**NORTON FITZWARREN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 5th January, 2022 in the village hall**

**Present:** Paula Knott, Chair, Mike Palmer, Vice Chairman, Nita Wyatt, Phil Bareham, Dee Childs,

Adrian Jones. Clerk: Janet Gobey

Also present: SCC & SWT Cllr. Mike Rigby, SWT Cllr. Dixie Darch and 4 members of the public.

The meeting started at 7.30pm with 15 minutes open discussion for the public, matters raised were:

1. Dog bins reported full at Dragon Rise and by the railway steps.
2. Schedule for bus service while the main B3227 road is closed for two weeks, Cllr. Rigby will

make enquiries.

**1.01.22 Apologies –**Cllrs. Graham Withnell, Dan Trussler and Jamie Clutson

**2.01.22 Declaration of Interest**  - none declared.

**3.01.22 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 1st December, 2021.**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

**4.01.22 Police matters**

 No update received as yet, agreed to invite the Police and Crime Commissioner

 Mark Shelford to a future meeting.

**5.01.22 Actions from last meeting** – none to report.

**6.1.22 To consider draft response to SWT Council regarding the forming of a Taunton**

 **Town Council and the proposed inclusion of nearby parishes into the Town**

 **Council.**

The Parish Council’s survey has had a very good response, a total of 382 responses

 have been received, 120 online and 262 postal replies, resulting in a 98% vote for

the Parish Council to continue to represent the parish and to reject the proposal for

Norton Fitzwarren parish to be included in the new Taunton Town Council. Many included comments praising the Parish Council’s work in the parish and offering suggestions for the future. These will be studied and discussed at a future meeting.

Letters of concern and support have been received from the church, village hall, Playing

Field Association and the Editor of the Norton News.

 A response has been drafted by the Clerk and circulated to Councillors for amendment

 before tonight’s meeting.

 Proposed Paula Knott that the finalised draft response is approved and submitted to

Somerset West & Taunton Council, seconded Mike Palmer and agreed unanimously.

The Parish Council’s response will be submitted with a summary of the results of the survey and the letters of support from the village groups and church.

**7.01.22 Reports:**

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 **a) SCC**

SWT Council and Parish Council elections will take place in 2022, elections for the new

 Town Council will take place in 2023.

Cllr. Rigby has agreed to extend the yellow lines opposite Kingdom Lane. The

 temporary bus timetable for the two week road closure will be sent to the Clerk.

**b) SWT Council**

There will be ‘planned’ missed collections for bins and recycling due to staff absences.

Cllr. Andy Sully is proposing a ‘litter strategy’ for the town centre which will include an

employed Litter Enforcement Officer.

Tree planting is planned for the Queen’s Jubilee, locations include Upper Holway,

Wellington and Minehead.

 SWT Council have agreed to an increase in taxi fares.

**8.01.22 Planning: (a)**

34/21/0017 Formation of 2 constructed wetlands on land off Langford Lane, Longfield

 and Parsonage Lane – no objection.

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

 **(c) Approvals and refusals:**

25/21/0021 Vehicular access, 3 Court Cottages – approved.

 25/21/0035 Outline application for 1 dwelling east of Manley’s Cottages – refused.

 25/21/0028 Conversion of garage and workshop into ancillary accommodation,

 approved.

 2 Court Farms (retention of work already undertaken) – conditional approval.

 25/21/0025 Parking area in front of 34 Rectory Road (retention of works partly

 undertaken) – approved.

 25/21/0033 Alterations to bricks used Langford Mead – approved.

**9.01.22 Finance:**

 **a) HSBC bank new maintenance charges**

The Clerk reported new bank charges from the beginning of the year of £1 per cheque

 cashed and £8 per month each for maintenance for the two current accounts.

 Discussed and agreed to pay most bills by bank transfer,

 proposed Nita Wyatt, Seconded Mike Palmer, carried. The Clerk requested to

 investigate other banks which may offer accounts with no bank charges.

 **b) Payments via bank transfer, cheque, debit card and any subsequently received:**

Cllr. Nita Wyatt declared a personal interest as a volunteer for the Norton News.

Norton News grant for 2021/22 £2,500.00

 Hamper for volunteer litter picker £41.52

 W.J. SW Ltd., White lining in Church Lane £540.00

 Stationery and printing £38.94

 Litter picking equipment for volunteer litter picker.

 Proposed to approve payments Paula Knott, seconded Dee Childs, carried.

**10.01.22 Correspondence for discussion.**

A request from a resident for additional road signs for Collett Way handed to

 Cllrs. Dixie Darch and Ed Firmin to take forward.

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

Wednesday 2nd February, 2022 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

 The meeting closed at 9pm.

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