

Clerk:  
Mrs G Bailey

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## **Minutes for the Meeting of Napton Parish Council 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014**

### **Present:**

**Chair:** Linda Gooderham  
**Councillor:** Frank Allen  
**Councillor:** Paul Bayley  
**District Cllr:** Steve Kittendorf  
**Public:** 6

**Vice- Chair:** John Veasey  
**Councillor:** Alison Watson  
**Councillor:** Gordon Clarke  
**Clerk:** Gill Bailey

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from County Cllr John Appleton.

### **2 Declaration of Personal or Disclosable Pecuniary Interests –**

*Councillors are minded that they must act solely in the public interest and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person or act to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their families, a friend or close associate*

To Receive any written Requests for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Dispensations.

### **3 Comments and Questions from the Public:**

- Mr Malcolm Thomas advised that the Visitor Information Panel had now been installed at the Observer Post and the Chair thanked Mr Thomas and the War Memorial Working Party for all of their hard work in organising the installation of the Panel.
- Mr Graham Smith advised that Claverdon had received a grant for a speed gun of £1,350 but upon learning that they could borrow a speed gun from the Police were thinking of giving the grant back.
- Mr Robbie Eadon mentioned that many walkers on the public footpaths on his land seem to be leaving the gates open so that his sheep are able to roam between fields. The Clerk suggested that he contact the Footpaths Officer at WCC and ask him whether he has any appropriate signage.

### **4 To approve & sign the Minutes of the Planning & Ordinary Meetings of 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014.**

The Minutes of the above PC Meetings, having been read, were approved and it was unanimously agreed by Councillor's who attended the meetings that they were a true record and may be signed as such by the Chair.

### **5 Reports from District Councillor Kittendorf and County Councillor Appleton**

- Cllr Kittendorf advised that although the planning application for the Stoneton Wind Farm had been withdrawn due to the fact that the HS2 Rail Link was running nearby, the Applicants intended to submit a further Application for eight turbines rather than nine.

### **6 Highways/General Issues affecting the Parish:**

1. Clerk to report on any issues which are affecting the Parish  
The Clerk reported that both Cllr Clarke and herself had met with the Highways representative in October and had raised various issues which needed attending to in the Village. She read out a list of the points that had been identified and confirmed that she had received a reply from Highways confirming which of the items they would be able to progress.
2. To discuss a Neighbourhood Development Plan for Napton – Update  
The Clerk reported that she had circulated some information around members of NPC to see whether they felt that the project was worth pursuing. Cllr Veasey said that he felt that it might be an onerous task. Following a short discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk contact the Clerk at Bishops Itchington to discuss the matter with her and find out

some more information and then she would report back to NPC. Cllr Kittendorf mentioned that there may be further grants available during the next financial year.

3. To discuss Child Safety Survey and take any actions forward  
Cllr Watson suggested that the Clerk contact the Highways Safety Officer at WCC and request a meeting to highlight the issues that had been identified in the Survey, particularly regarding the School. Mr John Line also requested that NPC mention the inappropriate speed of vehicles cutting through from the A425 to Hillside at the same time. Cllr Clarke said that he had also identified that the zigzag lines by the School, together with the buffer zones needed to be re-painted.
4. To discuss Tree Preservation Orders in the Village  
The Clerk advised that she had circulated a report regarding the issuing of Tree Preservation Orders by SDC and the procedures that NPC would have to adhere to. Following a robust discussion, it was agreed that NPC would not pursue identifying trees in the Village which could have Tree Preservation Orders placed on them as the process seemed to be an onerous one.

### 7 Sports Field:

1. To discuss the status of the Pavilion and other matters relating to NSA  
The Clerk reported that she had sent an email to all Councillor's for their comments and was awaiting a response. Once a response had been received, the Clerk agreed to progress matters.

**8 Correspondence:** To note correspondence listed in the log  
Cllr Gooderham advised that the Correspondence Log was available for inspection.

### 9 Monthly Financial Report – See Appendix

1. To approve the accounts  
Councillors unanimously approved receipts and payments as stated in Appendix 1.
2. To discuss the Grass Mowing Contract  
The Clerk advised that she had attended a meeting with the Grass Mowing Contractor to discuss the ongoing Contract, which was extended to include an additional year as the previous Contractor had left the position part way through the year.
3. To discuss purchase of extra burial space from Severn Trent Water – Update  
Cllr Gooderham reported that NPC had attended a meeting with representatives from the PCC and it had been agreed that whilst there was no legal obligation incumbent on Napton Parish Council to provide additional burial space, they had a moral obligation to do so. It was agreed that the Clerk would pursue her enquiries with regards to the identification of suitable land for use as a Community Burial Ground and would report back to Council.
4. To discuss the purchase of replacement lighting poles in the Village  
Following a short discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that five replacement lighting poles be purchased for School Hill, at a cost of £1,170 each. It was also agreed that Cllr Watson find out some additional information in respect of the lights themselves and she would report back to Council.
5. To consider investing the surplus balance in the NPC Current Account to achieve a better interest rate  
The Clerk advised members of Napton Parish Council to transfer an amount of £15,000 from their HSBC Current Account into the Skipton Building Society Account as that would achieve a preferable interest rate. It was **RESOLVED** that this investment take place.

### 10 Councillors Items

**Cllr Watson** requested the Clerk to mention that there was an accident on the A423 Stockton to Dunchurch Road when a branch of one of the dead trees that had been reported to Highways earlier in the year, fell off onto a car.

### 11 Matters Arising

1. **Amendment to Standing Orders** To consider an amendment to Napton Parish Council's Standing Orders in accordance with The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014.

It was **RESOLVED** to amend Napton Parish Council's Standing Orders by replacing the current wording with "Deleted following the implementation of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014."

### 12 Playing Field

1. To discuss the requirement for two Cllr's to sit on the Playing Field Committee  
 The Clerk advised that she had received a resignation letter from the Chair of the Playing Field Committee. Cllr Watson handed out copies of the Playing Field constitution to all members of NPC and Cllr Gooderham asked for two volunteers to attend the Playing Field Committee meetings, however, no one came forward. Following a discussion, the Clerk was asked to contact members of the Playing Field Committee and find out some more information about who was completing the safety reports and who was on the current committee.

### 13 Business considered Urgent by the Chairman

There was no urgent business.

### 14 Dates of Forthcoming Meetings

1<sup>st</sup> December 2014 – Parish Council Meeting

## Financial Statement

### To note and approve Receipts

Donation to the War Memorial Working Party -	£181.20
Western Power Distribution – Wayleave payment -	£ 59.52
<b>2 X Cancelled cheques (£71.05 to SOS – uncashed and £144.00 for training course – unattended)</b>	<b>£215.05</b>

### To note and approve payments

		<b>Excl. VAT</b>
G A Bailey – Salary (Clerk) -	£836.72	£836.72
Southam Office Supplies – Stationery etc. -	£ 16.97	£ 14.14
MFM Services – Grassmowing Verges, Open Spaces etc. -	£950.00	£950.00
WALC – Good Councillor Guide -	£ 3.00	£ 3.00
E.On – Street Light Electricity -	£140.69	£117.24
Plus.Net.Com - Broadband Internet & Telephone Services – October 2014	£ 28.67	£ 23.89

Bank Balance & Bank Reconciliation as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014 **Balance: £25,036.35**

Bank Balance & Bank Reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014 **Balance: £22,829.04**