

MINUTES OF NORTHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of a regular meeting of Northington Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 17th September 2019 at The Woolpack Inn, Totford, SO24 9TJ.

Present: John Mitchell (Chairman) (JM)
 Melissa Jennings (MJ)
 Yvonne White (YW)
 Adam Dyne (AD)
 Alexandra Risebury (Clerk) (AR)
 Cllr Margot Power (MP)

Apologies: Dennis Nye (DN)

The chairman welcomed all present.

1. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were proposed by YW, seconded by MJ and signed as a true record by the chairman.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Planning Applications

3a) Chipping Depot: NPC had sent a set of questions to Hampshire County Council, within a tight deadline, and had received a comprehensive reply to all its questions. This information has been shared with residents. It is assumed that the responsible HCC committee has approved the application since the closing date for comments was 27th August 2019. MP confirmed that the main highways depot in Micheldever has drainage issues and therefore, Northington is only a temporary solution until the problem is resolved.

3b) The Farm, Northington: An existing permission required modification due to the position of an electric pole. NPC had no objections to the application and had submitted its comment to WCC.

3c) The Sawmill, Totford: NPC thought that the latest proposal was positive overall, although questions with regards to parking and trees still remain unanswered. The application remains undecided currently.

4. Website

MJ will be custodian for the Parish's website and will arrange a meet up with Simon Walker, who set up the website initially. JM grateful to MJ for taking on this role.

5. E-mail block list

DN set up an A List and B List for the email distribution across the Parish. The email correspondence still comes from DN's personal email account, which requires change of domain, in order to establish it under the umbrella of Northington Parish Council.

JM thanked Dennis for taking on the busy job of keeping the village up to date with information.

6. Lengthsman

The Lengthsman called AD this morning and confirmed he will be in the village between 9.30/10.00am. AD contacted Peter Lamb and Peter Campbell to meet the Lengthsman and discuss requests. The Lengthsman was supposed to do work in the churchyard two months ago but didn't turn up.

AD had raised Page 2 of 3 the matter with Wendy Simson, the supervising Clerk, and explained that the Lengthsman's worksheet does not correspond to the work carried out.

MP said that the Lengthsman should attend 5 for days over a year. AD said he was not satisfied with the incomplete work, noting that he holds templates with work requirements and sends them off in a timely manner.

MP said that other parishes are facing similar problems. .

7. Clerk's report

AR presented the financial figures for the first two quarters of the FY 2019/20. All figures are up to date, the second half of the precept has been received.

An invoice for the hire of the Village Hall has been sent to YW instead of AR. YW will forward the invoice to AR for her to settle the bill. The meeting decided that, although NPC contributes to the upkeep of the Village Hall, the hire of the Village Hall should remain budgeted for annually.

8. Any other business

a) AD announced that he will be resigning shortly as a councillor due to relocation. JM noted that AD's departure will leave a sizeable hole within NPC's ranks. JM asked his colleagues to suggest names of residents who might be co-opted to take AD's place

b) It appears that HCC has fallen behind schedule on work on Northington Hill. YW was under the impression the works were planned to be carried out in September and will chase this and request a set date.

c) MP said that HCC/WCC's discussion of a parking strategy for Alresford is likely to be put on hold due to the current political situation nationally.. With elections likely later this year. parking could become a thorny issue locally.

d) MJ suggested that NPC should contact Julia Mitchell from Grange Festival, since several complaints about littering and noise level have been raised by local residents close to the Grange Park. This issue needs resolving and for affected residents should be informed in a timely manner of events at The Grange. MJ and DN will arrange for a meeting with Julia Mitchell.

The date of the next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 12th November 2019 at 7.30pm.

The meeting finished at 20.06.

AR 25/09/2019