

NORTON ST PHILIP PARISH COUNCIL

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING held 7.45 p.m. on Thursday 10 April 2003 at Palairet Hall, Norton St Philip

Present: Councillors M. Davis, T. Hanney, I. Hasell (acting Chair),

In attendance: Sally Vince (clerk); 6 members of the public

Apologies for absence: C. Gill, P. Rich, D. Satchell, V. Solanki

Public forum

At the start of the meeting only two councillors were present. Parishioners expressed their dissatisfaction at the absence of councillors. While waiting for a third councillor for the council was quorate, general updates and information was given: these are noted under the relevant sections below.

Election of Chair for the meeting

Since neither the Chair nor the Vice-Chair could attend the meeting, the councillors present voted for Cllr Hasell to take the chair for the meeting.

5394 **Declaration of interests**

None.

5395 **Urgent items**

None.

5396 **Minutes of the previous meeting (13 March 2003)**

These were signed with no amendments.

5397 **Matters arising from the meeting of 13 March**

(i) *Malt House / Bend Cottage* [5383(i)] Cllr Hanney has spoken to Dave Clark at MDC.¹ MDC has secured the rear of the properties and billed the owner, who so far has not responded. The Repair Notice is on hold because MDC is considering taking out a County Court Order to force payment by the property owner; if the bill is not paid within two months he can be forced to sell the properties.

Rundell's Barn in Bell Hill is not a listed building but for MDC to carry out repair works permission must be given by the Secretary of State. Cllr Hanney will ask MDC to request this permission.

TH

(ii) *Bus service* [5392]. No action has been taken on this item. The clerk will write to Faresavers bus company to point out that their service would be more helpful if buses were to run in between the Badgerline services, rather than 5 minutes before, and also that the village would find it useful to have a bus service that runs to towns not currently serviced (Trowbridge and Radstock).

5398 **Village Plan**

¹ MDC = Mendip District Council

Jonathan Layzell, the Community Council Rural Housing Enabler, has presented his report on the housing needs survey. There was a 49% response rate to the survey and the Parish Council and the steering group thank everyone who took part. The formal recommendations of the report are:

Existing evidence and the results generated by this survey would justify a development of between 8 and 10 affordable units with a split between rented, shared ownership and low cost ownership accommodation. The survey also identified a need/aspiration for around 6 owner occupier bungalows, predominantly for elderly people and with some level of care in the home/warden assistance factored into any future scheme.

The report can be copied or emailed to anyone who requests it.

5399

Traffic Action Group

(i) A TAG meeting was held on 2 April. The group is trying to take forward action on the speed gun.

(ii) Work has started on the pavements outside Rundell's House and The Plaine. The work will take about three weeks.

(iii) Cllr Davis again raised concerns about the speed of traffic in Farleigh Hungerford. The clerk will ask TAG to look at this.

Clerk

5400

Palairret Hall

Work on the kitchen and disabled toilet is now finished. The management committee is very pleased with the standard of work.

5401

Church Mead

(i) Cllr Hanney was unable to attend the last management committee meeting.

(ii) The groundwork has been put in place ready for the foundations of the new pavilion. A lot of soil has been dug out and is in small piles around the edge of the Mead; Cllr Hanney will ask at tomorrow's management committee whether this could be taken away or levelled.

TH

(iii) Cllr Hanney will formally request that the Church Mead management committee changes its remit to include funding.

TH

5402

Highways

The signpost outside the Old Forge has been put back. Councillors felt this is badly sited and think it will be more visible on the pavement outside the Plain. The clerk will ask TAG to look into this.

Clerk

5403

Finance

(i) Water Tower at Farleigh Hungerford. Cllr Davis has asked Mr Applegate to provide another quote for this work. The clerk will chase this so that the information is available for a decision to be made at the next meeting.

Clerk

(ii) Millennium tree. Cllr Solanki was looking into costings for this. Cllr Hasell will chase this so that a decision can be made at the next meeting.

IH

- (iii) The following cheques were agreed and signed:
£147.63 to SALC², for affiliation fee
£2038.63 (£1735.00 + £303.63 VAT) to Floorings Frome, for flooring for the new building work at the Palairet Hall
£683.52 to Allianz Cornhill, for insurance on the Palairet Hall (this is a 22% increase on last year)
£396.95 to Sally Vince, for clerk's salary (£371.95) and expenses (£25.00) from 1 January to 31 March
£50.00 to Community Council for Somerset, for subscription (and as an acknowledgement of the help the organisation has given during the drawing up of the village plan)
£173.90 (£148.00 + £25.90 VAT) to Somerset Landscapes for grasscutting on Church Mead
- (iv) Requests for donations to the NSPCC and Victim Support were refused, since it was felt that these charities, although worthy, do not benefit parishioners directly.

5404

Planning

- (i) Land adjoining Mowers, Bath Road, Norton St Philip. *Appeal decision*: dismissed.
- (ii) Land adjoining Mowers, Bath Road, Norton St Philip – erection of detached dwelling house. Object (unanimous). Comment: 'The parking area in the front does not meet the inspector's recommendations. The Parish Council would prefer the parking area to be at the back of the property.' Clerk
- (iii) Land adjacent to The Old Orchard, Manor Farm, Norton St Philip. *Appeal decision*: permission has been granted. The clerk will write to MDC to ask why the Parish Council was not told that this planning application had gone to appeal. Clerk
- (iv) Hurley House, Wells Road – Fell 2 trees within conservation area. *MDC decision*: no objection.
- (v) Willow Brae, Ringwell Lane, Norton St Philip – Fell tree within conservation area. *MDC decision*: No objection.
- (vi) Norton House, Bath Road, Norton St Philip – Works to beech tree in conservation area. No objection (unanimous). Clerk
- (vii) The White House, Norton St Philip – Demolition of existing link lobby and erection of conservatory and lobby to rear – alter/extend and full applications. No objection (unanimous). Clerk
- (viii) Manor Farm House, The Barton, Norton St Philip – Internal alterations. No objection (unanimous). Clerk
- (ix) Faccenda site, Norton St Philip – (a) Change of use and subdivision to form B1, B2 and B8 affecting TPO M214; (b) Residential development

² SALC = Somerset Association of Local Councils

and associated access works (affecting TPO M214) (amended and additional plans received). Object (unanimous). Comment:

Clerk

The Parish Council's objections to the above numbered planning applications relating to this site stand as documented in their letter of 2 January 2003 (attached).

In addition, it has been formally established by the Rural Housing Enabler that there is no need for housing of this type in the village, and there is documented and verifiable evidence of a need for affordable housing. The Rural Housing Enabler's recommendations (in his report dated February 2003) are:

[inc. quote from Jonathan Layzell's report as in minute 5398.]

(x) 4 Tellisford Lane, Norton St Philip – Single-storey rear extension. *Update* Permission granted.

(xi) The Farthings, Frome Road, Norton St Philip – Construction of a replacement bungalow. *Update*: Permission granted.

(xii) Fairmile, Tellisford Lane, Norton St Philip – Erection of extension. *Update*: Permission granted.

(xiii) Hurley House, Wells Road, Norton St Philip – Changes to boundary wall, creation of new site entrance and ancillary structure. *Update*: Permission granted.

(xiv) Grafton House, Norton St Philip – Insertion of 3 rooflights to rear and internal alterations. *Update*: Permission granted. When this application was discussed at February's meeting it was understood that the rooflights would be to the front of the house and the Parish Council objected; an amended application was submitted with the rooflights at the rear. All councillors were emailed with this new information and the unanimous response was 'no objection'.

5405 **Correspondence**

A list of correspondence was circulated to all councillors with the agenda. Any action to be taken is noted elsewhere in the minutes.

5406 **Parish Council members**

(i) Parish Council elections. Notification has been received that there will not be an election because of a lack of candidates.

(ii) Councillors from 1 May 2003 will be: Derek Archer, Chris Gill, Tim Hanney, Ian Hasell and Paddy Rich. This leaves two vacancies. The clerk will place an advertisement on the noticeboards to advertise these vacancies and the Parish Council will try to co-opt members at the next meeting.

Clerk

(iii) The retiring councillors were thanked for their work on the Parish Council. In particular, thanks were given to Mike Davis for his 24 years of continuous service on the Parish Council.

5407 **Miscellaneous reports and information**

(i) The tarmac is breaking up in Park Lane, Farleigh Hungerford. The clerk will inform WS Atkins.

Clerk

5408 **Dates of next meetings**

Thursday, 22 May – Annual Parish Meeting.

Thursday, 8 May 2003, Palairet Hall, Norton St Philip (when the new Chair and representatives will be elected).

The meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.