

NORTON ST PHILIP PARISH COUNCIL

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

held at 8.00 p.m. on Thursday 12 November 2009
at the Old School Room, Farleigh Hungerford

Present: Councillors D. Archer, K. Baker (Chair), T. Hodgson, S. Ledbury,

Apologies for absence: Cllrs M. Lutterloch, L. Oliver, V. Parker; County Cllr M.Ellis

In attendance: District Councillor T. Barnes, R. Campbell (clerk), three members of the public

6503 **Declaration of interests**

None

Public forum

The chairman adjourned the meeting and declared a public forum, but no matter was raised. The meeting was reconvened.

6504 **Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of 8 October 2009 were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

6504 **Farleigh Hungerford**

Water Tower Cllr Archer said there was a need to protect the Water Tower for winter.

District Cllr Barnes had obtained advice on lightning conductors. Cllrs **agreed** to leave further consideration of this until repairs are complete.

Cllrs **agreed** the formation of a Working Group consisting of District Cllr Barnes and Cllrs Archer, Hodgson and Ledbury. The tower top to be made watertight. Cllr Barnes had completed the banding and removed unsound pointing in the wrong material from around the base. He was thanked for his work.

6505 **Repairs and renewals**

(i) Footpath map at the Malthouse. The footpath map issued by SCC was suitable if the large path numbers could be reduced

(ii) A potential village cleaner had been found. **Agreed** £10 per hour this financial year up to the amount remaining in the budget.

6506 **Church Mead**

Church Mead Committee is obtaining a price for attending to the new path. Another option would be to ask the new village cleaner to do the work. Cllr Hodgson said the Cricket Club would clear and level the rough ground on the chicken factory side of the path. Further consideration deferred until December's parish council meeting.

6507 **Highways and transport**

(i) **Traffic Action Group report** The police had said it was not easy to identify vehicles around a 7.5tonne limit. The action needed to enforce the limit due for introduction on the A366 in January was currently unclear.

Lochailort are reviewing their earlier proposals for a 20mph zone in the village. Somerset Highways are uninterested. **Agreed** Cllr Archer should ask County Cllr Ellis to become involved with this matter at County Hall.

(ii) **Street Lighting** The chicane light and sign on the B3110 had finally been renewed and the old pole removed.

The light at the school steps was now working and Highways Lighting were being encouraged

to remove the redundant pole from the small Church Green.

(iii) **Complaints** about parking on the grass verge at **Ringwell Lane** to be passed to Mendip DC.

6508 **Planning**

(i) Parish Council recommendations for applications received were as follows:

2009/1685 The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Norton St Philip Proposed felling of a silver birch tree in a conservation area. Application Type: Conservation Area Consent.

Parish Council recommendation: decision to be left to the planning officer. No reason for the work was stated on the application.

2009/0796 The Plaine Guest House, Bell Hill, Norton St Philip, Frome, Somerset, BA2 7LT. Erection of two storey detached building for additional guest house accommodation (Arboricultural Report Recieved 29/09/2009). Application Type: Full Planning Permission

Parish Council recommendation: decision to be left to the planning officer.

2009/1577 Greystones, High Street, Norton St Philip. Proposed felling of trees in a conservation area. Application Type: TREE - Conservation Area

Parish Council recommendation: decision to be left to the planning officer. The parish council has concerns about the proposed felling of a beech tree.

(ii) **Updates**

Mendip DC had reported as follows:

Application for holiday cottages at Godspiece Leaze withdrawn

Extension at Sands Farm approved with conditions

Extension at the Old Coach House approved with conditions

Alterations to plot 1, Highbanks approved with conditions

Felling of a whitebeam at Hazlemere, Church Street approved

Manège at Longmead House – approval with extensive conditions now received

Enforcement issues:

Caravan site advertised on land adjacent to Godspiece Leaze: enquiries continuing.

Field adjacent to Broadlands: Mendip DC aware of manège construction at owner's risk of refusal pending submission of retrospective planning application.

6509 **Finance**

(i) A grant of £25 to Frome Citizens Advice Bureau was **agreed** (proposed Cllr Baker).

(i) **Bills for payment**

The following were **approved for payment** (proposed Cllr Baker): Palairet Hall – budgeted grant £1200.00; Church Mead Committee – budgeted grass cutting grant £2365.00; Clerk's salary for November.

6510 **Local Organisations**

(i) **Palairet Hall:** Colette Clark, asked to report, said that the wet and dry rot had been dealt with and had not spread to the bar area. However the area under the bar counter had to be looked at, as the sink was ... sinking.

The Committee to receive a grant of £750 from County Cllr Ellis' budget

(ii) **PCSO meeting** No councillor offered to replace Cllr Baker at these meetings. The search to be widened.

6511 **Youth Facilities**

The Youth Group to receive a grant of £750 from County Cllr Ellis' budget. The parish council recorded its thanks to Cllr Ellis for this and the Palairet Hall grant.

6512 **Records**

Agreed to advise SCC that the parish council would keep minute books dating back to 1894 and a photographic record of the first Monmouth Rebellion re-enactment in its own care. The purchase of a deed box to be considered at December's meeting. Deed relating to Church Mead and Palairet Hall to be returned to the bank unless the charge is unreasonable.

6513 **Correspondence**

Councillors reviewed the following correspondence received since the last PC meeting:

MDC Parishes Information Bulletin (*sent to all councillors*); Digital UK – digital TV switchover community outreach pack; SCC Winter Services Guide; South Western Ambulance Service – Aspirant Foundation Trust consultation; Mendip Community Support – web link request; SALC update; *The Playing Field* Autumn 2009 (taken by Cllr Hodgson); Rural Services Network – free membership offer.

Letter from Frome Model Flying Club: the club to be advised that the parish council cannot give a view on the club's proposal to move to a site in the parish until a planning application is received. Cllr Ledbury will observe and listen to flying at the present site if it is still taking place.

6514 **Miscellaneous reports and information**

(ii) District Cllr Barnes reported on a meeting on choice-based lettings. He said that Homefinder Somerset was widely considered a disaster and urged the parish council to insist that local preference for social housing be enshrined in a Section 106 agreement in the forthcoming chicken factory site application. He commended Cllr Oliver for her work with a local resident seeking social housing.

(ii) District Cllr Barnes urged the parish council to apply for regeneration money for the second half of the Church Mead path.

6515 **Dates of future Parish Council meetings**

Thursday 10 December 2009, 7.45pm, Palairet Hall, Norton St Philip
Thursday 14 January 2010, 7.45pm, Palairet Hall, Norton St Philip

The meeting ended at 10.00pm