

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEWTON & NOSS PARISH COUNCIL
Held on 10 December 2009

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

8 parishioners were present for part of the Meeting

OPEN FORUM

St Louis Riverside Road West: - the Council heard from a parishioner regarding the plans for redevelopment.

Highways: a parishioner raised concerns about the state of the road from Hannaford to Foundry Lane, pot holes at Middlecombe and a parked car which had been causing an obstruction to vans/larger vehicles. Concern was also raised about the condition of Noss Play Park and rumours regarding its future.

Police Report: Apologies had been received from P.C. John Nolan and P.C.S.O. Sid Lawrence. The following crime had been reported:

JI/09/1086

There had been a burglary at a property in Bridgend, Noss Mayo 12th - 16th November 2009. Entry was believed to have been effected using a 'jemmy' to force open a wooden door. Whilst an untidy search of the property had been made no items had been stolen.

It was agreed that a note would be sent to PC John Nolan to wish him well for his forthcoming operation.

227/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Reasons for absence were noted from Mrs. Hinchliffe.

228/09 MINUTES – The Minutes of the Meeting 25 November were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

229/09 PROPOSALS TO VARY THE AGENDA.

RESOLVED: to bring forward Planning Matters to be considered at the beginning of the meeting. (*Vote: Unanimous*)

RESOLVED: to consider tenders for clearing the verge at 1 Butts Park in committee at the end of the Meeting. (*Vote: Unanimous*)

230/09 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED

Members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting – interests were declared by Mr. Taylor and Mr. Stitson in issues relating to the planning applications for "St Louis" and "Westfield" respectively.

Mr. Brown arrived at 7.10p.m.

231/09 PLANNING

Applications received –current applications were considered:

Mr. Taylor left the Meeting whilst the planning application for St Louis was considered.

231.01 ST LOUIS, RIVERSIDE ROAD WEST 37/2064/09/CA: Conservation area consent for demolition of existing bungalow and replacement to incorporate disabled flat for relatives.

ST LOUIS, RIVERSIDE ROAD WEST 37/2065/09/F: Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement to incorporate disabled flat for relatives. Resubmission of 37/0571/09/F.

The copy letter from Stephen Munday to the architect dated 19 November had been considered. The letter from the architect and enclosures dated 10 December was considered as was a letter of objection from a resident. Several members of the Council had attended a site meeting at St Louis on 8 December. The architect was present at the Meeting and available to answer queries from the Members.

DECISION: No objection. However the applicants should take steps to ensure that nuisance, noise and unnecessary vehicle movement was minimised particularly during the rush hour. (*Vote; 8 for, 2 abstentions*).

231.02 3 NEWTON CLOSE 37/2085/09/F: Householder application for extension and alteration to existing dwelling.

DECISION: No objection. (*Vote; 7 for, 4 abstentions*)

Mr. Stitson left the Meeting whilst the planning application in respect of Westfield was considered.

231.03 WESTFIELD, RIVERSIDE ROAD WEST 37/2040/09/F: Retrospective householder application for amendments to planning consent 37/0410/08/F for alterations to landscaping to rear garden.

The Council were made aware of a copy of a letter of objection sent on behalf of a neighbour by their solicitors. The level of the garden had increased and affected the neighbours' privacy.

DECISION: Objection. The Council supported the objections raised in the letter from Bond Pearce dated 2 December 2009 (*Vote; 8 in favour of objecting, 2 abstentions*)

231.04 ZELTE, REVELSTOKE ROAD 37/2081/09/F; Householder application for erection of white uPVC conservatory to rear elevation and extension to existing balcony

DECISION: The design of the proposed conservatory was poor and wholly inappropriate, particularly in relation to the proposed roof. The roof of the conservatory needed to be integrated with the existing roof. (*Vote: 6 in favour of objecting, 5 abstentions*).

231.05 4 RIVERSIDE COTTAGES 37/2099/09/F; Renewal of extant householder application 37/2324/06/F for extension to dwelling.

DECISION: Support, so long as the conditions imposed under original planning permission granted 25 January 2007 remained in place. (*Vote; 9 for, 2 abstentions*)

231.06 CLEEVE, COURT ROAD 37/2117/09/F; Application for erection of conservatory and improvement to access and two storey extension to include garage, garden room, utility with ancillary accommodation over. DECISION: No objection (*Vote; 8 for, 3 abstentions*)

231.07 Applications withdrawn- applications withdrawn were noted in respect of "Redlands", Court wood and Hilbre Cottage, Riverside Road West.

231.08 SHDC Planning Decisions- the most recent decisions received were noted

231.09 SHDC Local development Framework-Development policies DPD Submission stage- the proposed minor post publication changes and an update regarding the Princes Foundation and site allocations DPD (due for release 17 December) were referred to.

232/09 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS

232.1 County Councillor's report - there was no report.

232.2 Locality Budget –Mr. Stitson was waiting for three estimates for the costs of constructing a boat rack for Noss Hard **Agenda January**

232.3 Devolved Services - the invitation from DAPC to a briefing meeting was considered. It was agreed that the Chairman and the Clerk would attend the Meeting in Totnes on Monday 11 January 2010. The **Clerk** would enquire whether there would be capacity for **Mr Cooper** and **Mr Brown** to attend. **Agenda January**

232.4 Collaton-Butts Park Link –progress made was considered and in particular:

i) The contractor was waiting for the surface to dry out before commencing construction. Mr. Richard Yonge had agreed to take the spoil.

ii) Tor Homes' proposal to transfer ownership of the verge at 1 Butts Park for £100 (as per the valuation) plus legal fees, estimated to be £400 + VAT was considered. A Member suggested a more realistic transfer charge for Tor's legal work would be in the region of £120. Devon County Council's Legal Department was acting for the Parish Council without charge. RESOLVED: To accept the proposal for transfer of ownership of the verge from Tor Homes to the Parish Council for £100, but the legal fees would be queried. (*Vote: Unanimous*)

ii) The request by the tenant of 1 Butts Park for the inclusion of wooden posts with the new surfacing to discourage drivers from parking was noted. RESOLVED: The situation would be monitored and an appropriate solution would be provided if necessary. (*Vote; Unanimous*)

232.5 Highways -Yealm Road, a request for a pedestrian warning sign on Yealm road from the Court House by the church past the public conveniences to the junction with Newton Hill was considered. The Members understood the concern raised, but noted that there were many similar places in the villages where such signs could be appropriate. It was agreed that littering the village with warning signs would be ineffective. It was agreed the **Clerk** would write to the parishioner to advise.

232.6 District Councillor's Report. Cllr Cooper had no items to report.

232.7 Play area maintenance and improvement – In particular:-

i) The response and feedback to the play park questionnaires was noted. There had been 78 replies. The high activity net had been the most popular choice for both girls and boys. The second most popular choice for girls had been the climbing wall and for boys the multi sports surface. Thirty boys and 23 girls had been in favour of an area for skateboarding, with 26 against.

ii) A further letter had been received from SHDC dated 4 December and noted by the Members, restating the proposals for play park management issued in their letter of 10 September 2009 and assuming acceptance if not responded to by 15 January 2010.No reference had been made to the letter from the Parish Council querying the position in relation to SHDC ownership of Butts Park and their lease of Noss Play Park. It was agreed that the Clerk would write back to SHDC advising that the Council were unable to agree to the proposal until a response had been received to the previous letter, and until the Members had been advised of the current arrangements for insurance and inspections,

including costs, the brief given for inspections and whether they were conducted internally or given to an external contractor.

iii) The poor condition of Noss Play Park, the visit by SHDC Greenspace Ranger on 1 December 2009 and his subsequent report was noted. Mr. Buckland had been up to the play park with a contractor to discuss options to resolve the drainage difficulties. The problem appeared to be that the play area when constructed was levelled by cutting into the hill so that the natural ground water came to the surface as a spring. The proposal was to construct a system of 150mm field (French) drains connecting into the culvert that ran under the play area. The surplus material would be placed along the toe of the existing steep slope to make it less steep. It was anticipated that by draining and regrading the play park field, the problems in the lower field may be resolved. Cllr Cooper advised that SHDC had £10,000 available for the play parks in the parish. Consideration was given to whether a firm of engineers should be instructed to prepare plans with associated fees which could be in the region of £2000- £3000. Alternatively, Mr Buckland, a civil engineer could draw up plans. It was agreed that the benefit of the indemnity from a firm of engineers was marginal but the costs considerable. It was agreed Mr. Buckland's suggested solution appeared sensible and that there would be a site meeting before the next Parish Council Meeting to discuss plans in more detail and the action to be undertaken.

iv) The outcome of the visit from a playground manufacturer with reference to Noss Mayo and Newton Ferrers play parks on 25 November 2009 was noted.

232.8 Tennis Courts Cllr Cooper confirmed that SHDC had £20,000 available for refurbishment of the tennis courts, but the total cost was likely to be £30,000. It was noted that a community group such as the newly formed Tennis Club may have more access to funding than the Parish Council. It was agreed that the **Clerk** would write to Mr. Roger Barnett to advise.

232.9 Allotments – the members agreed that a decision as to whether a working group should be formed to investigate potential sites for allotments would be made once the response to the Parish Magazine Article in January 2010 had become known.

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233/09 MAINTENANCE

233.1 Bridgend – the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Mr. John Allen had inspected the wall on the Noss side and did not consider that its condition presented a risk. Concerns were raised about the significant undercutting of the stone wall on the Noss side from the Milestone up to Bridgend. It was agreed that **Mr. Buckland** would look at the wall and advise the Clerk of the details. The **Clerk** would then advise DCC Highways Department about its condition.

233.2 Noss Hard –

a) Boats had been cleared from the Hard. South West Water were still conducting works from the Hard. It was agreed that the **Clerk** would write to the contractors to thank South West Water for the remedial work, for grinding the sharp angles from the concrete blocks and to enquire about reinstatement of the Hard to its original condition.

b) It was agreed that the working party would meet to view the cleared Hard and to prepare a schedule of the work to be undertaken.

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c) It was agreed that any action to be undertaken following reports of a child being swept through the pipe under the crossing to Tidal Waters/Public footpath, over the weekend of 14 November, would be considered at the site meeting on Noss Hard.

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d) A request from a parishioner for a replacement flag at Pope's Quay was considered. **Mr. Stitson** would speak to the parishioner about the flag .RESOLVED: to purchase a replacement Union Flag for a jack staff for Pope's Quay. (Vote; Unanimous)

Mr. Stitson left at 9pm.

233.3 Other areas for consideration-

i) **War memorials-** a parishioner was hoping to form a British Legion Branch for the area and had expressed concern that the War Memorials may be in need of maintenance and renovation.

ii) **Hewsters Hill** - a report was made of a tree blocking access to Hewsters Hill. It was agreed that the **Clerk** would make contact with the landowner.

iii) **B3186** – concerns were raised about flooding, believed to be caused by blocked gulleys, by Broadmoor Farm. It was agreed that the **Clerk** would report the matter to Devon County Council

234/09 SPORTS PAVILION

The Working Group had met to discuss potential extension/refurbishment. It was agreed that work should be conducted on the existing Sports Pavilion, but a foundation laid for the extension to maintain the validity of the planning permission. A costs estimate was awaited.

235/09 FOOTPATHS & SEATS

235.01 Doctor's Steps-

i) The Chairman had obtained one quotation for £250 for preparatory ground works and base for the replacement seats. It was agreed that only one quotation was necessary. RESOLVED: To accept the quotation from Mr. John Leonard dated 1 December 2009 and to authorise the work to be undertaken. (Vote; Unanimous)

ii) Mr. Taylor had investigated replacement seats with six suppliers. It was agreed that the **Clerk** would ask the Staverton Clerk for the name of the supplier of their seats by the public conveniences in the centre of the village. It was further agreed that the **Clerk** would put a note in the Parish Magazine to see if there was interest in sponsoring the replacement seats.

235.02 Horses –the response from DCC to the request for a prohibitory sign on the Leas Path was considered. DCC had made a number of suggestions to be looked at before imposing a Traffic Regulatory Order. It was agreed that the situation should be monitored.

236/09 VILLAGE PLANS –

Parish Plan –the working groups had prepared updates for the Village Plan which were discussed at the Meeting and amendments agreed. It was further agreed that the update would be referred to as an appendix to the Parish Plan and would be placed on the Parish Council web site.

237/09 NEWTON FERRERS PRIMARY SCHOOL

237.1 Ideas to put forward to the Head Teacher Mrs. Claire Sealey for projects for the children to tackle on "Make a Difference Day" for the following terms were considered. It was agreed that the **Clerk** would write to Mrs. Sealey to suggest that the children become involved with Primrose planting along the new Collaton/Butts Park link and hold a special walk along the path.

237.2 A letter from a pupil regarding display of their "Information Blob" was considered. It was agreed **Mr. Taylor** would view the "Information Blob" and report back to the Council. **Agenda February**

238/09. TWINNING

A proposal put forward for Newton Ferrers and Noss Mayo to be twinned with Trebeurden, France was considered. Several parishioners had expressed an interest to become involved. It was agreed **Mr. Matthews** would investigate interest in forming a committee. RESOLVED: The Parish Council wholeheartedly supported the principle of twinning with Trebeurden. (Vote; 9 for, 1 against)

239/09 MEETINGS ATTENDED: Brief reports were received regarding the following:-

239.1 Harbour Authority. There had been 5146 boat nights this year. A twenty five year lease had been undertaken for the river bed. Fees would not be increased apart from the VAT element. A skip had been reported floating up the river, and a yacht floating upside down up the Kitley.

239. Halls. The Chairman reported that negotiations for the new lease on the WIC Hall were ongoing. A new roof was needed. Mr Brown had no report regarding the Village Hall.

239.3 Viridor Stakeholder Meeting- Mr Carter reported that the substance of the Meeting had been similar to the presentation to the Parish Council in November. There was resistance from landowners to sell for the proposed by pass.

240/09 ADMINISTRATION

240.1 Passage/Ferry Woods- the National Trust was seeking a contribution of 50% towards the cost of felling a Sweet Chestnut Tree on an emergency basis. The estimate from a National Trust Representative prior to the work being undertaken had been £200. The total invoice for the work had been £736. An explanation had been given as to the reason for the cost of the work. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the National trust to ascertain whether they were seeking a contribution of £200 or 50% of the total bill which would amount to £368. The Clerk was authorised to make payment once confirmation of the position was received.

240.2 Budget Committee - A report from the Budget Committee regarding future spending plans/contingency allowances which should be included in the budget provision for 2010/11 and beyond was considered. Amendments agreed to contingency figures would be incorporated into a final draft and presented to the Council for voting upon in January. **Agenda January.**

Mr Matthews left at 10.05pm and Mr Tubb at 10.15pm.

241/09 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED The main items received concern:-

241.1 Wrights lane/Court Road –copy correspondence forwarded by a Court Road resident to DCC Highways department and their proposed petition regarding usage by delivery lorries was noted.

241.2 SHDC Budget Meeting with Town & Parish Councils- no council members were available to attend the Meeting on 14 January 2010.

242/09 GRANT REQUESTS: The following requests were considered;

242.1 South Hams Citizens Advice Bureau- for support contained in their letter of 12 November. RESOLVED: To make a contribution of £50.00. (Vote; Unanimous)

242.2 WIC Hall –

i) For contribution towards funding for the roof/maintenance costs contained in their letter of 3 December. It was agreed, in principle, that a donation would be made to the roof fund, but it would not be in the public interest to do so until the lease had been resolved.

ii) For contribution towards the Christmas tree and lights- RESOLVED: to make a contribution of £25 towards the cost of Christmas tree and lights to both the WIC Hall and the Newton & Noss Village Hall. (Vote: Unanimous)

243/09/ 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 244/09

244/09 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Alliance & Leicester Current Account : Total balance at 1.12.09 **£ 65645.72**

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

The following cheques were authorised totalling £4675.76

**CHEQUES DRAWN 10
DECEMBER**

Chq No	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT	VAT
1063	J Eschbaecher	Net salary November	£1,067.02	
1064	S McDonough	Net salary November	£891.07	
1065	R Wooderson	Cleaning:Newton Voss & steps Nov 09	£76.70	
1066	SLCC	Membership Renewal 2010	£135.00	
1067	Village Hall	Hire NNPC 10 December	£20.00	
1068	J Allen	Cleaning:Noss Voss&Popes Quay Nov 09	£43.50	
1069	Garden Services	Grass cutting: The Green 13/10/09 & 29/10/09	£31.00	
1070	R.Y.Harbour Authority	W.C.cleaning:half year contribution	£376.00	£49.04
1071	South West Water	Tap; Pillory Hill	£13.62	
1072	Devon County Council	Stationery & supplies	£72.54	£9.47
1073	Post Office Ltd	HM Revenue & Customs Clerks Tax & National Insurance	£1,807.09	
1074	Ricoh Capital Ltd	Photocopier rental 29/01/10-28/4/10	£142.22	£18.55
1075	National Trust	Contribution,tree felling:Passage Woods Cheque cancelled.Lower contribution accepted	£0	£0.00
Totals			£4,675.76	£77.06

In view of the confidential nature of the item to be discussed, it had been agreed that the following should be considered in Committee:

245.09

The tenders for clearing the verge at 1 Butts Park prior to resurfacing were considered.

RESOLVED: to accept the quotation from Garden Services dated 5 December 2009 (Vote: unanimous)

Meeting closed at 10.40 pm

5/12/09.....Chairman