

# NORTON ST PHILIP PARISH COUNCIL

## MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING held 7.45 p.m. on Thursday 11 September 2003 at Palairet Hall, Norton St Philip

**Present:** Councillors D. Archer, C. Gill (Chair), A. Pursord  
**In attendance:** Sally Vince (clerk); 5 members of the public  
**Apologies for absence:** Councillors T. Hanney, I. Hasell, P. Rich

#### **Public forum**

A parishioner expressed concern that the public litter bins, especially the one attached to the bus stop, were not being emptied. The clerk will contact Cleanaway.

Clerk

#### 5464 **Declaration of interests**

None.

#### 5465 **Urgent items**

Planning. This application was received too late to be an agenda item.

The Beeches, Fair Close, Bell Hill, Norton St Philip – Works to trees within Conservation Area. Councillors have no objection.

Clerk

#### 5466 **Minutes of the previous meeting (29 August 2003)**

These were signed with no amendments.

#### 5467 **Matters arising**

None that are not on the agenda.

#### 5468 **Malt House/Bend Cottage**

There is no further news on this item.

#### 5469 **Faccenda site**

(i) There is no further news on this item.

(ii) Councillors and parishioners alike were concerned that people in the village have not been given enough information on the processes currently taking place.

The council agreed unanimously that:

1. it is imperative that the parish plan be completed without further delay, and that if information on business needs or other central matters cannot be obtained without delay from Mendip District Council the steering group should immediately proceed with its own research, the cost of which could be met from local funds
2. if community-based proposals are to be made for the development of

the Faccenda site which go beyond the prescriptions of the parish plan, or which are to be presented to Faccenda before completion of the plan, these proposals should be made by the Parish Council after full discussion within council, and the originators of any such proposals should meet the Parish Council to facilitate that discussion

3. this discussion should take place at the next meeting of the Parish Council on 9 October, so that parish representatives at any subsequent meetings with Faccenda will be able to represent accurately the position of the Parish Council
4. as a basis for this discussion relevant documents should be distributed with the agenda, including the current draft parish plan, a report from the parish plan steering group on its activities, and drafts of any other proposals for development of the site that are supposed or expected to enjoy the support of the community
5. the next meeting of the Parish Council and this discussion in particular should be prominently advertised in the October parish magazine to encourage wide participation.

#### 5470 **Village cleaning**

(i) Cllr Archer has carried out an extensive review of the condition of the village and reported on the overgrown and run-down nature of the village, such as:

- ▶ there is a build-up of growth on footpaths, in gutters and on walls
- ▶ the traffic calming islands look very scruffy
- ▶ some properties are run down and semi-derelect
- ▶ the open grass areas, such as the area where the millennium tree is planted, are untidy
- ▶ the bus stop bin is not being emptied
- ▶ there is no maintenance on the Mead gates.

Councillors agreed that these matters should, where possible, be addressed.

(ii) Councillors divided these items into three categories:

- ▶ neglect of areas that the Parish Council should take action on
- ▶ overgrowth of hedges and plants that individuals should maintain
- ▶ decaying buildings.

(iii) The clerk will:

- ▶ Contact the district council to ascertain its 'cleaning' responsibilities.
- ▶ Contact the Highways department to ascertain who should clear vegetation that is overgrowing speed and other traffic signs.
- ▶ Contact Cllr Hanney as the Church Mead Committee representative on the Parish Council to ascertain the committee's policy on boundaries and cutting down nettles etc.
- ▶ Contact Cllr Hasell for an update on how Hinton Charterhouse organise their village cleaning.

Clerk

This item will be discussed fully at the next Parish Council meeting. The

budget will need to be set in December/January and money could be set aside for village cleaning if councillors deem appropriate.

5471 **Highways and traffic**

(i) Speed Management Policy questionnaire. This was passed to Cllr Archer to complete.

DA

(ii) The proposed new signs cannot be discussed without the information that Cllr Rich is obtaining from Jeff Bunting. It was agreed that a site meeting is needed. This will be discussed fully at the next Parish Council meeting, after a site inspection has taken place.

PR

(iii) The speed gun has been used in the village for a week. Fourteen cars were detected as speeding and the registration numbers have been passed to the police.

(iv) Four signs will be purchased to put at each entrance to the village: 'Police Notice. Community Speed Watch Area'.

(v) The clerk will contact the Highways department to request that a Radstock finger is put on the post at the crossroads. This is a safety issue, since vehicles including HGVs are reversing up the High Street when drivers find they have taken a wrong turning.

Clerk

5472 **Footpaths and rights of way**

(i) The group responsible for footpaths and rights of way is investigating the following:

- ▶ Cllr Hanney is seeking clarification on the bridleways in the parish.
- ▶ Cllr Hanney will discuss with the landlord of the George fixing the plan of footpaths and bridleways to the wall of the George.

TH

TH

(ii) Trail leaflets are available from Mendip District Council. They are not up to date, but the council will reprint with amendments if enough copies are sold. If the Parish Council spends at least £10, the leaflets can be bought for 15p and resold for 30p. It was suggested that these be sold through the Post Office and through the two pubs.

AP

5473 **Church Mead Committee**

There is nothing to discuss on this item.

5474 **Palaiet Hall Committee**

There is nothing to discuss on this item.

5475 **Correspondence**

(i) Nick Davies has written to thank the Parish Council for the honorarium sent him for the work he has done on its behalf regarding the Faccenda site.

(ii) Community recycling centres. Mendip District Council will set up, on request, community recycling centres so that households that do not benefit from kerbside recycling will have somewhere nearby to take their recyclable materials. The clerk will try to ascertain if there is any interest for this in the parish.

Clerk

5476 **Miscellaneous reports and information**  
None.

5477 **Meetings**  
9 October 2003, Palairet Hall, Norton St Philip  
To include discussion on: Faccenda site  
Village signs  
Village cleaning  
13 November 2003, Farleigh Hungerford Village Hall

The meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.