



NAPTON ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

**Meeting of Napton Parish Council
Monday 6th March 2017 7.30 pm at
Napton Village Hall.**

Minutes

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Veasey and Alsop
- 2. Declaration of Personal or Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:** Taken by item
- 3. Minutes of meetings of 6th February:** Agreed and signed as a true record
- 4. Comments and Questions from the Public:** Mr A Alsop asked to speak about flooding in his field below the allotments. His letter to the Council was received **after** the agendas for the meeting had been published and therefore it was not possible to have a full discussion as Councillors had not been briefed on the matter.

Mr Line commented that WCC gully suckers had recently visited the village and that the workers were depositing the waste material **next** to the drains which they had just cleared. This will result in the waste being washed back down the drain with the next rain shower. Cllr Appleton to follow up with WCC

Mr Robbie Eadon raised the issue of the eroded kerb at the turning for Marston Doles. This needs some attention. GC to add to his Highways list.

- 5. Reports from District and County Councillors:** Councillor Appleton gave a brief update on County Waste. The Clerk added that she had received information from Warwickshire County Council explaining that One Stop Skips would be dealing with any uncollected County Waste skips and could be contacted on 07398 212460. Cllr Appleton reported that County Council elections will be held on 4th May 2017.

Cllr Williams reported that Stratford District Council had met on 27th Feb and agreed a budget of £12m. This will result in a 2% increase in Council Tax. A joint working initiative with neighbouring authorities, aimed at cost cutting, has been abandoned.

- 6. Planning applications**

Reference: 17/00418/FUL

Proposed: Retrospective 2.4 m close boarded fence to rear garden

At: Highwinds, Hillside, Napton

For: Mr Ogden Metherell

Given that there had been no objections from neighbouring properties it was agreed that NPC would make no comment

Reference: 17/00304/COUQ

Proposed: Prior approval notification for a change of use for part of an Agricultural Building to a dwelling house (Class C3), and building operations reasonably necessary to convert the building to a dwelling under Class Q (a) and (b)

At: Land and Building Off Church Road, Napton-on-the-Hill,

For: Mr Trevor Eadon

As this application has not changed significantly since it was first submitted it was felt no further comment was needed. Cllr Woodcock proposed “no comment”. This was seconded by Cllr Clarke. All in favour with the exception of Cllr Gooderham who abstained.

Reference: 17/00313/COUQ

Proposed: Prior approval notification for a change of use for part of an Agricultural Building to a dwelling house (Class C3), and building operations reasonably necessary to convert the building to a dwelling under Class Q (a) and (b)

At: Westcott House, Southam Road, Napton-on-the-Hill, Southam CV47 8NG

For: Mr And Mrs Hill

Concern was raised about the structural engineering aspects of this application and that fact that a large proportion of the existing structure is to be replaced which goes against the principle of a COUQ application. It was therefore proposed that the Council respond to SDC by raising these concerns. Proposed Cllr Clarke, Seconded Cllr Featherstone. All in favour.

7. Correspondence:

Councillors discussed a letter from Mr & Mrs Watson in which they suggested a re-direction of the footpath currently running across the field above the AC Lloyd site. It was suggested that the path could be relocated to run alongside the hedge row on the opposite side to the existing stile. The Council confirmed that it would not wish to take ownership of any footpaths and would consider a formal application should the owners wish to proceed.

The NSA monthly report was read out. Copy attached for information (appendix b)

Hedge cutting Fell’s Lane. In February, the residents of 3 properties in Fells Lane approached the Council and asked whether it would consider funding the cutting back of a section of hedge which is restricting their view and cutting out the light to their properties. The Council agreed that it would not fund the works. Those same residents have subsequently approached the Council asking whether it would consider making a contribution to the costs (approx. £150). The request was declined.

8. Finance issues:

A list of payments were approved. These are set out in appendix A below and include some which were received after the agenda had been issued but which required payment before the next meeting.

Cllr Gooderham reported that a draft year end position had been calculated and that it is likely that the Council will be slightly underspent for the current FY.

The Clerk reported that she had received 2 quotes for a safety check on the Horse Chestnut tree on Crown Green. It was suggested that this be expanded to include the Cherry tree on The Green and the trees on Memorial Green and outside the phone box. The Clerk was authorised to spend up to £150 subject to confirmation of appropriate certification.

Cllr Clarke explained that he and the Clerk had met with the existing mowing contractor and it was suggested that he be given the option to include up to 2 additional cuts at the start of the season. It was also suggested that he be asked to mow some areas in Chapel Green subject to a satisfactory quote being received. The Council has already agreed to increase its mowing budget for 17-18 and it is anticipated that any additional works can be undertaken within that sum

9. **Action log:** to report on progress on key items: -

Neighbourhood plan meeting on 2nd March. Cllr Gooderham reported that the meeting on 2nd March was very positive and informative. There seemed to be a generally positive approach to the idea of doing a plan but there was concern that we do not yet have a list of people who are willing to commit time and effort to the process. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk send out an email asking people to “sign up”. If there is a good response, then we will begin the process.

NSA update. Cllr Alsop was unable to attend the meeting but sent a report on progress to date. 2 possible sources of advice have emerged, one a retired tax inspector who has done work on a similar matter for Wellesbourne PC (£250) and a tax advisor from SLCC who undertakes work as a private individual (£500). It was agreed that the Council should engage the former.

Highways. Cllr Clarke provided a list of the issues he is currently working on in conjunction with Patch Byrne from Highways (copy attached). Cllr Woodcock raised the issue of Church Road which is now in a poor state of repair.

10. Councillor’s items

Telecoms tower at Manor Farm. Cllr Veasey was unable to attend the meeting but submitted a report in which he expressed concern that the recent application by Clarke Telecom had been refused. Given that improved mobile coverage will benefit the community as a whole it was agreed that the Council should write to SDC stating that it would encourage future applications in order to find a suitable alternative site for a mast.

The date of the of Annual Parish Meeting and AGM (or annual meeting of the Council) will take place on 21st and 8th May respectively.

NPC pension arrangements. It was confirmed that the Council will make the necessary back payments for the existing Clerk. Warwickshire County Council has confirmed that NPC has no liability in respect of the previous post holder.

11. Dates of future meetings

Mon 3rd April

Mon 8th May (annual meeting of the Council)

Sunday 21st May 2.30pm Annual Parish meeting

Mon 5th June

Signed.....

Date.....

Appendix A payments for approval

Payee	Description	Amount
WALC	Clerk's training	£30
EON	Energy charges Jan 17	£261.60
MFM services	Allotment maintenance	£140
J. Warman	Toner cartridges	£216.50
Godfrey -Paynton	Lease on Sports Field	£10
Warks CC	Pension contribution (back dated)	£1,961.63
Napton Village Hall	Hall hire	£12
Jean Goode	Payroll services	£30
Jayne Warman	Clerk's salary wk 48	£433.44
Edge IT	Finance course	£96

Payments made during Feb

Payee	Description	Amount	Cheque no
Napton Parish Magazine	Donation towards production costs	£250	102542
Rollasons	Legal fees for work on granton PF	£500	102543

Appendix B report from NSA

The last full meeting of the NSA Committee took place on the evening of Wednesday, February 22nd in the Victory Club. A copy of the Minutes has been forwarded to the NPC Clerk.

The main item for discussion related to the future relationship of NSA and NPC which has been an on-going issue for the last few months. This item is expected to prevail for some time yet and NSA look forward to the next meeting with NPC representatives, as the end objective of formalising the NSA / NPC relationship is considered essential to the smooth running of the sports facility in the long term. To have the relationship formally and legally established will be particularly important once the current officers and representatives have passed on their responsibilities to future personnel. Experience gained from other Parish Councils in similar positions should prove helpful as will expert individual advice, particularly on legal issues.

An upgraded TV set has been donated and installed in the pavilion main room which represents a significant improvement over the previous set and which should enjoy regular use particularly by the Cricket Club members during the summer period.

On the Cricket Club front, indoor nets will start on 16.03.17 and an Annual Dinner Dance will be held in the Village Hall on 30.09.17. In addition, a grass cutting quotation has been agreed for 2017 and a new electrical supply contract has been fixed for the next two years.

The Tennis Club will hold their AGM on 26.04.17 and an Open Day will be held on 14.05.17 to coincide with a National Tennis day event. In addition two tennis camps will be held over Easter.

All Clubs continue to be managed on a sound basis.

The next full meeting of the NSA Committee will take place on Wednesday 12th April 2017 at 8.15p.m. in the Victory Club.

Appendix C highways report

MARCH 2017

As far as I am aware we seem to be on top of the reported items and ongoing, Highways have responded quite well to our requests, which have not been major or too demanding.

I met with Patch and went through all the items on this list.

He did say that we may be able to make use of 'community workers' and will forward the contact

Waiting response on certain items

Old Outstanding

Clearing gully along the Church Path from the Village – *disused community workers*
Thornton's Lane footpath repair

Below is a summary of Highways requests and completed since May 2016

4/5/16

*Report of large pothole in Folly Lane, also large depression along verge
Inspected but still waiting repair although patching order has been raised*

13/5

Pothole reported on Butt Hill and Chapel Green

Butt Hill repaired but Chapel Green Pothole not thought to be a problem as on edge of road

16/5

Poplar Road pothole reported

Church Road resurfacing as lower section has been resurfaced.

No plans at the moment to resurface but top section will be inspected for safety

17/5

Parking at Kings Head, creating visibility problems at the junction.

Not a highways issue – either police or send picture and email to trafficsafety@warwickshire.gov.uk

26/5

Resident asking about the large tree at the edge of Vicarage Close

Not on the highway – could be Shuckborough land

7/6

Road markings faded at junction of Butt Hill and Priors Marston Road, also along Stockton Road – SLOW signs on the road near dangerous bends

Slow signs have been renewed

No immediate work to be carried out at Butt Hill, complete survey of the Village will be put in place

13/6

Defect raised to replace damaged 50mph signs along Stockton Road

8/8

Flooding of garden problem at Ash Cottage High Street

Defect has been raised - completed

8/8

Defect for 'Grips' to help divert water from Hollow Lane reaching Howcombe Lane??

8/8

Overgrown vegetation on highway bank just down from the old school

This has been trimmed back

10/8

Resident asked why one of the new culverts at the Priors Marston Road development has not been fenced as 3 others have been.

Inspection due this or next week – no action to be carried out

5/9

Report of overgrown hedges along Folly Lane

Cut back by Folly contractor

10/9

Chevrons damaged on A425 also the 'active' bend signs not working

Defect raised for Chevron sign and in communication with Road Safety Group regarding the active signs – no budget to repair

19/9

Hillside footpath now very narrow and breaking up at the lower end

19/9

Request to install wooden verge protection posts at Memorial Green and opposite shop

Need to place 'order' with highways

OCTOBER VISIT WITH PATCH

- Weight limit sign on Tomlow Road needs refitting
- Pothole on Tomlow Road just before canal bridge
- Lots of drains blocked
- Poor vision display when turning out of Dog Lane to Priors Marston Road
- Poor Vision display when turning right at the top of Howcombe Lane
- Hillside footpath damage
- Church footpath resurface and gully clearing

JAN/Feb 2017

- Pothole on main road on entry to village
- Pothole on Daventry road
- Installation of verge posts
- Kerb outside shop
- Very deep ruts now along road between shop corner and Folly Lane