

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEWTON & NOSS PARISH COUNCIL
Held on 9th July 2009

PRESENT Mr. Young Mr. Carter Cllr Cooper Mr. Matthews Mr. Buckland
(Chairman)
Mrs. Hinchliffe Mr. Stitson Mr. Tubb
ALSO Mrs McDonough
PRESENT (Clerk)
5 parishioners were present for part of the Meeting

POLICE REPORT

Apologies for absence had been received from PC Nolan and PCSO Lawrence. One crime had been reported since the last meeting: sometime between 1700 and 2300 on Tuesday 23rd June, a flower pouch has been removed from the wall of a property in Perches Close, Membland. The crime had been filed as undetected.

OPEN FORUM

U3A Environment Group.

Mr. Brown advised the Council that a report had been commissioned by the Environment Group from Renewable Energy for Devon. The report reviewed options for solar, wind, biomass, heat pumps, wave, tidal and hydro energy for the Parish. The report had been posted on the U3A page via the link from the Parish Council web site. Mr. Brown asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to make a few hard copies available for loan.

Litter/fly tipping

A parishioner raised concerns about the large bags of rubbish being left by the bins at Noss Car Park. Bags and boxes had been left by the Bottle Bank and there had also been problems at Bridgend. Animals had been ripping the bags apart and rubbish was being spread around. Photographs were shown to the Council. Further details would be obtained and forwarded to South Hams District Council to take action.

Noss Green

A request had been received from the daughter of the late David Groome to see , whether in principle, the Parish Council would have any objection to a seat being placed on Noss Green in his memory. The matter would be placed on the Agenda for September.

128/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Reasons for absence were noted from the Vice chairman, Mr. Hussell and Mr. Taylor. Mr. Brown was absent – the reason was not stated.

129/09 MINUTES – The Minutes of the June Meeting were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

130/09 INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED

Members were invited to declare interests in the items for discussion during the course of the Meeting. None were declared.

131/09 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILS

131.1 Cllr Mumford's Report - Cllr Mumford was unable to be present. He had reported;

- i) The first DCC full Council Meeting had occurred and executive posts allocated. John Hart Councillor for Wembury had been confirmed as the new leader of the Council. The number of executive members had been reduced which would save approximately £340,000 over the following four years.
- ii) Steve Bryant from DCC had replaced the manhole cover to the drain above "Grey Stones" which should reduce the likelihood of the cover blocking up.
- iii) Cllr Mumford referred to coverage of the blessing of the School Optimist fleet & the use of last years DCC grant. He acknowledged the tremendous effort by Colin Smith and his team of helpers in keeping the rare tradition of school sailing alive and hoped moves to integrate this with the Yacht Club Cadets would bear fruit shortly.
- iv) Locality Budget - each Councillor had an allocation which Cllr Mumford would divide up between parishes to proposed projects for support. Each Parish would be "awarded" £500 this fiscal year. There was some carry over from prior years and Cllr Mumford would be asking for 3 bids of £2000 each to free up match funded projects for capital items from within the 12 parishes he covered. The closing date for bids would be 1/11/09 to give time for projects to be realised before the fiscal year end.

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131.2 Butts Park Crossing – Cllr Mumford was awaiting the return of Brian George from holiday who had been handling the query about the safety audit. **Agenda September**

131.3 School transport provision – Mr. Matthews reported. Mrs. Mary Wilcox had sent a letter to parents of the 19 pupils from Noss Mayo to see if they would be interested in transport to Newton Ferrers Primary School. Eight out of eleven parents who responded said they would be interested. **Mr. Matthews** would speak with **Cllr Mumford** and **Mrs. Wilcox**. **Agenda September**

131.4 Overgrown hedges and grass – Cllr Mumford had reported that the hedges on Widey had been cut back and the splays had also either been done or were due to be done shortly. The Chairman advised that the hedges opposite Butts Park had not been done. **Cllr Mumford** would be asked to press DCC to contact the landowner. **Agenda September**

131.5 Collaton-Butts Park Link –

i) The tender had been received for the fencing and gates shortly before the meeting. It was agreed to defer the matter to when the Vice Chairman or Mr. Taylor would be present and have the opportunity to review the tender. **Agenda August / September**

ii) An offer of funding totalling £6326 had been received from the South Devon Coastal Local Action group subject to conditions relating to the terms of the permissive agreement with the landowner (Richard Yonge), compliance with the SDCLAG procurement procedures and erection of signs promoting the path. A contract had been supplied for signature by the Chairman and Mrs. Eschbaecher and for return to the project officer by 20th July. An outline of the Parish Council's responsibilities had been prepared by Mrs. Eschbaecher and sent to the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Mr. Taylor on 1st July. In the absence of the Vice Chairman and Mr. Taylor, consideration of the terms was deferred until 3rd August. **Agenda**

August

131.6 Report from Cllr Cooper. Cllr Cooper reported that the outcome of the Boundary Review was awaited by SHDC.

131.7 Play area maintenance and improvement –

i) The present ground condition of the Noss play area had not given concern despite the recent rain.

ii) Western Power had advised that the trees close to overhead power lines at Noss play area had been trimmed on 15 June

iii) The consultation to assess wants/needs in preparation for a funding application, the further work needed to be undertaken and identifying who would complete the grant application would be deferred to September.

Agenda September.

131.8 Litter nuisance – discussed in Open Forum and referred to above.

132/09 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

There were no developments to report.

133/09 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

133.1 Development Sites DPD: Community Engagement Programme. The Vice Chairman and Cllr Cooper had attended the Prince's Foundation event on 16th June. The Chairman read out a general letter from SHDC dated 2 July sent to Parishes regarding representatives of Parish Councils declaring interests in parcels of land being discussed during the consultation process. It was agreed that this was not relevant to the Newton & Noss Parish Council representatives.

133.2 Questionnaires: In Mr Brown's absence, it was agreed that a letter would be sent to SHDC confirming that a Public Meeting had taken place and an extensive survey undertaken. It had taken longer than anticipated to consider the results and that it was anticipated that the results would be sent in the next fortnight.

A copy letter from South West Water to a Parishioner dated 29 June 2009 was read out. SWW had advised that if their infrastructure was unable to accommodate the level of development sought, as was the case with the suggested housing need in the Parish, their means of seeking to control this would be by raising an objection at the planning application stage thereby preventing premises being constructed and subsequently invoking the right to connect.

133.3 Development Plan Policies DPD Publication Stage – Mr Buckland advised the Council that the document was very general and there was nothing to object to. However whilst there was reference to consulting local wishes he felt there should be reference to Parish Plans being taken into account on Planning Applications. It was agreed that **Mr Buckland** would prepare a draft response in those terms for the **Clerk** to send to SHDC.

134/09 PLANNING

134.1 Planning Committee – The draft terms of reference were presented for consideration. Some members of the Council considered it was more appropriate to hold additional full Parish Council Meetings

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rather than Planning Committee Meetings. The Clerk referred the Council to the fact that a binding Resolution to form a Planning Committee had been made in June.

RESOLVED: to amend the Resolution made in June whereby the Council had:

Resolved: To appoint a formal Planning Committee with delegated decision making authority, to meet monthly in public for the specific purpose of considering planning applications. Parishioners would be welcome to attend. The full Council would also retain the ability to make planning decisions as necessary.

RESOLVED: To hold a second full Parish Council Meeting each month in place of a Planning Committee Meeting. (Vote: 7 for, 1 abstention)

It was agreed that the additional meetings would be held on the 4th Thursday of each month, commencing September.

134.2 Co-op plans – the Parish Council had been invited to an informal presentation by Mr Carter from Plymouth & South West Co-operative Society Limited on the plans for redeveloping the Co- op. It was agreed to accept the invitation for Thursday 30th July.

134.3 Appeal: Crispins, Bridgend – the Council noted that representations were due by 27th July. The members had also noted and supported the views contained in the copy letter which had been sent by the RYDA to the Planning Inspectorate dated 28th June 2009 .A concern was raised that there was a possibility that the development had been based on a misunderstanding of local conditions and in particular the Seiche. RESOLVED: To write to the Planning Inspectorate supporting the letter sent by the RYDA in respect of the “Crispins” Planning Appeal. **Mr Buckland** would prepare the wording in respect of the local conditions and forward it to the **Clerk** for inclusion in the letter. (Vote: unanimous)

134.4 SHDC planning decisions –The most recent decisions received were noted.

Applications received –

134.5 Shadow Cottage, Revelstoke Road 37/1002/09/F

Resubmission of 2066/08/F extension to dwelling.

DECISION: No objection subject to a condition that the new window overlooking “Summer Cottage” is of obscured glass. (Vote 7 in favour, 1 abstention)

134.6 13 The Fairway 37/1000/09/F

Single storey extension with use of roof space.

DECISION: No objection (Vote 7 in favour, 1 abstention)

134.7 3 Richardson Drive 37/0986/09/F (1791/08 Revised) Single storey extension to rear and side of dwelling.

DECISION: No objection. (Vote 7 in favour, 1 abstention)

134.8 Vine Cottage, Riverside Road West 37/0966/09/F

Erection of garage as alternative to approved application.

DECISION. Objection. The Parish Council preferred the original application which provided for a grass roof. The River Yealm Management Plan referred to the green belt of land behind Riverside Road West as being a significant feature of Newton Ferrers and the Council considered this should be preserved. The Council had concerns about the effect of excavation on slippage in the neighbouring garden, upon ground water levels and trees and hedges in the vicinity. (Vote 7 in favour, 1 abstention)

134.9 Trees – The SHDC Tree Officer’s intention, expressed in his letter of 9 June 2009, **not** to confirm the TPO on woodland at Rose Cottage, Noss Mayo was noted.

135/09 VILLAGE PLANS

135.1 2004 Parish Plan. It was agreed that the original plan should stand with the updates being contained in an annex/supplement. The **working group** would meet on Monday 14th September at 7.30pm.

135.2 Meetings with Gary Streeter and SHDC –it was felt that the meetings had been useful. It was hoped that the planners would now take more notice.

135.3 Emergency Plan –it was agreed that the matter should be deferred to October. **Agenda October.**

136/09 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED The main items received concerned:-

136.1 Donkey Path – the letter from Mr Longhurst dated 24 June 2009 regarding a rail being fixed to the fence posts of “Riverhaven” alongside the path was considered. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Mr Longhurst confirming that alternatives would be looked into.

136.2 DAPC Invitation – No one was available to attend the conference “Empowering Communities” on Wednesday 22nd July at Sandy Park, Exeter.

136.3 Senior Council for Devon – No one was available to attend the AGM at Exeter Corn Exchange 1st October from 10am – 3.00pm.

136.4 I&DAPC – It was agreed that the Vice Chairman would attend the AGM on 15th July at Ivybridge Town Hall 7.30pm (re the future of the Association). **Agenda September**

137/09 PARISH ASSETS – It was agreed that the **Clerk** would prepare a schedule of Parish Council land interests and pass it to **Mr Matthews** to consider.

138/09 TOURIST INFORMATION – SHDC had been approached to see if they would be prepared to fund an information board .Their response was awaited. It was agreed that the information obtained by the Clerk in respect of visitor information boards would be passed to **Mr Matthews** to consider. **Agenda September**

139/09 MAINTENANCE

139.1 Doctor's Steps handrail – Mr Carter had met with Mr Leonard. It was agreed that no further work was needed at this time.

139.2 Doctor's Steps removal of growth – It was agreed to authorise Garden Services to carry out the annual tidying.

139.3 Broken Way (Pumping Station) – It was agreed to authorise Garden Services to carry out the annual roadside tidying.

139.4 Big Slip Quay – It was agreed to authorise Garden Services to carry out the removal of unwanted growth from the stone wall and quay.

139.5 Noss Hard and the Malthouse patch – It was agreed that the Chairman and Mr Carter would review the work to be undertaken. It was further agreed that Mr Carter would approach the Harbour Authority to see whether it would agree to take over the running of boat allocation spaces and maintenance of both Noss Hard and Big Slip Quay. **Agenda October**

139.6. Pathfields – a wasp's nest had been reported. The land owners and SHDC would be advised.

140/09 FOOTPATHS & SEATS

140.1 Annual inspection – some completed forms were returned for the attention of Mr Taylor.

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140.2 Urgent work – no urgent work had arisen from the Footpath inspections conducted. The work on the path running alongside "Tidal Waters" had been completed. It was agreed to authorise payment of the invoice from the contractor once received.

140.3 Doctor's Steps –the recommendations for replacing the old seat were considered. The Chairman and Mr Carter had considered having two seats in replacement to take more advantage of the view.

Agenda September

141/09 SPORTS PAVILION - SHDC had advised that the parish Council request for a draft lease/licence for consideration had been referred to their property services department. The Chairman was waiting for drawings from the Architect and would advise the Clerk once they had been received.

142/09 MEETINGS ATTENDED Brief reports were made regarding the following:-

142.1 Harbour Authority – Mr. Carter advised that there were no issues to report.

142.2 Halls – No meetings had taken place.

142.3 Primary School –Mrs Hinchliffe advised:

- i) The school were expecting 98 children next term. The School was now full in years Foundation, 1, &2 with one space in year 3 and balance in upper years. (PAN was 119).
- ii) The contract for the new building had been signed that day. Work would start on 27 July to be completed by 13 November. The AONB officer had been that day and agreed the planting scheme which had been a requirement of the planning permission.
- iii) The Yealmpton before/after school club had closed that week and it was proposed to "bus" the children to Newton Ferrers. The before/after school club at Newton Ferrers was now the only facility this side of Plymstock.
- iv) Mr Matthews was thanked for his work on the Noss school bus. The School would get back with updated numbers at the start of next term.
- v) SATS results had been very good especially the "value added" measures.
- vi) Claire Sealy was to return the following week and the management partnership with Ilsington School would cease. The School would continue to work collaboratively with other schools.

143/09 ADMINISTRATION

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143.1 Photocopier rental - The Council had agreed in the June Meeting to authorise the lease for a colour photocopier (Ikon - £123.67 per quarter plus running and maintenance costs). **RESOLVED:** to confirm authorisation for a five year lease to be undertaken for a colour photocopier with IKON. (*Vote: unanimous*)

143.2 Reference Book – It was agreed to authorise the purchase of "Local Council Administration" 8th edition £59.05 (discounted).

143.3 Bishops Court- It was agreed to defer consideration of the outcome of the meeting with Yealm Medical Centre regarding the letting arrangements to September. It had been noted that Bishops Court was beginning to become overgrown with paint peeling off the rendering. **Cllr Cooper** would provide details of the areas of concern to the **Clerk** who would write to the landlords. **Agenda September**

143.4 Storage facilities –the space constraints for storing the display panels at Bishops Court were noted. The **Chairman** would speak with Mr Sizer to see if storage could be arranged at the Reading Room. **Agenda September**

143.5 Meetings venue – the response from the Village Hall Committee to the proposed charge of £20 per meeting was awaited. It was agreed that the Village Hall should be booked for scheduled Parish Council Meetings provided the cost would be limited to £20. **Agenda September**

The WIC Hall committee had thanked the Parish Council for increasing the hire fee to £20 per Parish Council Meeting.

144/09 GRANT REQUEST –

U3A Environment Group - it was agreed that the Parish Council would print 5 copies of the report on Newton and Noss Renewable Energy Options for Community Buildings which would be made available for loan to Parishioners who did not have on line access.

145/09 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Alliance & Leicester Current Account : Total balance at 1.7.09 **£64,857.99**
(Balance includes receipt of half year Precept from SHDC £19,622.50)

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

The following cheques were authorised totalling **£5918.61**

989	R Wooderson	Cleaning: Newton Voss and steps	76.70
990	J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss & Popes Quay	43.50
991	S McDonough	Net salary July	598.19
992	S McDonough	Net salary August	985.27
993	J Eschbaecher	Net salary July	1,067.02
994	Devon Assoc of P.Councils	Annual subscription	370.60
995	Devon County Council	Footpath Guide printing	152.37
996	River Yealm Harbour Authority	Cleaning: public conveniences half-year	376.00
997	J Leonard	Butts Park Sports Field: repair of 2 benches	65.00
998	Ricoh UK Limited	Photocopier rental and copies	53.00
999	Devon County Council	Clerk's office: new chair	93.15
1000	Devon Assoc of P.Councils	Subscription to "Local Council Review"	13.50
1001	British Telecom	Clerk's telephone 872538 - first invoice	113.34
1002	Lexis Nexis	Reference bk "Local Council Administration" 8th	59.05
1003	Tilly Institute	Hire charge for Jan - Dec 2009	100.00
1004	R Wooderson	Cleaning: Newton Voss and steps	76.40
1005	J Allen	Cleaning: Noss Voss & Popes Quay	43.50
1006	J Eschbaecher	Net salary August	1,067.02
1008	Devon County Council	Clerk's office - desk and drawers	305.00
1009	R Wooderson	Branch cutting Butts Park/Collaton Link	260.00

The Meeting closed at 9.30pm

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