



## **NAPTON ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Meeting of Napton Parish Council Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016 7.30 pm Minutes**

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Chris Williams
2. **Declaration of Personal or Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:** Cllr Clarke declared an interest in item 9 and let the room for the debate.
3. **Minutes of meetings of 3<sup>rd</sup> October:** agreed and signed
4. **Comments and Questions from the Public:** The meeting was reminded about the Remembrance service to be held on Sunday morning.
5. **Reports from District and Borough Councillors:** None
6. **Jackson Lane development proposal:** Sally Stroman from Smith Jenkins explained that their client is proposing to build 5 dwellings on the site. At present the size and nature of these has not been determined and the application is only "in principle". Smith Jenkins are aware that the area is prone to flooding and have engaged drainage engineers. It is not proposed to build on the southernmost part of the site.
7. **Planning applications (Stratford District Council)**
  - A. **Ref: 16/03453/FUL**

**Proposed:** Construction of new first floor dormer windows.  
**Location:** Danils Hill Farm, Napton, CV47 8PE  
**Applicant:** Mrs Valerie Cockburn  
**NPC decision:** Support
8. **County Waste:** Cllr Woodcock set the scene by explaining that County Waste (CW) have for some time been operating outside the terms of their licence. The Parish Council has been working hard to bring this to the attention of the various regulatory bodies and finally two breach of condition notices were served by Warwickshire County Council (WCC) on 25<sup>th</sup> Aug 2016:
  - 30 day notice period regarding hours of operation, dust and mud on highway
  - 60 day notice period regarding condition 17 of the planning permission which does not allow sorting and processing of waste outside of the building

The Environment Agency ( EA ) have also imposed limits on the size of the waste piles CW are allowed to have on site and on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016 they issued a

“suspension of permit” notice, which prevented CW from bringing any more waste onto site until the piles stored outside were 'below limits'.

The height of these piles varies according to type of material - but must be between 2.5-3m high, width of 20 m and depth of 10m.

CW have been working to reduce the size of the mounds and on 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 16, the suspension order was lifted. CW have also undertaken to purchase a road sweeper which they say will be operational shortly.

Monitoring of both the environmental and planning conditions will take place on a regular basis through site visits by WCC and EA staff. There is also the opportunity for the community to provide 3rd party evidence, guidance on how this should be recorded is awaited from EA and will be available shortly.

**9. St Lawrence School: (Cllr Clarke left the room for this item).** Cllr Alsop outlined a proposed way forward following a meeting with school representatives in Oct 16.

- The future agreement will be with St Lawrence specifically - and will be a more simple letter contract rather than the complicated 30 page document currently in place from WCC
- NPC will continue to charge a peppercorn rent - but will reduce this to £1 per annum.
- NPC propose to waive the amount owing from 2012 on, and start the new peppercorn rent for 2017 onwards. This will be invoiced at the start of calendar year. .
- The school will continue to be responsible for mowing and day to day maintenance
- NPC will be responsible for significant maintenance such as fences.
- The field gate will be locked by the school when used, removing the need for the caretaker or similar. They will open the gate at the end of each day.
- As before the field will be for school use during the school day and for general use at other times.
- NPC will ensure that the site is insured outside of school times under their insurance policy.
- NPC will ensure that the land is registered with the land registry (NPC to take advice from Rollasons as to whether it and the adjacent play ground, should be registered as one parcel or two).

Cllr Gooderham proposed that we move forward to the basis of the above. Seconded by Cllr Veasey. All in favour.

**10. A) Pillory Green parking:** Cllr Gooderham explained that in April 1968 Pillory Green was registered as a Village Green under the commons registration act 1965. Guidance from the National Association of Local Councils advises that Parish Councils do not have the power to grant permission to Park on a Village Green. At present the Parish Council has taken a decision to put posts along the top of Memorial Green and is considering doing the same on Pillory Green. In an attempt to accommodate the Christadelphians, the Council approached the Village Hall to see whether the car park there could be used as an alternative venue. However, this was not possible. Concerns were raised by Parishioners about access for emergency vehicles should posts be put around the whole area.

It was suggested that a first step should be to erect polite, discrete signs (no bigger than A4) asking people not to park on the grass. This is to be reviewed in April, at the latest, and earlier if damage to the grassed area persists.

**B) Pillory Green Garages:** Mr & Mrs Avery of Jasmin Cottage explained that they have a right of use over the whole of the garage block but acknowledge that they do not own the land the garages stand on. They would welcome the removal of the garages and the return of the area to village green but requested that the process be done through a solicitor and at no cost to themselves. It was agreed to begin discussions via a solicitor to enable Mr & Mrs Avery to relinquish their right to use of the garages and to return the area village green in perpetuity.

**11. PC Gatherings:** the Clerk reported that the Council had been trialling a system of informal gatherings over past 6 months in an attempt to improve the efficient working of the Council. She reminded the meeting that the terms of reference were as follows:-

- To provide an update on all current projects and work items
- To improve communication by ensuring all Councillors are briefed on current projects
- To identify work necessary to move tasks forward
- Planning matters will be restricted to collective viewing of plans to resolve any ambiguity of understanding. Discussions and decisions on whether to support or not will be confined to NPC monthly public meetings.

“The group **will not have any decision making powers**. Where decisions are required these will be brought to the formal Parish Council meeting and debated in open session.”

Cllrs felt that these meeting had been worthwhile and it was proposed that they be continued and written into the Council’s Standing Orders. Proposed Cllr Gooderham, seconded Cllr Veasey. All in favour.

**12. Action log:** a copy was made available to the meeting. There were no questions from the public

**13. Napton Sports Association:** the Clerk reported that Napton Sports Association had produced a document as the basis for initial discussions about the operation and maintenance of facilities. Cllrs Veasey & Alsop to meet NSA representatives with a view to eventually formalising the arrangement.

**14. Neighbourhood Watch:** the Clerk reported that she had been sent an update which listed a number of recent crimes in the area. A representative of the NHW group suggested that people should be encouraged to sign up for the regular alerts which are available from the Police. Cllr Woodcock suggested that if criminal activity is spotted it should be reported **immediately** as the Police are unlikely to have the resources to respond retrospectively.

**15. Councillor’s items:** Cllr Clarke gave an update on the highways and signage issues he is currently working on with Warwickshire County Council. He has a

comprehensive list but the priority is set by WCC and inevitably in the current economic climate, non urgent jobs are constantly being deferred.

**16. Monthly finance report:** a summary of income and expenditure is attached at appendix 2 and a schedule of payments and receipts at appendix 1

**17. Dates of future meetings**

Mon 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017