**NORTON FITZWARREN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the virtual meeting of the parish council was held on Wednesday 3rd February, 2021**

**Present:** Paula Knott, Chair, Mike Palmer, Vice Chairman, Adrian Jones, Jonathan Lalgee,

Graham Withnell, Nita Wyatt, Phil Bareham. Clerk: Janet Gobey

Also present: Two members of the public.

The meeting started at 7.30pm with 15 minutes open discussion for the public but no questions were raised.

**1.02.21 Apologies for absence.**

Cllrs. Jamie Clutson and Simon Drury

**2.02.21 Declarations of Interest**

Jonathan Lalgee declared a personal interest in item no. 8

**3.02.21 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 13th January, 2021**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Clerk on behalf of the Chair.

**4.02.21 Police Matters**

An email has been received notifying the parish council that from February only a

monthly newsletter will be issued for our local area. Individual reports will be

discontinued. An update will be sought regarding the break-ins at the allotment site.

**5.02.21 Actions from last meeting (not covered by the agenda).**

Kingdom Lane – a two way mirror has been purchased to improve visibility and the

situation will be kept under review.

**6.02.21 Update regarding replacement footbridges on footpath T18/9.**

Contractors are due to be on site late February to clear the vegetation and dangerous

trees to prepare the site for the new bridges to be installed.

**7.02.21 Survey of trees on land owned by the Parish Council at the allotment site**

As a result of the tree survey at the allotment site, two trees need felling as a result of

ash dieback disease and two alder trees have dead branches hanging over the public

footpath. Agreed to obtain estimates for either all four to be removed or for the work

to be done in two halves. A cost of £1,000 was delegated to the Clerk to enable the

work to be carried out before spring. Proposed Paula Knott, seconded Nita Wyatt,

agreed unanimously.

**8.02.21 E-scooter site for Great Western Way**

A site at the end of Great Western Way has been agreed by SWT Council, the scooters

are not be allowed to enter the village and should cut out if this is attempted.

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**9.02.21 Reports:**

**(a) SCC & SWT** – no report.

**(b) New playing field update**

Following the meeting with SWT on 2ndMarch it was discovered that the low voltage

cables are not fully undergrounded, St. Modwen have been advised that the remaining

length of cable needs to be undergrounded before the land can be transferred to

SWT Council. A public consultation will be held when the land is transferred. In the

meantime SWT will obtain advice from a consultant to advise what drainage needs to be

carried out for the new pitch. SWT Building section will examine the pavilion to advise

how it can be upgraded and extended.

**(c) Footpaths**

Maintenance work has started at the hill fort, removing overgrown vegetation and

clearing away rubbish.

**(d) Clerk**

A resident has volunteered to collect litter around the Wick Lane area, safety

equipment, bags and a ‘litter picker’ has been provided.

A request for a litter bin near to the bus top by Silk Mills roundabout has been made.

Council agreed that the litter in that area will be monitored. A bin is available at the

nearby garage and a volunteer litter picker collects on the B3227.

Dropped kerbs & S106 funds - A reply is awaited from Somerset Highways regarding the

sites, the Clerk will chase.

**(e) Health and safety -** no concerns raised.

**(f) Environmental –** Replacement trees of willow, oak and hawthorn will be planted to

replace the trees to be taken down.

**10.02.21 To consider estimates for two new notice boards**

Defer – permission is awaited from the landowners.

**11.02.21 Planning:**

25/20/0018 Conversion of outbuilding to dwelling, Pen Elm, Minehead Road

25/21/0003 Single storey extension, The Old Stables, Harnham Court

25/21/0004 Management works to 6 Ash trees, B3227, Langford Mead

No response required.

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

**(c) Approvals and refusals:**

25/20/0033 Conversion of annexe into garage, Fitzroy House

25/20/0009 Variation of conditions re drainage, Solar Farm, Montys Lane.

25/20/0027 Management works to beech and walnut tree. Leafield House, Rectory Rd.

**12.02.21 Finance:**

Payments (via bank transfer and cheque) for approval and any subsequently received:

Norton Fitzwarren Covid Support Group for 3 months £60 (approved at January

meeting).

Alex Forster – Tree survey on Council’s land and repair to gate on footpath T18/9

£975.00

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Graham Withnell – reimbursement for purchase of traffic mirror £360.00

Clerk’s salary and expenses £813.22

HMRC £115.50

Proposed to approve payments Mike Palmer, Seconded Paula Knott, carried.

**13.02.21 Correspondence for discussion –**circulated electronically by the Clerk, nothing raised.

**14.02.21 Date and time of next meeting.**

Wednesday, 3rd March, 2021 at 7.30pm (virtual).

The meeting closed 8.50pm.

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