning Committee and enlarged plans

were displayed. The bridge should have been replaced by Barrett’s during construction

of the Taunton Cider site development. The proposals and modelling work has been

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studied over the last two years by the Environment Agency who have now withdrawn

their objection, provided conditions set out by them are followed.

Questions were raised by the public and from the Parish Council to the developer and the plan was discussed in depth.

A temporary road access would be provided to residents of Station Road via Great

Western Way.

It was agreed to follow the guidance of the Environment Agency and not to object

to the proposal but to agree with the EA that the proposals set out in 7.3 should be

listed as ‘required’ and not ‘recommended’. Council also requested certain conditions

regarding the downstream channel and construction traffic.

Proposed Paula Knott, seconded Michael Palmer, carried.

25/19/0023 Conversion of stables to one dwelling, garden of Pen Elm House,

Minehead Road – No comment.

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

**(c) Approvals and refusals**

25/19/0016 Extension to commercial building etc., Northams Yard, B3227 – approved.

25/19/0011 Erection of summerhouse for dog grooming business, 38 Rectory Road.

Approved.

**8.12.19 To consider additional security for the recreation ground, village hall.**

Various measures were discussed, it was agreed to pay 50% of the cost to upgrade

the CCTV system which will be approximately £550. Don Wyatt, Chairman , Village

Hall Committee will organise the installation. Proposed Mike Palmer, seconded

Jamie Clutson, carried.

**9.12.19 To consider an offer from a volunteer to set up a youth club.**

Due to the meeting being longer than usual the volunteer had to leave. Apologies

and an invitation to the next meeting will be sent by the Clerk.

**10.12.19 VE day celebrations**

The celebrations will be held on the 8th,9th and 10th May, 2020, various ideas were

discussed. It was agreed in principle to fund the celebrations and to await further

details from the Village Hall Committee. Proposed Paula Knott, seconded

Adrian Jones, carried.

**11.12.19 Reports:**

**(a) SCC**

Cllr. Mike Rigby reported that action has been taken to rectify the issue with the

drain in Hilly Park.

A request for additional parking in Hilly Park will be investigated.

Pen Elm footpath – a safety audit is ongoing. Work to the path is scheduled for

the first quarter of financial year 2020/21.

**(b) SWT**

Cllr. Ed Firmin reported that the Council had started a new Local Plan an ‘Issues and

Options’ consultation will take place in the New Year. To be placed on the agenda for

February. Housing development has already enough land allocated for it but not

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enough land for employment space has been allocated. It is planned to address this in

the New Local Plan.

The new playing field has not yet been transferred from St. Modwen, the Parish Council

and Ed Firmin will keep chasing.

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

**(d) Clerk**

1. A request for a hand rail for the steps to the hill fort has been made to Somerset

Heritage, improvements to the access is planned.

2. Agreement has been obtained to replace the dead sapling by the flats opposite Cross

Keys Close.

3. The litter bin has now been installed by the steps over the main railway line.

4. A second crossing has been agreed by Rights of Way, SCC over Halse Water, the

Parish Council has agreed to remove the fence and gate which currently block the

proposed route.

5. Arrangements have been made for the gate at Manor Gardens to be repaired.

**12.12.19 Finance:**

**(a) To consider precept for financial year 2020/21.**

Calculations for the precept for 2020/21 have been distributed by the Clerk. It was

agreed to request a precept of £32,890.00 which will not increase the Parish Council’s

portion of the rates to householders. Proposed Paula Knott, seconded Mike Palmer,

carried.

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

Community Infrastructure Levy £6657.22

Interest £5.87

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

Somerset Playing Fields Association annual subscription £15.00

Proposed to approve Nita Wyatt, seconded Jonathan Lalgee, carried.

**Regular monthly payments:**

HMRC £104.93

Clerk’s salary and expenses £792.56

**13.12.19 Correspondence for discussion**

Nothing raised.

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

Wednesday, 8th January, 2010 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 10pm.

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