

NAPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

1st Feb 2016

Napton Village Hall. 7.30pm

MINUTES

Item 1

Present:

Napton Parish Councillors - Linda Gooderham (Chairman), John Veasey (Vice-Chairman), Bernard Alsop, Richard Woodcock, Gordon Clarke, Jackie Alsop (acting as stand-in clerk for minutes)
Stratford District Councillor Chris Williams
Warwickshire County Councillor John Appleton

10 other members of the public

Apologies for Absence

Napton Parish Clerk Jayne Warman.

Item 2

Declaration of Personal or Disclosable Pecuniary Interest.

Linda Gooderham declared a personal interest in Item 9 relating to Napton Sports Association and left the meeting during this item. John Veasey took over the role of chair for this period

Item 3

Comments and Questions from the Public.

- Andy Bean raised the issue of the new fence line at the boundary of Priors Marston development, which he felt incorrectly suggested WCC had responsibility for the hedge. Councillor Gooderham explained that the hedge would be reinstated by the developers in line with the previous trees.

-Nigel Wood raised the loss of a footpath on way from Folly towards Southam. This had been initially raised a year ago, and mentioned to WCC. Cllr Clarke to investigate.

- A parishioner questioned whether there had been any planning application received or granted for the developing farmyard at bottom of Fells Lane. Cllr Gooderham clarified that no planning application had been received – now the issue has been raised in a Council meeting it will need to be investigated. Cllr Veasey to visit site with Graham.

Audrey Budd mentioned the issue of vegetation becoming overgrown on raised path at top of Butt Hill, blocking the path and needs cutting back. Cllr Clarke to raise issue with Highways.

Item 4

To approve & sign the Minutes of the Finance Meeting of 4th January 2016 and the Planning Meeting of 19th December 2015.

It was proposed by Cllr Veasey and seconded by Cllr J Alsop that both minutes be approved. This was carried and minutes signed by the Chairman.

Item 5

Report from District Councillor.

- **District Council Budget 2016-17** - The government recognises that Stratford District Council has a significantly lower tax base than other authorities, principally achieved by not implementing Council Tax rises over the past five years. In normal circumstances, any local

authority tax increase has to be less than 2%. However, this year SDC has a dispensation which, if accepted at the Budget Meeting, would be 3.14% and amount to less than 11p per week for Band D. SDC would continue to be the lowest taxed authority in the West Midlands.

- **Combined Authorities** - There has been a change in decision and SDC will now take up a shadow position on Combined authorities – implications of this decision still to be worked through
- **Core Strategy Update** – The Public Examination of the Core Strategy was concluded last week. The main impression is that the Inspector, in general, agreed with proposals and when the final report is issued in the spring there should be no major surprises with the proposals.
- **Rural crime** is on increase, and the Rural Crime Officer is available to visit villages in order to code mark equipment which is vulnerable to theft. Date to be arranged and publicised on website, parish magazine and social media. Nb. Graham Smith informed the council that Stratford DC Neighbourhood Watch groups are also to be issued with code marking machine at some point in the future for village use.

Report from County Councillor.

- **County Council budget.** WCC engaged in budget proposals currently – to be settled within 2 weeks. Expected priorities are to protect Social care aspect of the WCC services.
- **HS2** – WCC attending committee meeting, and has successfully lobbied for some tailoring of plans eg Wormleighton and Boddington junction will now be a bridge over HS2 to reduce impact on country roads.
- **Brickyard road** – Cllr Appleton felt there was some evidence of improvement in attitude eg litterpicking around site, but he will continue to try and meet Environment Agency to talk through concerns regarding site operators

Item 6

Planning Applications & Decisions (Stratford District Council).

Applications

A) 15/04342/FUL. St Lawrence Close and Dog Lane.

Demolition of the existing two storey flats and redevelopment of the two sites to provide ten new two storey dwellings. Two three bedroomed semi-detached properties and four two bedroomed semi-detached properties on the site on St Lawrence Close and four two bedroomed terraced properties to the site in Dog Lane

Proposed by Cllr Gooderham, seconded by Cllr Woodcock and carried unanimously that NPC support the application on principle but with the following comments:

- tandem parking bays on both Dog Lane and St Lawrence Close builds should be amended to parallel parking bays to reduce car movements, potential erosion of the side verges on the site and in the case of Dog Lane to reduce the amount of traffic reversing into the highway as residents attempt to get the inner car out
- concerns over managing surface water, specifically that there will be an increase in water collecting on Dog Lane and associated gullies
- the red brick and red tile combination does not blend with the appearance of the surrounding area

- need to ensure appropriate screening is provided for the large bin stores shown on the plans
- essential that plans for managing both construction and general traffic through the build keep disruption to a minimum particularly around school hours eg no deliveries to take place during school start and finish times
- 15/04473/OUT. Land between Daventry Road & Welsh Road East - Southam District, *outline application for maximum of 535 houses and associated amenities*
Proposed by Cllr Veasey and seconded by Cllr Clarke, and universally carried that NPC strongly object on the basis of:
 - it would amount to serious erosion of the open field gap between Napton and Southam, increasing the potential for Napton to become a suburb of Southam. This in turn would lead to the subsequent destruction of both our village and community.
 - a development of this scale will increase traffic through Napton, and further increase the existing problems with traffic speeding through the village.
 - a development of this scale would place considerable strain on secondary school places in Southam with subsequent implications for availability of spaces for children in Napton

Item 7 **Decisions**

- A) 14/03169/FUL . Land north of Shuckburgh Road (Bloor homes) – appeal withdrawn
- B) 15/04272/FUL. 6, Howcombe Lane – proposed bow window and replacement porch - granted
- C) 15/04310/COUO. Brooklands Farm – change of use of existing office to new dwelling - granted
- D) 15/03351/FUL. Land off Tomlow Road – construction of a single dwelling, agricultural building, a slipway and 2 moorings - refused
- E) 15/03926/FUL. The Rookery, Daventry Road - Proposed extension to existing barn for additional storage purposes and proposed widening of site access - refused

Item 8 **Mowing Contract**

3 responses have been received to the tender document – Nice & Stripy, current provider Michael Mann Services and PB Forestry. It was agreed that the final decision re choice of supplier would be taken outside of the meeting and then ratified at the March meeting.

Item 9 **Correspondence**

Following a request on behalf of the parish magazine by Margaret Ingham, a donation of £250 to help cover costs of the Parish magazine in 2016 was proposed by Cllr Gooderham and seconded by Cllr B Alsop. Carried unanimously.

We have received a request from NSA for a contribution to help cover costs of purchasing a reconditioned machine to replace the existing mower which is beyond economic repair. Cllr Veasey proposed and Cllr Woodcock seconded to provide costs to cover 50% of the costs up to a

maximum of £3k. Carried unanimously.

Item 10

Highways/General Issues affecting the Parish:

It was felt that there is some progress being made to cover highways issues now that the process of identifying and chasing issues is being more actively managed by Cllr Clarke.

Blocked Gullies – Cllr Clarke is to meet with Patch tomorrow to update him on current issues regarding potholes, tarmac falling away by allotments and blocked drainage.

Church Road – Highways have confirmed resurfacing has been put into 2017 for consideration, but Cllr Clarke will raise potholes for urgent attention.

Item 11

Monthly Financial Report – See Appendix for Receipts & Payments.

Bank Reconciliation and Financial Summary for January to be presented at meeting (Attached to these minutes)

It was proposed by Cllr Gooderham, seconded by Cllr Veasey and carried that presented cheques be paid.

Item 12

Defibrillators

We have 2 machines in NPC supply – Cllr Williams mentioned that he has 6 villages in his area with self contained cabinets, Keith Bromage, a paramedic from Southam has helped set up remote access for a number of villages and can provide advice.

Correction from minutes January 2016 – we have clarified there is no defibrillator on loan to Ufton. Current defibrillator serial numbers are as follows: Cardiac Science 5101740 / 4309217 Power heart AED G3.

Cllr Woodcock will contact Keith Bromage to discuss what can be done with the current machines plus alternative opportunities. Jim Sleight has offered to help with this early consultation.

Item 13

Parish Council Store

Cllr Clarke has offered to set up shelves to increase usable storage space. There are 2 keys to the store – 1 held by Parish Clerk, and spare with village hall committee (need to consider data protection issues with additional key)

Item 14

Councillor items

- Canalside yard update – meeting with Cllrs. Woodcock, B Alsop and Veasey to be held with Jeremy Wright regarding this site. Cllrs to report back in March.

- Volunteer Driver Update – in order to provide free transport to the level of usage seen in 2015 and to tap into the existing administrative set up run by Southam and SDC, will require c£1000 per annum. NPC to allocate £700, to add to £300 donation from Townlands. Cllr Woodcock proposed that we provide these funds for 2016 and review at the end of year, seconded by Cllr Gooderham. Motion carried unanimously.

- Granton Playing Field – 4 volunteers have kindly agreed to do maintenance checks on weekly

basis, and will be briefed on process Sat 6th Feb by Cllr Gooderham. Annual equipment check booked with Playground Inspection Company and will take place in the next 6-8 weeks.

Nb. Leases relating to Granton Playing Field are due for renewal at the end of 2016.

- Cllrs Clarke and B Alsop are to meet with AC Lloyd regarding plans for managing the build on land off Fells Lane to ensure disruption is kept to a minimum. Cllr Appleton offered to support these discussions.

- NPC Bank accounts – proposed to keep £70k in Skipton BS and move £20k to Nationwide (plus £11k in current account to cover lighting bills).

Proposed by Cllr Gooderham and seconded by Cllr Veasey. Motion carried.

- Crown Green – instances of traffic crossing the Green and creating ruts in past few weeks. To be monitored and reviewed to see if it continues

- Parishioners have again raised concerns over school coaches using Marston Doles Road during freezing conditions. Letter to Catteralls to be resent once Holt Road reopened.

- Signs at Cab Tech entrance to reinforce private land / illegal trespass have been ordered.

- Fly tipping just past Crossroads garage junction on way to Stockton. Cllr Woodcock to report to SDC Street Scene.

Item 15

Business considered urgent by the Chairman

Clerk has requested separate phone line for Council business – to be paid via Direct Debit.

Proposed by Cllr B Alsop and seconded by Cllr Veasey – carried unanimously.

Direct Debits to be set up for regular ongoing items such as utilities and clerks salary. Proposed by Cllr Clarke and seconded by Cllr Gooderham, motion carried.

Approval in principle for new laptop and associated IT for clerk. Proposed by Cllr Gooderham and seconded by Cllr B Alsop – motion carried. NPC will need to carry out workplace assessment of Clerk's premises to ensure suitable working conditions

Item 16

Dates of Forthcoming Parish Council Meetings

- Monday 7th March 2016
- Monday 4th April
- Monday 9th May AGM

Interim planning meeting to be arranged wc15th Feb

Appendix 1 payments and receipts

Receipts

Skipton Building Society – interest	£1313.25
HMRC VAT reclaim	£190.94
NSA (AWS refurbishment)	£5920.00

Payments made

Clerk's salary	£346.84
Jean Goode payroll services Oct – Dec 15	£15.00
Southam Office Supplies	£23.76 *

Payments to approve

Fosse contracts - refurbishment of all weather surface	£7104
EON energy street lighting	£209.87

*Payment made 24.06.15 but inadvertently omitted from the minutes