

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF NEWTON & NOSS PARISH COUNCIL**

**Held on 8 December 2011**

PRESENT Cllr Cooper Mr. Cooper Mr.Hussell Mr. Carter Mr. Gough

Mr. Tubb

ALSO

PRESENT

Mrs. McDonough  
(Clerk)

9 parishioners were present for part of the Meeting

**OPEN FORUM**

**Maintenance**- a parishioner advised that he had passed a contractor's bill for refurbishment of the Admiral Fitzroy Storm Barometer to the Clerk. An invoice for pressure washing Noss Fountain would be forwarded shortly.

**Briar Hill**- the owner made a presentation in support of his planning application.

It was his intention to put more static units into the back field, retaining the front field for camping and for parking for village events. He would not have to put units in close proximity to the abutting properties on Court Road.

The owner further intended to convert the barn area providing site owner's accommodation and office, storage and two letting units for the disabled.

It was hoped that he would be in a position to provide employment- two full time positions and several part time positions (some seasonal). The owner considered that a lot of businesses in the Parish would appreciate the additional trade.. He was seeking the Parish Council's support.

A neighbouring resident raised the issue of the occupation Licence believed to run from the end of March to 6 January.

The site had been advertised as having 11 month. The owner advised that the site held an 11 month Licence at his discretion. The neighbour asked whether a "change of use" application would be required if he were to extend into the second field- the field being agricultural land outside the village development boundary.

Another neighbouring resident, who had circulated his letter of objection and photographs to the Parish Council, advised of his objections to the development. He suggested the risk of flooding would significantly increase from water draining from the field to both his property and those below him. It was suggested that the construction of concrete plinths, inlay pipe work and road access could exacerbate the difficulties caused by run off. Furthermore the plans were unclear about foul water drainage. It was also pointed out that the development would not conserve or enhance the beauty of the area which would not be in accordance with AONB policy. Furthermore Coastal Preservation Area Policy suggested that development otherwise than of a minor nature would not be permitted other than where required and PP13 provided that in an AONB area extensions to existing chalet camping sites would not be permitted.

**Newton Ferrers Primary School** – Mrs. Hinchliffe advised that the results of the Ofsted Report was "Outstanding". Mrs Hinchliffe outlined the key findings including the caring ethos enriched by wider partnerships across the Federation and the strong governance provided by the Federation.

**Noss Park/Community Orchard**- The play park opening and Tree Planting Day had taken place. The Landscape Architect had done a safety inspection before the launch.A ROSPA inspection was needed before practical completion took place. The contractor was making the telescope and a new latch for the gate. Until practical completion the contractors were responsible for insurance. Invoices had been received from Eden Design), the story teller, catering and the hessian for the apple trees. There had been an £80 underspend within the contingency. Mrs. Hinchliffe would be applying for a Sustainability Grant through Newton & Noss Network of up to £3500. So far plans had been made to apply for £3000 for a Bouncy Castle and bunting for the Big Lunch, pop up marquees which would then be available for subsequent community events, Tai Chi for 6 weeks in the Orchard in the summer, whole school activity day, Newton & Noss Adventurers, an Apple Day with apple press and a bulb planting event. Mrs. Hinchliffe welcomed suggestions for equipment for use in the field.

**283/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** apologies for absence had been received from Mr. Taylor, Mr. Matthews, Mr. Stitson, Mr. Barnett, Mr. Lyndon and Mrs. Ansell.

**284/11 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED** - Members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. Mr. Hussell and Mr. Tubb declared personal and prejudicial interests in the Briar Hill planning application by virtue of owning properties adjacent.

**285/11 MINUTES** –The Minutes of the 10 and 24 November Meetings were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**286/11 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS**

**286.1 County Councillor's Report**- it was agreed to vary the agenda putting back the report. Cllr. Mumford had advised that he could be late.

**286.2 Highways/Transport**-

1/8December2011.....Chairman

**i) Winter highways-** a response from Devon County Council was awaited following the removal of the section of Stoke Road from Bridgend to St Peter's Church from the Primary Salting Network. The Clerk had been advised that the contractor who undertook additional gritting for Brixton, Yealmpton and Wembury was at capacity. On advice from SHDC, the Clerk had contacted Zurich Municipal Insurance to ascertain whether they could provide insurance coverage for a towable gritter and motor insurance for the Snow Warden. They had advised that they could provide insurance coverage but on the basis that the Council took out their entire policy with them. The renewal date for the Parish Council Insurance was at the end of May 2012. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Council's existing insurers to clarify their position. The matter, in the interim, would be left to the working group.

The Snow Warden had been placing bags of grit around the villages.

**ii) No. 94 bus timetable-** the Vice Chairman gave a report of the meeting held to discuss possible timetable changes. The Meeting had been attended by the Vice Chairman, Mr. Lyndon, Mr. McIntosh (Tally Ho) Mr. Ovenden (DCC) and the Clerk. It was confirmed that moving the last bus to 1740 had increased passenger numbers. The possibility of bringing forward the departure of the first bus to 0730/0735 was discussed. The existing arrival time for the first bus in Plymouth was 0839 which gave insufficient time for some students to catch a connecting bus to get to their colleges for 9am. Tally Ho advised that their two drivers were almost at their maximum permissible driving time. However investigation could be made into a drop off point at Royal Parade making it easier for connections. This in turn could save the Company money by avoiding the necessity to use Bretonside Bus Station. Mr. Ovenden would consult with passengers using the No. 94 bus and would check if it would be permissible for a drop off at Royal parade. Mr. McIntosh would look at the drivers' hours to see the earliest the bus could leave the Parish without infringing driving hours regulations. Formal registration of any change in the timetable would take 56 days although short notice registration could be possible. It was agreed that the Parish Council would compile a letter in support of short notice registration if it appeared the timetable changes proved viable.

A complaint had also been received regarding the difficulty in getting pushchairs onto the No 94. Mr. McIntosh had advised Tally Ho had two different types of buses- a low step bus costing £50,000 and a stepped bus costing £10,000. The low step bus could accommodate wheelchairs/pushchairs. However DCC had only required Tally Ho to tender in respect of a stepped bus. They were obliged to use that type of bus for the route. By 1/1/15 the route would have to have a low step bus. If there was anyway Tally Ho could achieve this sooner they would do. DCC advised that the No 94 route was towards the top of their list for a bus upgrade. The only other way of achieving a low step bus before then would be for Tally Ho to provide one or for DCC to pay more/make a one off grant. Their budget would not permit this. DCC's main priority was not to cut off communities.

**286.3 Locality Budget-** the position regarding the purchase of a towable gritter remained to be resolved. The Chairman advised that she had a Locality Budget of £1000 in her capacity as District Councillor in respect of which she was inviting bids for a project. It was agreed that the Clerk would include a notice in the Parish Magazine.

**286.4 District Councillor's Report-** Cllr. Cooper advised that the Sherford Development had been agreed. The level of affordable housing had been set at 15%. None of the changes had gone to public consultation in respect of which Judicial Review had been threatened.

**286.5 SHDC Asset Transfer-** there had been no substantive reply from SHDC to the Parish Council's letter of 18 July. The Chairman had asked the Head of SHDC Asset Department to progress matters.

**286.6 Community Orchard/Noss Play Park Improvement Project-** RESOLVED: To authorise payment of the invoice from Eden Design in the sum of £811.25 for part payment for completed work of Stage 4 and Launch Event. (Vote: Unanimous)

RESOLVED: To authorise payment of the expenses claim for refreshments for the play park opening/Community Orchard Tree Planting day from Mrs Charlotte Carrick in the sum of £42.35 (Vote: Unanimous)

RESOLVED: To authorise payment of the expenses claim for Mulch Mat Roll and Bio Pegs for the Community Orchard Tree Planting day from Ms Caroline Griffiths in the sum of £80.34 (Vote: Unanimous)

**286.7 Village Housing Initiative-** the scheme had been approved under delegated powers. The Section 106 agreements were being resolved.

**286.8 Ivybridge & surrounding area Parish Cluster Group-** the Vice Chairman reported on the Meeting which both himself and Mr. Gough had attended. They had raised the issues of SHDC delays in responding to correspondence regarding the proposed asset transfer and regarding the proposed affordable housing in respect of which nothing had been heard for some time.

## **287/11 PLANNING-**

**SHDC planning decisions-** the most recent decisions received were noted;

**287.1 Satu, 1 Court Road 37/2551/11/F-** application to replace existing timber windows with UPVC. **SHDC:** Granted Applications received -:

**287.2 Barnicott, Bridgend Hill 37/2933/11/LB-** Listed Building Consent for alterations/renovations to existing property. DECISION; No objection. (Vote; 5 in favour, 1 abstention).

**287.3 Wedgwood, Court Wood 37/2953/11/F-** householder application for installation of external stair lift to provide wheelchair access from road to existing dwelling and erection of single garage and hardstand. The site adjoined/affected a public right of way. DECISION; No objection. (Vote; 5 in favour, 1 abstention).

2/8December2011.....Chairman

**287.4 Briar Hill Farm, Parsonage Road 37/3031/11/F-** Replacement of existing barns with two holiday homes and a dwelling with office and storage facilities and proposed arrangement of static units. The architect made a presentation in respect of the plans displayed. A pre application process had taken place over a number of months. The plans made provision for 24 static units with space left for camping. The proposed two holiday homes for the disabled would be run on the same Licence arrangements. Queries were raised regarding the terms of the licence. It was agreed that the **Clerk** would request a copy of the Licence from SHDC. The architect advised that SHDC had not asked for change of use application. The pre application process had included investigation into water runoff, sewage, habitat/wildlife surveys and topographical use. The architect advised that a flood risk assessment had been performed and that run off should not present a problem.

They had taken photographs from Noss Mayo and considered that the development would be screened. The owner had purchased units more sympathetic to the surroundings. The meeting was advised that the existing Licence provided for 50 units, 30 of which could be static. The applicant advised that he did not wish to use the full capacity of the Licence as it would involve units being paced in front of abutting houses on Court Road. Queries were raised about sewage capacity. When a previous application for a large housing development had been discussed South West Water had said that the existing system would not be able to cope. With the Affordable Housing planned for Parsonage Road it was thought that SWW now believed the system to be at capacity.

Concerns were raised about setting a precedent on development outside the Village development boundary. A Member expressed the views of a number of parishioners who had concerns about having so many sizeable on the site. *Mr Hussell and Mr Tubb left the Meeting.*

It was reported that SHDC had been asked by the Chairman to give a time extension to 13 January to enable the Parish Council to meet on 12 January to discuss matters further - by which time some of the issues could have been resolved and public opinion considered. SHDC had refused. The possibility of calling an Extraordinary General Meeting prior to the deadline of 4 January was considered.

DECISION; Objection.

1. The proposed plans were not within the village development boundary.
2. Clarification of the terms of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, Public Health Act 1936 Licence to use land as a site for caravans and tents was required, in particular the proportion of the year in which occupancy was permitted.
3. Clarification was needed as to whether a change of use was required for the field to be developed.
4. There were concerns about both land and foul water drainage. (*Vote; 3 in favour, 1 abstention.*)

*Mr Hussell and Mr Tubb returned to the meeting.*

**287.5 Statement of Community Involvement-** Mr. Matthews had reported to the council with respect to the consultation document on the planning process and local involvement in it. It was considered to be a good document with little proposed change on current procedures, which, on the whole, worked well enough. There was concern with pre-application advice by SHDC. If this process was not managed carefully and on a transparent basis, SHDC's planning officers could be perceived to having given "tacit approval" to schemes before they had gone out to local consultation. It was agreed Mr. Matthews should respond to the consultation in those terms together with some other minor comments to SHDC by 16 December.

## **288/11 ADMINISTRATION**

**288.1 Bishops Court-** the Parish Council had written to the owner of "Wisteria Cottage" on 18 November regarding the neighbouring trees to which his response was awaited. A response was awaited from Signpost regarding concerns over cleanliness of the consulting room. Yealm Medical Centre had advised that the room had been clean this week.

**288.2 Localism Act 2011-** Mr. Matthews had offered to provide a short briefing in January. The Devon Association of Local Councils would be offering training in due course. **Agenda January.**

**288.3 Budget 2012/2013-** a parishioner had suggested costs for further resurfacing work on Noss Hard should be included in the budget for 2012/2013. It was agreed this would be included within the General Contingency provision. The contingency figures proposed were considered and the Precept request finalised. RESOLVED: To accept the budget figures and request a Precept of £39,245 for 2012/13 (0% increase on the previous year). (*Vote: Unanimous*)

**288.4 Councillor Responsibilities-** the schedule of Councillor responsibilities was agreed and accepted.

**288.5 Clerk's employment-** it was agreed to progress the review of the Clerk's contract of employment. **Agenda January.**

## **289/11 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

**289.1 Localism Act-** Cllr. Mumford had a useful Power Point presentation which he would send.

**289.2 Collaton/Butts Park Link-** Cllr. Mumford had authorised the release of the balance of the funding.

**289.3 No 94 Bus timetable-** Cllr. Mumford was aware of the outcome of the meeting.

**289.4 Primary Salting Network-** Cllr. Mumford was in communication with highways department regarding the removal of the section of Stoke Road from Bridgend to St Peter's Church.

## **290/11 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

**290.1 Diamond Jubilee**-the meeting arranged to coordinate various events in the Parish had not been well attended. The major event would be the Big Lunch on the Sunday of the Bank Holiday Weekend. Mr. Stitson, Mr. Tubb and Mr. Matthews were arranging the Beacon lighting .The Yealm Yacht Club were thought to be arranging a parade of boats. It was agreed that the Parish Council would investigate WC Hire for the weekend. A further co ordination meeting would be discussed in January. It was agreed that Diamond Jubilee Mugs with “presented by Newton & Noss Parish Council” should be presented to Newton & Noss Playgroup and Newton Ferrers Church of England Primary School children. **Agenda January.**

**290.2 Memory Café** – an update was awaited from the Parish representative.

**290.3 Village Green Registration**- the request by a parishioner to register open spaces in the Parish as Village Greens was discussed. The meeting was advised that should SHDC transfer the land to the Parish Council then it was probable covenants would be put in place to protect the land. It was agreed that the **Clerk** would investigate the procedures involved to register Village greens and the matter would be considered by full Council at the first Meeting in January, including whether to form a working group to take the matter forward. **Agenda January.**

**290.4 RYDA**- the RYDA had raised the issue of the potential threat to Marine Conservation Zones. Mr. Carter agreed, as Chairman of the RYHA, to speak with the secretary to the RYDA, regarding the concerns raised.

**290.5 Olympics 2012**- it was agreed the **Chairman** and **Vice Chairman** would attend the Torch Bearing event on 20 May on behalf of the Parish Council.

**290.6 Ivybridge Railway Station Services**- **RESOLVED**: to write a letter to the Department of Transport in support of the Ivybridge Rail User’s Group response to the Department of Transport on the planned Greater Western Franchise Replacement.

**290.7 CPRE**- it was agreed to consider the suggestion that the Council set up a small working group, with external volunteers, to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan at the planning Meeting in January. **Agenda January.**

**290.8 Royal Mail**- the response to recent correspondence regarding changes in postmen for the Parish was noted. It was understood that the regular postmen would be remaining in their positions.

## **300/11 FOOTPATHS/NOTICEBOARD/SEATS**

**300.1 2011 Annual footpath Inspection**- the results would be considered at the January Meeting. **Agenda January.**

**300.2 Definitive Map review**- it was agreed to receive an update and a report of the PROW Meeting from **Mr. Taylor** at the Meeting in January. **RESOLVED**: To authorise reimbursement of Mr. Taylor’s travel expenses for attending the PROW Meeting 11 November (*Vote: Unanimous*).**Agenda January**

**300.3 Parish notice boards**- **Mr. Carter** would look into matters, including a report on the condition of the notice board by Noss Fountain, and advise the Council in January. **Agenda January.**

## **301/11 MAINTENANCE**

**301.1 Parish Asset Inspection**- it was agreed to circulate the report of potential work to be undertaken to **Members** and ask them to review the assets in question with an assessment of work to be undertaken being investigated at the next Meeting. **Agenda January**

**301.2 Noss Fountain/granite troughs/parish assets**- It had been agreed at 10 November Meeting that Mr Barnett and Mr Allen would remove the Admiral Fitzroy Storm Barometer and would assess its refurbishment, revarnishing and polishing. The Barometer had been removed. Mr. Barnett had advised that he would be able to revarnish it but not immediately. Mr. Allen had instructed Mr. Hockaday to undertake the work. The outside box had been varnished and the Barometer waxed. **RESOLVED**: To authorise payment of the invoice from Mr. Shane Hockaday in the sum of £120. (*Vote: unanimous*)

Mr. Allen had instructed a contractor to pressure wash Noss Fountain. The costs would be £80 plus VAT. **RESOLVED**: To authorise payment for pressure washing Noss Fountain in the sum of £80 plus VAT. (*Vote: unanimous*)

The additional premium for the insurance of the granite troughs and Admiral Fitzroy Storm Barometer was £25.

**RESOLVED**: To authorise payment of the invoice for £25 from Came & Co for additional insurance premium for the Admiral Fitzroy Storm Barometer and two granite troughs. (*Vote: Unanimous*)

**301.3 Noss Hard** –**RESOLVED**: To authorise payment of the invoice for £2013.60 from G.J. Selleck for Noss Hard resurfacing work (*Vote: Unanimous*)

**301.4 Noss Voss**- the suggestion to resurface would be assessed together with other work arising from the Parish Asset Inspection. **Agenda January.**

**301.5 River Yealm Water Quality**- the Environment Agency (EA) had responded following concerns from a parishioner regarding sewage leaks into the river. They had received a call to notify them that there may be a leak from the sewers running along the foreshore adjacent to Yealm Road on 12 September 2011. Following this call they contacted South West Water (SWW) and they had agreed to carry out cleaning of the sewer as a temporary measure. The EA had received no further reports of a discharge and their representative had walked the foreshore on 28 September when there were no leaks to be seen. SWW had requested budget funding to carry out a further investigation and camera survey to ascertain the condition of the sewer and to identify any possible leakage points.

The E A had attended a Yealm Estuary Forum meeting on 3 November where the issue had been raised. Mr. Carter had requested they check the water quality in the creek opposite Yealm Road. The E A confirmed that they would take some samples from the creek once they had some feedback/action from SWW. They would report these findings to the Parish Council and update SWW's planned work once known

**301.6 Parish Lengthsman-** it was agreed that the Clerk should write to DCC to request doubling the number of Parish Lengthsmen in South Hams to four.

**301.7 Other areas for consideration-** none were raised.

**302/11 GRANT REQUESTS-**

**302.1 Victim Support-** Victim Support had confirmed that they had assisted 36 people in Newton & Noss from 1/11/10-31/10/11. RESOLVED: to give financial assistance in support of work undertaken by Victim Support in the sum of £200. (Vote: Unanimous)

**302.2 RYDA-** RESOLVED: to give financial assistance to the RYDA towards 2011 Annual Harbour Clean Up Public Liability Insurance Costs in the sum of £55 (Vote: Unanimous)

**302.3 SeaMoor Children's Centre-** - RESOLVED: to give financial assistance to the SeaMoor Children's Centre in the sum of £50 towards the running of a baby massage course in Yealmpton Health Centre. (Vote: Unanimous)

**303/11 MEETINGS ATTENDED:** To receive brief reports regarding the following:-

**303.1 Harbour Authority.** Mr Carter advised that the invoices for next year had been prepared and there would be no increase in fees. The RYHA had made a contribution to the RYDA for the Harbour Clean Up.

**303.2 Halls-** the Vice Chairman had put a piece in the Parish Magazine requesting help to raise money for the planned work for the WIC Hall, but there had been no response.

**304/11 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS** – Cheque payments were authorised and signed in accordance with the schedule prepared by the Clerk, checked by Mr.Hussell and listed in Minute 305/11.

**305/11 FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

<b>Santander Current Account :</b>	Total balance at 1.12.11	<b>£44998.44</b>
<b>The balance includes: Hedge Cutting Bond</b>		<b>£3000</b>
<b>The following cheques were authorised totalling:</b>		<b>£6073.49</b>

<b>Chq No</b>	<b>PAYEE</b>		<b>AMOUNT</b>
1396	Newton & Noss Village Hall	Hire NNPC Meeting 8 December 2011	£20.00
1397	J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss & Popes Quay November 11	£47.00
1398	S. McDonough	Net salary-November	£995.38
1399	Eden Design	Part payment for completed work of Stage 4 and Launch Event	£811.25
1400	Society of Local Council Clerks	Membership Renewal fee 2012	£140.00
1401	Broker Network Ltd	Additional Insurance premium for barometer/ granite troughs	£25.00
1402	T. Taylor	Travel Expenses DCC PROW Committee Meeting	£33.30
1403	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerks quarterly tax and National Insurance	£881.32
1404	GJ Selleck	Noss Hard-surfacing work	£2,013.60
1405	Laura Hetherington	Fee: storyteller Noss play park launch	£360.00
1406	South West Water	Public tap Pillory Hill;20/8/11-9/11/11	£5.95
1407	RYHA	Cleaning public toilets;:June-December 2011	£400.00
1408	M. Hingston	Cleaning: Newton Voss & steps November 2011	£82.00
1409	D. Goodchild	Grass cutting: the Green 17 /11/11	£16.00
1410	C. Carrick	Reimbursement: Refreshments Noss play park/ Community Orchard launch.**	£42.35
1411	C. Griffiths	Reimbursement; Mulch mat roll/Bio Pegs for Community Orchard **	£80.34
1412	S. Hockaday	Refurbishment of Admiral Fitzroy Barometer***	£120.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£6,073.49</b>

\*Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 payments: Nil. Total to date;£360

\*\* Section 19 Local Government(Miscellaneous Provisions)Act 1976

\*\*\* Section 8 Local Government Act 1894

*The Meeting closed at 9.05 pm*

5/8December2011.....Chairman