

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEWTON & NOSS PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Held on 11 March 2010**

PRESENT	Mr. Young (Chairman)	Mr. Carter	Mr. Stitson	Mr. Taylor	Mr. Hussell
Mr. Cooper	Mr. Matthews	Mr. Buckland	Mrs. Hinchliffe	Cllr Cooper	Mr. Tubb
ALSO PRESENT	Mrs. McDonough (Clerk)				

2 parishioners were present for part of the Meeting

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Eschbaecher who had been the Parish Clerk for 22 years. Mrs. Eschbaecher's leaving party had taken place the previous Saturday funded personally by Members of the Parish Council. Mrs. Eschbaecher was wished a long, healthy and active retirement with her husband David.

**OPEN FORUM**

**U3A Environment Group** - a member of the environment Group outlined a proposal for a Renewable Energy Project for Community Buildings in the Parish.

**Police Report:** Apologies had been received from P.C. John Nolan and PCSO Sid Lawrence. The following crimes had been reported:

**J1/10/170 - 174** - On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February an incident at 'The Dillons', Newton Ferrers had resulted in the arrest of a 33 year old female. The female had assaulted a family member and upon arrest assaulted two Police Officers. Further damage was caused to a Police Radio. Recorded crimes detailed the above offences, as well as an additional offence of 'Resisting/ obstructing a constable in the execution of their duty.'

**J1/10/177-** Sometime overnight Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February - Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2010, a quantity of lead was stolen from the Church at Stoke Road, Noss Mayo.

**62/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Reasons for absence were noted from Cllr Mumford and Mr. Stitson.

**63/10 MINUTES** – The Minutes of the Meeting 25 February 2010 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**64/10 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED**

Members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. No interests were declared.

**65/10 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS**

**65.1 County Councillor's report** – the Clerk read out a report from Cllr Mumford concerning the following:

- i) Since the beginning of January DCC had made good nearly 18000 pot holes throughout the County. A pot hole on Widey Hill has also been attended to.
- ii) Cllr Mumford had noted concerns about flooding on the Yealmpton Rd and would raise this with Highways again.
- iii) With respect to the Local Government Review, the House of Lords Merits Committee had provided a damning report on the Commons decision.

**65.2. Locality Budget** – Mr. Carter reported that although 3 people had been approached to provide estimates for constructing the proposed boat rack for Noss Hard, only one estimate had been received. The estimate was considered as was the imminent start of the season. The limits for Cllr Mumford's Locality Budget were noted and that the shortfall would be met from Parish Council funds.

RESOLVED; To proceed to accept the estimate from Mr. Leonard for construction and positioning of a steel frame boat rack for Noss Hard using Grade D tubing. (*Vote; 10 for, 1 abstention*)

**65.3 Collaton-Butts Park Link** –The Clerk outlined a letter from Tor Homes dated 17 February in which they felt unable to give consent for the proposed footpath in front of 1 Butts Park until the necessary legal documentation was in place. The contractor had advised that he had agreed a way forward with DCC Highways regarding signs being moved, the machinery for the path was working nearby and would be coming on to the path job once that work had been completed.

**65.4 Highways - Yealm View Road-** copy communication between a concerned parishioner and DCC regarding difficulties caused to pedestrians by drivers parking across the top of the path linking Yealm View Road to Riverside Road East was noted. DCC had advised they would be introducing a "dropped" section of the kerb before the entrance to the footpath which would be marked with an "access protection" bar – to be progressed in the next financial year.

**65.5 District Councillor's Report-** Cllr Cooper referred to;

- i) **Conservation Area-** an indication had been received from SHDC that they would support an application to extend the Conservation Area.

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- ii) **Trees-** the SHDC Tree Officer would be investigating ownership of land in Noss Mayo which had been undergoing significant tree felling.
  - iii) **Locality Grant-** Cllr Cooper had made her £1000 grant to the Reading Room for a new staircase.
  - iv) **Westfield, Riverside Road West-** the matter would be going before the Development Control Committee.
- 65.6 Devolved services-** it was agreed the **Clerk** would complete the questionnaire submitted by DAPC, to be checked and approved by **Cllr Cooper** and **Mr. Brown**.

**65.7 Play parks**

- i) **Noss Play Park maintenance and improvement** – it was noted the Flood Defence Consent Application had been acknowledged by the Environment Agency who then had 2 months in which to determine the application. Consent had to be obtained before work could commence. Invitations to Tender for the drainage work had been sent out with responses to be received by 25 March. SHDC had asked to be sent copies of plans and costings.
- ii) **Butts Park playing field-** complaints received regarding dog excrement on the playing field were noted. RESOLVED: To ask SHDC to provide dog/litter bins at every entrance to the playing field. *(Vote: Unanimous)* Council Members agreed that if problems persisted, there would be little option but to ask SHDC to ban dogs from the playing field.
- iii) **Play parks, SHDC assets and open spaces** –the position regarding the suggestion made of possible transfer of land assets from SHDC to the Parish Council was considered. It was agreed **Cllr Cooper** would establish the levels and standards of maintenance undertaken on SHDC assets together with costs. The **Clerk** would write to SHDC to invite a meeting to discuss possible asset transfer.

**66/10 PLANNING**

**Application received –: Myrtle Quay 37/0297/10-**

- RESOLVED: To rectify the typographical error on the the Agenda such that the Planning application details refer to Myrtle Quay rather than Myrtle Cottage. *(Vote; Unanimous)*
- RESOLVED: to accept an invitation from the planning officer for an onsite meeting on Friday 19 March, the decision in respect of the application being deferred to March 25 Parish Council Meeting. *(Vote: Unanimous)*

**67/10 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** –the meeting on 2 March 2010 was reviewed. A parishioner had raised a concern about inability to hear some of the speakers. The Meeting next year would be held in the WIC Hall.

**68/10 ADMINISTRATION**

**68.1 Bishops Court:**

- i) **Trees-** the outcome of the unsuccessful appeal made by Signpost Housing Association to the Planning Inspectorate against the decision by SHDC was noted.
- ii) **Lift:** - Signpost Housing Association had advised they were awaiting a report following a full assessment of the lift and would advise the Parish Council of the outcome.
- iii) **Maintenance-** the invitation from Signpost Housing Association for consultation on tendering for a grounds maintenance service was considered. It was agreed the **Clerk** would respond advising that the Parish Council would support the majority vote of the Bishops Court residents.

**68.2 Senior Council-** nomination of an alternative Council Member to the Senior Council was considered.

RESOLVED: In view of existing members' commitments, the Parish Council were unable to nominate an alternative representative. *(Vote; Unanimous)* The **Clerk** would advise the Senior Council.

**68.3 Information Security Policy-** it was agreed the **Clerk** would draft an information security policy in liaison with **Mr. Brown**.

**69/10 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED** The main items received concerned:-

- 69.1 Ivybridge and Surrounding Area Parish Cluster Meeting – Mr. Brown** advised that he may be in a position to attend the meeting on Tuesday 18 May 2010 subject to venue. There were no issues to be put forward as agenda items.
- 69.2 CPRE-** It was agreed **Cllr Cooper** and the **Vice Chairman** would attend the AGM on Wednesday 7 April.
- 69.3 DAPC-** No members were available to attend the meeting on Monday 15 March.

**70/10 MAINTENANCE**

**70.1 South West Water** –an update was noted from SWW following concerns being raised regarding the condition of the retaining walls at the Pumping Station, Noss. SWW had established that there was some erosion at the points highlighted, but following a visit by one of their engineers, it was felt the structure was not at risk at

present. A request for funding had been made to carry out a more detailed investigation. SWW would continue to monitor the situation until funding became available.

**70.2 Noss Hard** - Mr Buckland reported that SWW had offered to make a contribution of £1000 towards the costs of the repairs to the surface. The contractor was due to perform the work Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March/ Wednesday 17 March.

**70.3 Annual Parish Council Asset Inspection** – the progress of the Annual Asset Inspection was discussed. Seats/shelter sites were allocated to Members to review. **Agenda April**

**70.4 Other areas for consideration;**

i) **Widely**-Members were asked to view the state of the hedge 100 yards beyond Widely Cottage on B3186.

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ii) **Warren** –a member reported a broken latch on the gate to the West side of Warren Cottage. The **Clerk** would report the matter to the National Trust.

iii) **Court House** - concern was expressed about the integrity of the Court House wall which appeared to be bulging out in the section opposite the Co-op. It was agreed the **Clerk** would notify the Court House Residents Association and advise DCC Highways.

iv) **Bridgend Hill**- it had been noted that there was slippage near the lay by above the turning to Church Park Road. The **Clerk** would report the matter to DCC.

**71/10 BIG SLIP QUAY**- further to formal notices which were served on 14 December 2009, and the notice issued in the Parish Magazine in February, two of the three canoes/ kayaks remained on Big Slip Quay. The owners had not come forward to claim ownership. Mr. Tubb would check their condition.

RESOLVED: If saleable, to advertise the canoes/kayaks locally and on the Parish Council web site. Offers were to be forwarded to the Clerk in sealed envelopes by April 8. *(Vote; Unanimous)*

**72/10 ALLOTMENTS** - Nine parishioners had confirmed interest, willingness to attend a meeting and for their information to be disclosed to one another. **Cllr Cooper** and **Mr. Brown** agreed to Chair a meeting to discuss setting up an Allotment Association. RESOLVED; The Parish Council would fund the hire of the Tilly Institute for a meeting to discuss setting up an Allotment Association with interested parishioners. *(Vote; Unanimous)*

**73/10 FOOTPATHS & SEATS**

**73.1 WIC** **footpath** – urgent action to be undertaken to repair some deteriorated sections of the surface was considered. It was agreed in light of, the potential trip hazard and in interests of public safety that the work was urgent and that no estimates would be obtained in advance.

RESOLVED: to request the contractor undertaking the patch repair to the Hard, Mr. Guy Selleck, to effect a patch repair to the deteriorated sections of the pathway in particular by the granite posts by the entrance to Briar Hill. *(Vote; Unanimous)*.

**73.2 Proposed Permissive Path** – Mr. Taylor advised the Council about the intentions of a landowner for a permissive path linking Gunsey Lane to Newton Wood. **Agenda 25 March**

**74/10 EMERGENCY PLAN** – As requested, the Clerk had arranged for an article in April's Parish Magazine asking for a list of those people who considered themselves/were considered vulnerable were an emergency situation to arise.

**75/10 PARISH ASSETS** –a draft schedule of real property in which the Parish Council had an interest was considered. It was agreed the matter would be reviewed in April to give Members the opportunity to consider further areas for inclusion/investigation. **Agenda April**

**76/10 TWINNING** - Mr. Matthews provided an update on proposals to twin the Parish with Trebeurden. The Twinning Protocol was due to be signed in Trebeurden at a Civic reception on 26 June.

**77/10 VISITOR INFORMATION PANEL**- it was agreed the matter would be deferred. **Agenda May**

**78/10 NEWTON FERRERS PRIMARY SCHOOL –**

**78.1 “Making a Difference” day**- Following their “Making a Difference” day, the response from SHDC to the letter from Class 2 requesting more litter bins from the School to Butts Park was noted. SHDC felt the problem was likely to have arisen as a result of residual litter built up over time.SHDC would monitor the situation before making a decision about a bin.SHDC had offered the School a visit from their Waste Management Team.

**78.2 "Information Blob"**- Mr. Taylor had visited the School to view the "Information Blob". The School were keen that it be sited in the Community. Consideration would have to be given to ongoing maintenance and vandalism risk. It was agreed the matter would be deferred to the April meeting to give members opportunity to consider potential sites.

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**79/10 MEETINGS ATTENDED:**

**79.1 Harbour Authority** - Mr. Carter advised that the new pontoons had arrived. It was intended to resolve anomalies in the Mooring Allocation Procedures.

**79.2 Halls** – Mr. Brown advised the Village Hall was beginning to feel "the pinch" from the recession. Whilst bookings had increased so too had fuel prices. The Chairman advised that the WIC Hall Committee now had a new Chairman – Mr. Alan Cooper. The Committee were looking at several options regarding roof replacement.

**79.3 Primary School**- Mrs. Hinchliffe advised that the School had two new parent Governors – Mr. Paul Mears and Mr. Mark Woodlock. The School had begun working with the U3A Environment Group to monitor its electricity use and to explore potential sources of renewable energy. The new building had been signed off by OFSTED and was beginning to be used. The PTFA held a successful AGM. Money raised over the year was to be used to purchase playground equipment. The Governors were exploring an opportunity to "federate" with a successful group of Schools in Devon. If agreed the next step would be a 6 week formal consultation period ending in the summer term.

**80/10 SPORTS PAVILION:**

**80.1 Licence/Lease** - A response from SHDC was still awaited.

**80.2 Improvements** -The Chairman advised that some costings had been received regarding options for improving the Sports Pavilion. A discussion took place as to the original reasons for upgrading the Pavilion. The local Football Club had been in a Premier Division and the Football Association required separate accommodation for the Referee and Assistant. The Football Team had reformed and was now in a lower league. Whilst there was no current Football Association requirement to undertake the work, the Pavilion was not currently fit for its purpose. It was agreed that the plans, costings and budget would be reviewed at April's Meeting.

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**81/10 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS**

Cheque payments were authorised and signed in accordance with the schedule prepared by the Clerk, checked by Mrs. Hinchliffe and listed in Minute 82/10

**82/10 FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

**Alliance & Leicester Current Account** : Total balance at 1.03.10 **£ 58285.75**

The Gratuity Fund is held within the Current Account: **£16,396.07**

The balance includes receipt of a Hedge Cutting Bond of £3000 from Devon County Council

**The following cheques were authorised totalling **£2863.05****

**CHEQUES DRAWN 11 MARCH**

Chq No	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT	VAT
1106	S McDonough	Net salary February	£891.07	
1107	Village Hall	Hire Annual Parish Meeting 2 March	£25.00	
1108	WIC Hall	Hire NNPC 11 March	£20.00	
1109	WIC Hall	Hire NNPC 25 March	£20.00	
1110	J Allen	Cleaning:Noss Voss&Popes Quay Feb 10	£44.80	
1111	J Young	Contribution to Chairman's Expenses 2010	£150.00	
1112	VANTECH			
	MEDIA	Website;Annual hosting Fee	£85.00	
1113	S McDonough	Expenses:Postage,office supplies,mileage	£83.81	£1.61

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1114	WIC Hall	Grant;Hall hire for Twinning Committee Meeting 4 March	£30.00	
1115	Post Office Ltd	HM Revenue & Customs		
		Clerks Tax and National Insurance	£1,358.03	
1116	Post Office Ltd	South West water-Tap;Pillory Hill	£11.13	
1117	R Wooderson	Cleaning:Newton Voss & steps Feb 10	£79.00	
1118	J Eschbaecher	Expenses:Postage,photocopier rental &copies	£65.21	£5.73
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>£2,863.05</b>	<b>£7.34</b>
		* Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 payments : Nil		
		Total to date: £654.08		

*Meeting closed at 10.05pm*