**NORTON FITZWARREN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday, 1st March, 2023 in the village hall.**

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

Graham Withnell, Dee Childs, Tom Catherall, Adrian Jones, Edwin Norton. Clerk: Janet Gobey

Also present: Cllr. Andy Sully, Cllr. Ed Firmin, PCSO Marshall Bernhardt and 3 members of the public.

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

PCSO Marshall Bernhardt attended to re-assure the Parish Council and the public that the incident

which occurred a few days earlier in Hilly Park had now been resolved. One man had been arrested.

7.35pm PCSO Bernhardt left the meeting.

1. The new village hall signs are not spelt with a capital ‘H’ for hall. The Clerk will query this

with Somerset Council as they provided the signs.

1. Meadfleet Contractors are repairing the lifebuoy stand with new brackets and are also repairing the small play area by the Doctor’s Surgery.
2. A query regarding the flag competition which was proposed last year. Cllr. Graham Withhnell will speak to the Church Secretary regarding what stage the competition has reached.
3. Overgrown bushes and hedges on the Langford Mead estate. The Clerk will find out

who is responsible and request they are trimmed back.

**1.03.23 Apologies**

All present.

**2.03.23 Declarations of Interest**

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

members of the Village Hall Committee.

**3.03.23 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 1st February, 2023**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**4.03.23 Police matters**

As above, nothing else raised.

**5.03.23 Actions from last meeting.**

A query was raised about the clearance of mud from the Wassail View section of the

Halse Water. Falcon Housing confirmed that the stream was cleared last year, it is

also regularly monitored and cleared of mud annually.

**6.03.23 New playing field – update**

The contractors have now temporarily left the site, having finished Phase 1.

SWT Council confirm they will return in late March to start phase2, this is

weather dependant, the intention is to be finished in late May. However there

will be a growing period for the football pitch, the pitch will not therefore be

useable until next year. Some of the fencing does not appear to have been finished

around the MUGA and tennis court.

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Access to the allotments is now open with the barrier fencing moved back

to allow vehicle access.

A request for any warranties or guarantees was made. SWT Council will check the

pack supplied by the contractor at the end of the construction. An on-site meeting has been requested by the parish council to discuss the landscaping aspect.

Cllr. Andy Sully will arrange an on-site meeting.

**7.03.23 Summer fete – update.**

No update from the village hall, deposits for the equipment will be needed

in advance.

**8.03.23 Reports:**

**a) SWT & SCC Councils**

SWT Cllr. Andy Sully reported that the budget has been agreed, Council Tax

will increase by 5%, band ‘D’ properties will pay £78.24 extra, for those in the

new Taunton Town Council area the Council Tax will be £90.00.

Regarding the Local Community Network Groups the Norton Fitzwarren parish area

Has been included with Taunton Town Council, Cotford St. Luke, Bishops Lydeard

and Trull. Planning will be divided into 4 groups, north, south, east and west.

The footbridge in Goodland Gardens cannot be repaired but the bus station will

be repaired and re-opened.

**b) Footpaths**

PPLO Phil Bareham reported that they are generally good, farmers are cutting

hedges at the present time. The hedge along T18/12 will need cutting.

**c) Clerk**

The playing fields new volunteer is willing to replace the fencing poles which run

along the track and is keen to complete the work while the ground is still soft.

Agreed to cover the cost under the maintenance budget.

**d) Health and Safety** – nothing to report.

**e) Environmental –** nothing to report.

**9.03.23 Planning:**

**a) Applications received since issue of agenda** – none received.

**b) Approvals and refusals** – none.

**10.03.23 Finance:**

1. Income received (for notification only):

Interest for 4 month £85.43

1. Payments for approval and any subsequently received:

Fox Cubs room rental for 3 weeks £102.00

Proposed to approve Mike Palmer, seconded Nita Wyatt, carried.

**11.03.23 Correspondence for discussion (circulated electronically).**

The land adjacent to Berry’s Coaches has been sold by St. Modwen, the

new owner may apply for a change of use.

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

Wednesday, 5th April, 2023 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

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