

NORTON ST PHILIP PARISH COUNCIL

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

held at 7.45 p.m. on Thursday 14 August 2008
at the Palairet Hall, Norton St Philip

Present: Councillors K. Baker, D. Archer, T. Hodgson, S. Ledbury, M. Lutterloch (Chairman),
V. Parker A. Purssord

In attendance: District Councillor T. Barnes, R. Campbell (clerk), 9 parishioners

Apology for Absence: County Councillor M. Ellis

Public forum

(i) The cricket club was congratulated on the high standard of grass cutting on Church Mead

(ii) Highways to be asked to make the signs on the fingerpost at the George crossroads point in the right directions

Clerk

(iii) The glass in the telephone box had been scratched

6291 **Declaration of Interests**

Cllr Ledbury declared an interest in relation to planning item Wick Farm

6292 **Urgent items**

None

6293 **Minutes of the meeting of 10 July 2008**

These were signed by the Chairman as a true record, with the following amendment: *Minute 6285, Roberts Elm, add 'The council recommended approval'.*

6294 **Matters arising**

(i) **Path round Church Mead** (Minute 6255). Cllr Purssord said that enquiries had been placed with four contractors and two had come back with questions. When received, the estimates would all be opened and recorded together in the presence of a councillor and the clerk.

(ii) **Footpath Map** Nothing to report.

6295 **Farleigh Hungerford**

A complaint had been received about wild flowers being destroyed by close mowing of the verges outside the entrance to Farleigh House. Mendip Enforcement to be advised.

Clerk

6296 **Sports Pavilion**

Cllr Hodgson had made a comparison of facilities provided and charges made by other local bodies for use of their sports pavilions / changing facilities and considered that charges which had been proposed by Church Mead for the cricket club's use of the Mead pavilion represented poor value. However, a further year without charge had now been agreed for the cricket club, which continues to maintain the pavilion. A meeting to be arranged between the chairs of the cricket club, the Mead committee and the parish council.

Clerk

6297 **Village Cleaning**

There had been no response to the notice in the *Parish News*. Other advertising media to be tried.

Clerk

6298 **Sustainability**

Councillors discussed the issue of sustainability in the parish, including biomass. They were concerned at the suggestion of a wind turbine in a conservation village.

6299 **Highways and transport**

(i) Cllr Archer presented a traffic report, which is attached to these minutes. Lochailort to be advised that the favoured option for the George crossroads, following village consultation, is Option One. There was no action on the 'A36 as bypass'.

Clerk

Clerk

(ii) Highways to be advised that trucks are turning at Norton Grange

(iii) In response to a question from a parishioner it was agreed that a petition asking for the chicanes on the B3110 to be removed, would be helpful.

6300 **Chicken Factory Site**

(i) **Shop survey** Councillors discussed the method of delivering, collecting and analysing the shop survey forms. Cllr Purssord reiterated his view that the process should be done professionally. Cllr Hodgson thought it was not worth the cost. Cllr Lutterloch said the downside of having a shop should be made clear on the form. The information sheet would be modified within a week.

Parishioners, invited to speak, expressed a number of viewpoints, including that the survey was unprofessional or biased and did not represent the interests of all residents.

Cllr Parker said the questionnaire was too detailed. The names of potential operators should be removed. Cllr Purssord said it was more important to get the survey right than to get the village's view to Lochailort before a planning application was submitted.

Councillors **voted by four to three** to carry out and analyse the survey themselves. The shop group would produce a final version.

(ii) **Other matters** Lochailort to be advised that, in accordance with the parish plan, the parish council considered that the provision of warden assistance in sheltered accommodation was vital.

Clerk

6301 **Planning**

1. Applications

MDC 109319/009 Wick Farm, Farleigh Hungerford. Single storey extension. (DEL). Application Type: Full

Parish council recommendation: **approval**

MDC 117224/006 Rundells Barn, Bell Hill, Norton St Philip. External alterations to all elevations including the removal and insertion of windows and doors and associated internal works. (DEL). Application Type: LBC- alter/extend. Parish council recommendation: **approval subject to no alteration being made to the Bell Hill elevation**

MDC 117224/007 The Garden House, The Malthouse, Bell Hill, Norton St Philip Conversion of barn to ancillary residential accommodation/artists studio to the Malthouse. (DEL). Application Type: LBC- alter/extend.

Parish council recommendation: **approval subject to The Garden House continuing to be associated with The Malthouse**

MDC 117224/008 The GardenHouse, The Malthouse, Bell Hill, Norton St Philip. Conversion of barn to ancillary residential accommodation/artists studio to the Malthouse. (DEL). Application Type: Full.

Parish council recommendation: **approval subject to The Garden House**

continuing to be associated with The Malthouse

MDC 111830/003PG2928 The Beeches, Fair Close, Norton St. Phillip, Somerset BA2 7LD. Proposed pruning of a horse chesnut tree and a copper beech tree in a conservation are [DEL].

Parish council recommendation: **approval**

(ii) Updates

None

6302 **Finance**

(i) Funding opportunities Councillors did not feel it appropriate to apply for regeneration funding for the second phase of the Church Mead path until the first phase was completed. No project was identified as suitable for an application for funding from the County Councillor's local initiatives budget.

(ii) Bills for payment: the following were approved for payment:

Clarendon Fencing (Church Mead) £270.49

Clerk's salary and expenses for July £273.21

Palairret Hall Management Committee, hall hire £39.00

Playforce (Church Mead grant) £1776.60

6303 **Footpaths**

(i) The two paths from Norton to Springleaze farm shop were reported to be obstructed again.

(ii) A complaint had been received of closed gates at Norwood Farm.

Mendip Rights of Way to be advised of both problems.

Clerk

6304 **Correspondence**

Correspondence received since the last meeting was reviewed by councillors, who took items of interest

6305 **Miscellaneous reports and information**

(i) Councillors congratulated St Philip and St James Church on winning *Country Life's* village life award (and a cheque for £10,000) for the Hub project.

(ii) Cllr Pursford, who will stand down from the council in late August, expressed his thanks to his colleagues on this and previous councils and said how much he had enjoyed being a councillor. The chairman thanked him for his hard work over the years, especially on planning and on the village's response to Lochailort Development's proposals, which he said no one else could have done as well.

(ii) If no election for the impending vacancy is called for, councillors agreed to ask those seeking co-option (currently two candidates) at the September meeting, to make a presentation of not more than three minutes.

Clerk

6306 **Dates of next meetings**

Thursday 11 September, 7.45pm, Palairret Hall, Norton St Philip.

Thursday 9 October, 7.45pm, Palairret Hall, Norton St Philip

The meeting ended at 9.55pm