

## **MINUTES OF NORTHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Draft minutes of the Northington Parish Council meeting held at 7pm on Tuesday, 17th January 2017 in the private dining room at The Woolpack Inn, Totford, SO24 9TJ.

Present:        John Mitchell (Chairman) (JM)  
                     Simon Walker (SW)  
                     Yvonne White (YW)  
                     Melissa Jennings (MJ)  
                     Alexandra Risebury (Clerk) (AR)  
                     Cllr Lisa Griffiths  
                     Cllr Ernie Jeffs (EJ)

Apologies:     Adam Dyne (AD)  
                     Cllr Jackie Porter (JP)  
                     Cllr Kim Gottlieb (KG)

The chairman welcomed all present.

### **1. Minutes of the last meeting**

The Parish Council confirmed the minutes of the last meeting and agreed to clarify Item 6 of the last minutes. The Chairman signed the minutes.

### **2. Matters arising**

Matters arising have been added to Item 10 (Any other business).

### **3. Lengthsman scheme update**

AR has been in frequent email contact with Itchen Abbas Parish Council and the Hampshire Association of Local Councils HALC (Mike Pillans) over the past two months. Ideally NPC will join Itchen Abbas Parish Council to join their Lengthsman. However, due to current insufficient funds NPC has been added to HALC's waiting list until further notice. JM has also been in touch with Brown and Preston Candover. SW expressed a preference for NPC to remain in touch with Itchen Abbas and await further notice.

### **4. Village Spring Clean up**

Aside from NPC's intention to take part in the Lengthsman scheme, there was strong support for a local village spring clean-up. It has been a great success in previous years and has brought the local community together. It was agreed to aim at early May to repeat this event and to get in touch with the "Pop-up Café" organisers to see if they will provide a "one off" coffee and cake event. AD, who previously arranged the clean-up and in his absence YW kindly offered to help.

### **5. TAG4 update**

LG had nothing new to report on recent developments but will investigate for NPC and keep us updated.

### **6. Broadband update**

Fibre optic broadband has finally arrived in Northington, Swarraton and Totford. It went "live" week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017. SW reported that most villagers have double figures, including those further away from the cabinet. It was disappointing that BT hasn't provided written notice to villagers that fast broadband is finally available. In order to access faster broadband villagers are encouraged to contact BT (or their provider of choice) and to order new modems/hubs in order to take advantage of faster broadband availability. SW suggested advertising within the Oxdrove magazine to tell everyone that the service is now available to NST.

### **7. Woodyard, The Saw Mill, Totford**

There have been no further developments regarding the Woodyard planning application and this has now lapsed. However, there has been a large delivery of timber to the yard and

two days before Christmas a small quantity was chipped into biomass fuel. The owner stated that the trial was to establish noise levels of such a process to the immediate neighbourhood and it was intimated a council representative was present. Regular biomass production is apparently not to be the proposed activity. It is assumed that a further application will be made possibly for use as a working sawmill.

### **7a) Chipping Depot Micheldever Woods**

JM reported to LG and EJ about NPC's meeting for the village on the 29th November 2016, he noted the large attendance from villagers concerned about the recent proposals. Letters from local residents as well as NPC have been submitted in December 2016.

### **8. Clerk's report**

AR presented financial update of Quarter 3 of FY2016/17.

£200 has been allocated to the upkeep of the War memorial as agreed in the last meeting.

AR submitted the precept application form for FY2017/18. As agreed at the last meeting the precept remains unchanged.

WCC had enquired about NPC's CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) and how the 2014/15 levy had been spent. The money has not been spent and remains earmarked for backlog of jobs/repair works.

HALC had contacted AR and asked if we could provide photos of our villages for inclusion in HALC's new service brochure. Unfortunately the deadline for submission was Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017 and the email, asking for photos has not been received until Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017 which didn't allow sufficient time for NPC to contribute. HALC will suggest that NPC might like to have some more pictures in the summer edition. AR to follow up.

### **9. Resilience Centre and SSE**

YW kindly offered to take over responsibility for this matter and will be in touch with SSE.

## **10. Any other business**

10a) Removal of rural BT phone box: NPC submitted a letter of objection on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2017, stating clearly the necessity for a reliable emergency telephone system within our rural community. JP and KG endorse our position and have been forwarded the letter too.

10b) Northington's St. Johns Church is now also part of our local website. As previously agreed, Village Hall and NPC will split the maintenance cost of the website which is currently paid by SW. SW will forward bills to VH and NPC.

10c) Northington Stud and Stables Equestrian Centre has applied for planning permission to establish a new Equestrian Centre at Itchen Abbas. JM attended a meeting called by Itchen Abbas Stoke and Ovington Parish Council to discuss the proposal. Itchen Stoke and Ovington Parish Council subsequently decided to raise no objection.

10d) The **Annual General Meeting** for Northington Parish Council will be held at Swarraton and Northington Village Hall on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017 at 19.00. AR to coordinate with VH Chairman.

## **11. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017, 19.15, in the private dining room at the Woolpack Inn, Totford, SO24 9TJ.

AR 22/01/2017