

NORTON ST PHILIP PARISH COUNCIL

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING held 7.45 p.m. on Thursday 8 April 2004 at Farleigh Hungerford Village Hall

Present: Councillors D. Archer, T. Hanney, I. Hasell (chair for the meeting), C. Mack (left after minute 5558), A. Purssord

In attendance: Sally Vince (clerk); 4 members of the public

Apologies for absence: Councillors C. Gill, P. Rich

Public forum

(i) A large blue container has been sited in a property in Chatley Furlong. Cllr Hasell will make enquiries. IH

(ii) The road surfaces on the two bridges in Farleigh Hungerford and in Ringwell Lane are in urgent need of attention. The clerk will contact Highways. Clerk

5551 Election of chair for meeting

In the absence of Cllrs Rich and Gill, Cllr Hasell was nominated chair for the meeting.

5552 Declaration of interests

None.

5553 Urgent items

None.

5554 Minutes of the previous meeting (11 March 2004)

These were signed with no amendments.

5555 Matters arising

(i) Minute 5541(i), water tower at Farleigh Hungerford. MDC* has advised that the water tower should be surveyed before repairs are made, since the tank inside may be rusting and causing the tower to crack. Cllr Hanney will apply for a grant from the Local Heritage Commission to pay for the survey and, if appropriate, a further grant will be applied for to carry out the repairs. TH

(ii) Public forum (ii), noticeboard on Bell Hill. This matter is ongoing. TH

(iii) Minute 5548(ii), bus services. MDC was subsidising evening and weekend services, but has withdrawn funding. Somerset County Council, the bus contractor, will keep the Sunday service going. Cllr Mack has done some lobbying to try to keep all services running, but has had no response. The

* MDC = Mendip District Council

clerk will write to MDC/First Group/SCC**/Traffic Commissioner to express the council's dismay that service 267 is to be withdrawn because of the cut in subsidies.

Clerk

(iv) Pole on Bell Hill. MDC is investigating this. It has also been reported that BT's subcontractors have not followed statutory procedures for carrying out works for digging the road up and affixing boxes to houses in Bell Hill and North Street. Cllr Hasell has met with Fujitsu and their agents and residents, who have come to an amicable arrangement. The subcontractors have undertaken to carry out proper repairs on the road. Cllr Hasell will monitor. Cllr Hasell will ask whether the pole is to be painted.

IH

5556 **Parish Plan**

(i) Robin Campbell is in the process of writing the final plan.

(ii) The business needs survey still has to be done.

(iii) When the plan is written, a consultation process will have to take place to ensure it is right. It was agreed that the best way to do this would be by making the 20–24 page document and appendices available for people to read in advance of a Sunday afternoon meeting. It was also agreed to invite the Countryside Agency and MDC to comment, along with Ian Faccenda. The steering group will contact these and other consultees.

5557 **Faccenda site**

(i) Nick Davies submitted a document on behalf of the parish council to the appeal inspector. The clerk will copy this to all councillors.

(ii) Cllr Mack, on behalf of the steering group, sent to the appeal inspector reasons for supporting MDC's refusal for planning permission. Also enclosed were copies of two letters sent to Savills and Ian Faccenda last July and notes from the meeting with them in August.

CM

(iii) Judgment on the appeal can be expected in about six weeks' time. Everyone who commented on the application will be notified of the date of a site visit.

5558 **Planning**

(i) Pool Cottage, Norton St Philip – creation of bay window and erection of porch on dwelling and the erection of a detached replacement garage/cattle shelter. Councillors have no objection.

Clerk

(ii) Sunnyside, Chatley Furlong, Norton St Philip – erection of two dwellings. It was acknowledged that concerns that had previously been expressed to the planning officer have been addressed. Councillors have no objection (with one abstention). The clerk will ask the planning officer to ensure that appropriate screening between the proposed house and adjoining properties is specified in order to protect the privacy of the neighbour's house and garden.

Clerk

(iii) 4 Ringwell, Norton St Philip – first floor extension over existing single storey and single-storey rear extension. Councillors objected to this application since it is an inappropriate design that does not respect the design and roof pitch of the existing property.

Clerk

5559 **Correspondence**

There is no correspondence of note that is not discussed elsewhere in the minutes.

5560 **Finance**

(i) Colin Francis will be asked to concentrate on tidying the hedging around the chicanes, since the cycle lanes are no longer accessible, and the chicanes themselves. Cllr Archer will ask Mr Francis to provide a commitment of one day a week for village cleaning; if he is unable to do this, the council will look for another cleaner.

DA

(ii) The following cheques were agreed and signed:

- ▶ Colin Francis – village cleaning £69.00
- ▶ Sally Vince – clerk's salary £124.00
- ▶ Allianz Cornhill – Palairet Hall insurance £743.54
- ▶ Palairet Hall trustees – £10.00

(iii) Councillors will discuss at the next meeting an honorarium for Nick Davies for his work on the Faccenda appeal. Mr Davies has waived his fee (11 hours at £80 an hour).

Next
meeting

5561 **Footpaths**

(i) The map has not been completed.

(ii) The available trail leaflets have been issued to business around the village. More will be ordered from MDC when they are available.

(iii) Two stiles have been ordered for Norwood Farm.

(iv) Cllr Hanney will apply for the annual £100 footpaths grant from MDC.

TH

5562 **Highways**

(i) Jeff Bunting and Frank Lake have assured councillors that the pavement at the Fleur de Lys will go ahead. Funds apparently are in place but County Highways has not provided a schedule of what they are doing or the materials they will be using. Cllr Archer will draft a letter for the clerk to send to acknowledge the confirmation that the works are going ahead.

DA /
Clerk

(ii) Cllr Archer will continue to be the contact on highways matters. It was agreed that to avoid confusion, anyone dealing with any highways matter should do so through Cllr Archer, and all letters should be sent via the clerk.

(iii) Traffic calming. Frank Lake has requested a letter from the parish council stating that the village is not happy with the current scheme and to

say what is required in its place. TAG*** feels that it is not qualified to provide alternatives.

(iv) It was agreed that councillors should discuss at the next meeting a trial that replaces the chicanes at either end of the village with speed cushions. The majority of the members of TAG feel that it is better to stick with 'the devil we know'. Cllr Archer has drafted a letter on this matter, which Cllr Hasell will read.

Next
meeting

IH

(v) The speed gun is not being used at the moment. TAG feels that most traffic is not speeding. The gun needs to be trialled more and more people need training in its use.

5563 **Miscellaneous reports and information**

(i) It was agreed that Cllr Hanney should continue as the parish council's representative on the Church Mead Committee.

(ii) Work has not yet started on Bend Cottage and Malt House. Cllr Hanney will contact David Clark at MDC about this.

TH

5564 **Meetings**

6 May 2004, Palairret Hall, Norton St Philip – Annual Parish Meeting
13 May 2004, Palariet Hall, Norton St Philip

The meeting ended at 10.05 p.m.

*** TAG = Traffic Action Group