**NORTON FITZWARREN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 3rd November, 2021 in the village hall.**

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

Adrian Jones. Clerk: Janet Gobey

Also present: SWT Cllrs: Mike Rigby, Andy Sully, Ed Firmin and 14 members of the public.

The meeting started at 7.30pm with open discussion for the public, matters raised were:

1. The filtration units purchased under the ‘Opening up Safely’ Grant from the Government have

arrived.

1. An opening ceremony was suggested upon the opening of the new bridge in Station Road.

The coping stones from the top of the old bridge have been given to the parish. A suggested

use was to construct a memorial to the fallen of the conflict in Afganistan.

* + 1. **Apologies –** Cllr. Jamie Clutson could not attend.

**2.11.21 Declarations of interest**

Cllrs. Nita Wyatt and Graham Withnell declared a personal interest in item 7 as

 neighbours.

**3.11.21 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 6th October, 2021.**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

**4.11.21 Police matters**

No update received as yet, Don Wyatt will request the dates of the Beat Surgeries in

 the village hall.

**5.11.21 Actions from the last meeting**

Defibrillators – Marks & Spencer garage and shop are looking into installing a

 defibrillator.

**6.11.21 Proposed housing development of Ford Farm, applications 25/21/0024 & /0027.**

The development is still held up by the phosphate contamination of the Somerset

 Levels. SWT Council are buying land on the Somerset Levels to offset the pollution,

 this is intended to release 1,300 homes out of the 3,000 held up. Developers will have

 to pay for the decontamination of the water.

 Queries raised by the public present:

 The location of the sewerage pumping station.

 The pedestrian access from Ford Farm which according to the plans appears to go across

 the recreation ground behind the village hall. Don Wyatt, Chairman Village Hall

 Committee and Council members will meet with the developers to discuss.

 The junction of the B3227 and the relief road, a sign requested stating “No large

 vehicles” and a 20mph limit.

 The small size of the play area.

 No employment provision of community facilities.

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 Who will be responsible for the flood maintenance.

 A future public meeting will be sought and these queries will be raised with the

 developers.

**7.11.21 To consider improvements to footpath in Church Lane**

 White lines and replacement of the posts were considered to prevent parking on the

 footpath. An offer of a railing was made. To be placed on the next agenda.

**8.11.21 Vacancy of Councillor in Parish Council**

A volunteer came forward after the meeting.

**9.11.21 To consider the proposal to create a Taunton Town Council incorporating the whole**

 **or parts of surrounding parishes.**

 SWT Council is conducting an 8 week consultation in the areas affected. Cllr. Mike Palmer and the Clerk attended the meeting at Deane House. Cllr. Mike Rigby

 explained the implications to Council which were that the new estates built in

parishes surrounding Taunton would be incorporated into the new Town Council this would result in most of Norton Fitzwarren parish being drawn into the new Town Council. To be placed on the next agenda.

Council agreed to take item 13. Reports (a) SCC next.

**13.11.21 Reports (a) SCC**

Cllr. Rigby requested that the white lines in Station Road indicating one way are

 repainted.

 It is hoped that the proposed cycle path from Bishops Lydeard through Norton onto

 Taunton will be finalised before SWT Council is abolished.

 The bridges on footpath T18/9 are held up as a contractor has not been found.

**10.11.21 To consider purchase of improved equipment for the Speedwatch Team.**

The Speedwatch Team have not been able to source any better equipment than they

 already have.

**11.11.21 To consider additional funds for maintenance to combat weeds in the village.**

Proposed Paula Knott, seconded Mike Palmer that additional funds are included in the

 precept for weed clearance in the village. Agreed unanimously.

**12.11.21 Planning: (a)**

25/21/0021 Vehicular access to front of 3 Court Cottages, B3227 – no objection.

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

 **(c) Approvals and refusals**

25/21/0013 Activity/games hall, Meadow Court, Minehead Road – approved.

**13.11.21 Reports:**

 **(a) SWT Council**

A new Chief Executive of SWT Council has been recruited. New recycling collections

 are going well. The MOD has repaired the bus shelter at the married quarters.

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 **(b) Playing fields**

 The Legal Transfer is now complete, a meeting to be organised before Christmas.

 **(c)** Footpaths

 The footpath cutting schedule suggested by PPLO Phil Bareham has been agreed and

 will be sent to the contractor for next year.

 **(d) Clerk**

The Somerset Heritage Centre has been asked if they are prepared to install a

 defibrillator outside their building.

 **(e) Health and safety/ Environmental -** nothing reported.

**14.11.21 Finance:**

Payments via bank, cheque and any subsequently received:

 Somerset Playing Field Association – ROSPA reports & subscription £240.00

 Goji Group Ltd. Air purification units for hall (SALC grant) balance £2340.48

 Direct debit card for May – September 2021 – Stationery and ink £97.81, bags

 for litter volunteer £6.00

 Clerks salary and expenses £789.12

 HMRC £116.41

 Proposed to approve payments Cllrs. Nita Wyatt, seconded Mike Palmer.

**15.11.21 Correspondence for discussion**

No discussion.

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

Wednesday, 1st December, 2021 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

 The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

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