

Clerk:
Mrs G Bailey

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Minutes for the Meeting of Napton Parish Council 6th October 2014

Present:

Vice- Chair: John Veasey
Councillor: Paul Bayley
Councillor: Alison Watson
District Cllr: Steve Kittendorf
Public: 6

Councillor: Frank Allen
Councillor: Gordon Clarke
County Cllr: John Appleton
Clerk: Gill Bailey

1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Veasey advised the meeting that apologies had been received and accepted from the Chair, Linda Gooderham, as she was ill and he would Chair the meeting in her absence.

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 Graham Smith asked for clarification regarding the works that had been carried out on the Priors Marston Road. Cllr Veasey reported that the recent road closure was due to the works that had been carried out lower down the Priors Marston Road towards the Shuckburgh Road.
- Mr Smith went on to say that if there was a requirement for a Village to have its own PCSO that would be possible if parishioners and local businesses were to pay for the salary. Mr Smith handed the Clerk some further detail on the scheme and following a brief discussion, the Clerk agreed to circulate the details to Cllr's.

4 To approve & sign the Minutes of the Planning & Ordinary Meetings of 1st September and the Planning Meeting of the 8th September 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 Vice-Chair.

5 Reports from District Councillor Kittendorf and County Councillor Appleton

- **Cllr Kittendorf** reported that the Appeal against the Starbold Wind Farm had been upheld by the Planning Inspectorate and permission had been refused.
- **Cllr Kittendorf** reported that the SDC Core Strategy had been submitted to the Secretary of State and if approved would be adopted by Cabinet in April/May 2015.
- **Cllr Kittendorf** advised that he had attended a briefing on Neighbourhood Development Plans and it took 2-2 and a half years to complete. He went on to say that further funding in April 2015 may be available.
- **Cllr Appleton** reported that the duration of the Holt Road Temporary closure would be for a week and was for ditch clearance.
- **Cllr Appleton** also reported that he was trying to ascertain why areas in Napton were able to receive superfast Broadband and some were not and would advise NPC when he had more information.
- **Cllr Appleton** reported that the HS2 Select Committee were currently listening to Petitions and WCC had received a response which is on their web site. He went on to advise that the Select Committee would visit the Sites most affected by the proposed rail link in Warwickshire and they had advised that they may set up Community Funds to mitigate the impact.
- **Cllr Appleton** also reported that he had reported the issue of the speeding buses along Dog Lane to Transport at WCC and the ongoing situation should be monitored.

6 Highways/General Issues affecting the Parish:

1. Clerk to report on any issues which are affecting the Parish
The Clerk advised that she had organised a meeting with the Highways Surveyor at WCC for 14th October and there were a number of issues that she would raise with him.
2. To discuss a Neighbourhood Development Plan for Napton – Update
The Clerk advised that she had received a booklet entitled 'Neighbourhood Planning for Councillor's' and she would circulate this for members.
3. To discuss the Child Safety Survey
 - Cllr Watson reported that she and the Chair had attended a meeting with John Brine, the Head of St Lawrence regarding the Survey. Mr Brine advised that he had discussed the contents with Governors and they had suggested a one way system in St Lawrence Close and the possibility of road widening.
 - Following a discussion, it was agreed that it might be appropriate to encourage more walking to School and making Godsons and Fells Lane safer. The installation of speed humps and better drainage in Dog Lane was also discussed.
 - Making St Lawrence Close and Dog Lane a 20 mph zone was also discussed and Cllr Appleton reported that there was a pot of money available through WCC for this purpose and it would encourage safer routes to schools.
 - Cllr Watson asked if a gated access could be considered on Fells Lane or even a one way system ?
 - It was also agreed that the Clerk contact SDC and request that the Refuse Collectors do not drive up Fells Lane.
 - Cllr Watson reported that a footpath along Howcombe Lane had been mentioned and Cllr Appleton advised that he had commissioned a Survey to be carried out which would look into the feasibility of the installation of a footpath along this stretch of road.
4. To discuss Tree Preservation Orders in the Village
The Clerk reported that she would circulate some information that she had received from SDC and following a brief discussion, it was agreed that she would request a current list of TPO's in the Village.

7 Sports Field:

1. To discuss the status of the Pavilion – Update
The Clerk advised that NPC were in the process of formulating a legal agreement between NPC and NSA to clarify and set down the ownership of the Pavilion in perpetuity for the benefit of the Village. The Clerk confirmed that she had been in contact with NSA regarding the agreement and would report back to Council.

8 Correspondence: To note correspondence listed in the log
Cllr Veasey 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 2015 Grass Mowing Contract
Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Clarke and the Clerk liaise regarding the wording on the tender letter and be more specific in respect of the size and type of mowers to be utilised in different areas of the Village.
3. To discuss purchase of extra burial space – Update
The Clerk reported that she had requested more information regarding the legal responsibilities of NPC and there is no Legal Topic Note that covers this question specifically. A Parish Council under Section 214 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 has the status of a burial authority, however, there is no obligation to provide a burial ground even if there is a proven need for one. Following a discussion, it was agreed to request a Church Warden to attend a meeting to discuss this matter further.

10 Councillors Items

Cllr Watson requested the Clerk to look into cutting back the hedges and overgrowth on both corners of Dog Lane as you turn into the Priors Marston Road.

Cllr Clarke requested the Clerk to contact Highways and request them to cut the hedge and overgrowth outside The Firs on Butt Hill, towards the Kings Head Pub.

Cllr Veasey reported that Thousand Acre Farm was for Sale by Auction and the Head had changed at Arc School.

Cllr Watson reported that Western Power had asked whether NPC had made a decision regarding the replacement of three of the street lights in The Butts/School Hill because they had agreed to pay for the disconnection/reconnection charges to the poles and NPC would only have to pay for new poles. Following a discussion, it was agreed that Cllr's would respond directly to the Clerk once costings had been received and then a decision could be ratified at the November meeting. It was also agreed that Cllr Allen would approach the owners of Hylands and ask them if they would object to a bracket being placed on their house instead of having a lighting pole outside.

11 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

12 Playing Field

Cllr Watson requested that the Playing Field be re-instated as an Agenda item each month and advised that it was in the Playing Field constitution that two Cllr's were on the Committee and provide NPC with a copy of the Safety Reports. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk ascertain who was on the Playing Field Committee and report back to Council.

13 Business considered Urgent by the Chairman

There was no urgent business.

14 Dates of Forthcoming Meetings - 3rd November 2014 – Parish Council Meeting

Financial Statement

To note and approve Receipts

Donation to the War Memorial Working Party -	£ 1000.00
SDC Remittance – Half Yearly Precept Payment -	£16,558.00

To note and approve payments

		Excl. VAT
G A Bailey – Salary (Clerk) -	£836.72	£ 836.72
MFM Services – Grassmowing Verges, Open Spaces etc. -	£395.00	£ 395.00
E.On – Street Light Electricity -	£140.69	£ 117.24
Southam Office Supplies – Stationery etc. -	£ 54.04	£ 45.03
Grant Thornton – External Audit -	£240.00	£ 200.00
Came & Company Insurers – Parish Council Insurance -	£1801.09	£1,801.09
Southam Office Supplies – Stationery etc. -	£ 58.12	£ 48.43
E.On – Street Light Maintenance -	£ 289.54	£ 241.28
Napton Village Hall – Hire of Committee Rooms -	£ 83.00	£ 83.00
The Good Book-Keeping Service – Tax and NI – Clerk -	£ 30.00	£ 30.00
HM Revenue & Customs – Tax & NI – Clerk -	£ 230.10	£ 230.10
Plus.Net.Com - Broadband Internet & Telephone Services – September 2014	£ 49.68	£ 41.40

Bank Balance & Bank Reconciliation as at 31st August 2014 **Balance: £11,132.87**

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