

NORTON ST PHILIP PARISH COUNCIL

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

held 7.45 p.m. on Thursday 14 October 2004

at Palairet Hall, Norton St Philip

Present: Councillors D. Archer, C. Gill, T. Hanney, I. Hasell, A. Hodgson, P. Rich

In attendance: Sally Vince (clerk); 3 members of the public

Apologies for absence: Councillor A. Purssord; Mr G. Clark, Mrs C. Clark, Mrs R. Yarker

Public forum

(i) Mr Marek Lewcun, a professional archaeologist living in the village, has been researching for the past 25 years the making of clay tobacco pipes in Norton St Philip, which took place from the early seventeenth century. The village was one of the first rural places in Britain to make the pipes. There will be a display of local pipes at the 'Rebellion 2005' and a national conference on the pipemaking industry in the village in September 2005. Mr Lewcun asked councillors if they would help facilitate his visiting in a private capacity excavations for foundation trenches for new building in the village in order to record the materials disturbed. Mr Lewcun is putting an article on the subject into the *Parish News*.

5624 **Declaration of interests**

None.

5625 **Urgent items**

None.

5626 **Minutes of the previous meeting (9 September 2004)**

These were signed with no amendments.

5627 **Matters arising**

(i) Minute 5614(ii), water tower at Farleigh Hungerford. (a) Cllr Hanney will talk to English Heritage to see if they would be interested in taking over responsibility for the water tower. TH

(b) The clerk will talk to the insurance company to see if the cost of repairs would be covered by the parish council insurance policy. Clerk

(ii) Malt House/ Bend Cottage. Cllr Hasell reported that Mendip District Council at its cabinet meeting on 13 September unanimously approved officer recommendation that an application be made to the Secretary of State for a Compulsory Purchase Order for both listed buildings. It may be that Rundells Barn is included in this as it may be determined to be within the curtilage of the other two properties; this is under discussion with district solicitors. Valuation advice will now be sought from the District Valuer and a compensation package negotiated with the owner. The owner has the right to appeal against the CPO.

- (iii) Minute 5615, Parish Plan. It was agreed that:
- ▶ there will be a leaflet drop to every household in Norton St Philip summarising updates and what will be in the plan
 - ▶ there will be a public meeting at the school on Sunday 31 October to discuss amendments to the plan
 - ▶ the plan will be finalised at the November meeting
 - ▶ the November meeting will be held in Norton St Philip School
 - ▶ the December meeting will be held in Farleigh Hungerford (if the hall is free).

(iv) Minute 5614(v), Post Office. (a) Jane Eldon will start arrangements in the new year for a temporary post office in the Palairret Hall, if a permanent solution has not yet been found. She is looking at other sites in the village.

(v) Rebellion 2005. An open meeting was held last night, which was well attended and very positive. A committee will be formed at the meeting of 2 November. The event will be held over the weekend of the 26/27 June 2005.

5628

Planning

(i) Mendip District Council – Review of its Development Control Service. A questionnaire from the council asks for the parish council's top three priorities to planning improvement. Councillors wish to respond:

Clerk

- ▶ A deeper understanding of planning needs to be displayed by planning officers.
- ▶ In the parish council's experience, officers are inclined to attach weight to policy guidance that supports development rather than policy guidance that prevents it.
- ▶ The parish council would like feedback on delegated decisions when they are not in accordance with the parish council's recommendations.

(ii) Mendip District Council – Buildings at Risk: 2005 Register Survey. It was agreed to ask that the following buildings be added to the register:

Clerk

- ▶ the old shop next to the Fleur de Lys
- ▶ the water tower at Farleigh Hungerford.

(iii) Harts Forge, Town Barton, Norton St Philip – works to tree in conservation area. No objection.

Clerk

(iv) Barnfield, Chatley Furlong, Norton St Philip – erection of two-storey extension and conservatory. Vote: 5 against, 1 abstention. Objection, with the comment: The extension is of a scale and form incompatible with the original building. It is also outside of the development limit and would be unacceptable development in the open countryside.

Clerk

(v) Rowley Grange, Farleigh Hungerford – erection of triple garage with store. Vote: 5 abstentions, 1 against. After discussion, it was agreed to respond to this application by objection, with the comment that it is overdevelopment of a site outside the development limit.

Clerk

- (vi) Permission has been granted for the following applications:
 - (a) Hassage Manor, Faulkland – erection of wrought iron gate and overthrow between existing stone pillars.
 - (b) Northmead House, 9/10 High Street, Norton St Philip – demolition of existing kitchen area and single-storey rear extension.
 - (c) The George, High Street, Norton St Philip – erection of signage.
 - (d) Land adjoining The Willows, Upper Farm Close, Norton St Philip – erection of dwelling.
- (vii) Faccenda site. The inspector has upheld the planning approval.

- 5629 **Farleigh Hungerford**
Potential designation as a conservation area. Cllr Hasell will consult with residents of Farleigh Hungerford. IH
- 5630 **Works to trees in Farleigh Hungerford**
One quote has been received for £700. Another quote is being sought.
- 5631 **Correspondence**
(i) Mendip District Council – consultation on Statement of Licensing Policy. Councillors do not wish to make comment.
- 5632 **Finance**
(i) The following cheques were agreed and signed:
 - ▶ Frome Signs – footpath map, £517.00 + £19.48 VAT = £607.48
 - ▶ Sally Vince – clerk’s salary £124.00 and expenses £5.00 = £129.00
 - ▶ Crucible Publishers (Robin Campbell) – work on parish plan, £100.00 + £17.50 = £117.50
 - ▶ Derek Archer – reimbursement of expenses for printing of report on traffic through the village, £180.28
- (ii) Internal auditor. Cllr Rich will ask someone from the village if he would be willing to act as internal auditor. PR
- (iii) Cllr Rich will get a quote for supply and fixing of a box frame for the footpath sign for the George. PR
- 5633 **Footpaths**
(i) Mendip Bridleways & Byways Association has written re the Rights of Way Improvement Plan, encouraging people to designate bridleways and to respond to Somerset County Council’s consultation on Rights of Way Improvement Plans. Somerset County Council has sent a questionnaire on the Rights of Way Improvement Plans. Cllr Hanney will include an article on this in the *Parish News*. TH
- (ii) It has been reported that there is a pile of stone on the side of the path at Town Barton/Upper Farm Close. There is some query as to the ownership of this stone. Councillors are asked to look at the stone to ascertain whether or not it is on the public path.

5634 **Highways and traffic**

(i) Bollards outside the Plaine. Two of the three bollards have been knocked over by heavy vehicles. Highways have proposed that the bollards are sited further back from the road. Cllr Archer will request that the bollards stay sited in their current position, but be made from an alternative, more robust, material. DA

(ii) Speedwatch. 151 vehicles have been reported to the police as speeding; 136 of these were at the end of Upper Farm Close. TAG has asked for an official speedwatch at this position.

(iii) Cllr Archer has asked for an update on the situation regarding footways widening.

(iv) A366, mirrors. It is understood that villagers must contribute financially towards mirrors if they want them in the village. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

(v) New village signs. These should be in position by the end of the year.

(vi) Parking on pavements. Cllr Hasell will print notices asking drivers not to park on the pavements. These will be put in plastic bags and then under the windscreen wipers of regular offenders. IH

(vii) Cllr Gill has contacted Ian Ayres about surveying traffic and parking in the High Street. Mr Ayres has agreed in principle to be further involved. It was agreed that the Traffic Action Group should take this forward if the group is continuing (see minute 5634(viii)).

(viii) Membership of the Traffic Action Group has dwindled and the current membership is exhausted from the work. New members will be sought from an article in *Parish News*. If new blood is not forthcoming, the group will rest until sometime next year.

(ix) Chicanes. These are in need of a clean-up. Councillors will get together to do this.

(x) Cllrs Rich and Archer will place an advertisement in *Parish News* for a new village cleaner. PR / DA

5635 **Miscellaneous reports and information**

(i) The dog bin on Church Mead has been uprooted. Cllr Hanney will organise that the Church Mead Committee will reinstall. TH

5636 **Meetings**

Thursday 9 December 2004, Farleigh Hungerford Village Hall
Thursday 13 January 2005, Palairret Hall, Norton St Philip

Meeting ended.