

NAPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

7TH September 2015

Napton Village Hall. 7.30pm

Item 1

Attendance & Apologies

Present:

Cllr. Linda Gooderham (Chairman), Cllr. John Veasey (Vice-Chairman), Cllr. Jackie Sheasby, Cllr. Richard Woodcock. SDC Councillor Chris Williams. WCC Councillor John Appleton.

12 villagers

Apologies:

Cllr. Gordon Clarke, Cllr. Bernard Alsop. The Clerk to the Parish Council, Gill Bailey.
John Lines (member of the public).

The Parish Council had been informed just prior to the meeting that the clerk was unwell and would not be attending the meeting.

Mr. Malcolm Thomas, villager and past clerk to the council, agreed to act as clerk for the Planning and Ordinary meetings this evening.

At the Planning Meeting immediately previous to this meeting this was proposed by Cllr. Veasey, seconded by Cllr. Gooderham and carried.

Item 2

Declaration of Personal or Disclosable Pecuniary Interests .

There were none.

Item 3

Comments and Questions from the Public.

Mr. Jim Sleight asked if the council had any knowledge of the situation at the redundant brickworks site. There had been a 'For Sale' sign, but that had now been removed and piles of earth and rubble had been deposited at the gateways.

Cllr. Veasey reported that he had noticed that the sign had been removed and had tried to contact the owners for an update on the situation at the site.

However, he has been unable to make contact yet but will pursue it.

Item 4

To approve & sign the Minutes of the Planning Meeting & Ordinary Meetings of 6th July and the Planning Meetings of 3rd & 17th August 2015.

Due to the clerk's absence (see **Item 1**) these minutes were not available for signing.

Item 5

Reports from District Councillor and County Councillor

1. Overview of the SDC Core Strategy to date – District Cllr Chris Williams

Cllr. Williams explained the need for the Core Strategy, SDC's progress so far and the Inspectors views on the SDC Core Strategy.

Cllr Williams will be sending the Parish Council a précis of his report to Napton PC to be attached to these minutes.

Although not yet finalised the Core Strategy will be recommending a 12% increase in Napton's housing stock.

Many of these have been started or are in the planning process.

Cllr. Woodcock asked if, when the 12% increase were built or approved, there would then be an embargo on new housing in Napton.

Cllr. Williams replied that in theory there should be but he couldn't guarantee it.

Mr Jim Sleight asked if there was a target date for the SDC Core Strategy being approved by the Inspector.

Cllr Williams said that it should be approved by January.

Mr Sleight then asked if, when the housing target had been met, COM 1 would still be available for housing

felt to be a benefit to a parish.

Cllr Williams replied that it is likely that Local Market & COM1 types would still be considered in the normal way – based on measured/defined local need.

Cllr Veasey made the comment that many could not understand why the housing at the Brickyards is not counted for Napton's housing requirement.

Cllr Williams replied that due to the Live-Work nature of the development it was out of the scope of the housing target for Napton.

Cllr Williams recommended that Neighbourhood Plans are still worth putting in place as they will still carry weight.

Cllr Williams also reported on SDC's invitation to be part of a Unified Devolved Administration for the Midlands area.

SDC have decided to observe the workings of this initiative and to make a decision in the next fiscal year.

2. Report from WCC Cllr John Appleton

Cllr Appleton reported on WCC's response to a Unified Devolved Administration.

WCC have decided against being involved.

Item 6

Highways/General Issues affecting the Parish:

1. Clerk to report on any issues which are affecting the Parish

Clerk absent – carried forward.

2. Continuous Flooding of Field in Poplar Road – A Alsop's Field

WCC Cllr Appleton confirmed that WCC Highways were raising a works order to prevent the water running off the allotments across the road into Mr Alsop's field. This may require digging up the road to install new drainage.

3. To discuss a Neighbourhood Development Plan for Napton – Update

Cllr. Gooderham will attempt to identify volunteers to take this forward

4. To consider the erosion of the verges in New Street and Hackwell Bank – Update

Clerk Absent – carried forward

5. To ratify the decision to provide standard lighting columns on the Priors Marston Rd. Development

Cllr Veasey proposed that the Standard Lighting is installed. Cllr Gooderham seconded. All agreed.

6. New Cllr's – Allocation to Working Parties

Carried forward.

7. Appointment of NPC Highways Officer

Cllr. Gooderham reported that the Parish Council had appointed Mr John Lines to act as NPC Highways Officer. His duties will be to liaise with the NPC and WCC Highways Department: to report highway matters that need attending to and to progress those matters.

8. Request for sign to be erected at the top of Folly Lane

A representative of Lontra in Folly Lane attended the meeting.

Lontra are a high-tech company with national recognition. As such they have many business visitors. They would like erect a sign at the end of Folly Lane to direct these visitors to their site.

Although there were no immediate objections from NPC it was felt that the sign may be of a size that needs Planning Permission. Clarification to be sought.

Item 7

Sports Field:

No report submitted.

Item 8

Correspondence:

To note correspondence listed in the log
Correspondence log not available – Clerk absent

Item 9

Finance

Monthly Financial Report – See Appendix

1. To discuss purchase of extra community burial space – Update
Carried forward
2. To discuss the location of Defibrillator cabinets in the Village – update
Carried forward
3. To discuss NPC's Assets and Insurances
Cllr Veasey suggested that this should be updated prior to the January Finance Meeting.

Item 10

Councillors Items

Cllr Woodcock reported that he had been made aware of a group of villagers on Facebook lobbying for improvements to Brickyards Road, especially the clearing of the mud on the road.

Cllr Appleton reported that he has pursued WCC to act on this problem and if necessary to involve the Environment Agency.

Cllr Woodcock had learnt that 4 Social dwellings are vacant in Napton. 3 have been empty for months. NPC will make enquiries with Orbit Housing.

Cllr Gooderham reported that a discussion on Facebook is proposing the erection of more speed signs in the village.

Speed generally in the village was discussed by the councillors.

Community Speed Watch would supply a hand-held Speed Gun for use by local volunteers to compile a speed survey. If the survey revealed a serious speeding problem this could be used to request police action. This had been proposed in the past but there were not enough volunteers.

It was noted that the 'flashing' speed sign on the Southam side of the village had been removed. Cllr Appleton reported that this was being replaced with a new one as the last one was faulty.

Cllr Gooderham reported that the car parking to the front of the Kings Head was still causing problems on exiting Butt Hill on to the A425.

Item 11

Matters Arising

There were none

Item 12

Playing Field

Cllr Gooderham reported that a group of volunteers would organise the weekly safety inspections at the playing field and children's play area.

Item 13

Responses to Consultations :

1. Proposed Modifications to the SDC Core Strategy
Reported on by Cllr Williams in Item 5
2. Combined Authorities Consultation

Reported on by Cllrs Williams and Appleton in Item 5

Item 14

Appointment of a new Parish Clerk & RFO for Napton Parish Council

Cllr Gooderham reported that clerk had handed in her notice and would be leaving in due course. Mr Malcolm Thomas would be Temporary clerk to the Council for a short time whilst the Councillors determined the job specification that would be included in the advertisement for a new clerk.

Item 15

Business considered Urgent by the Chairman

There was none

Item 16

Dates of Forthcoming Meetings

Signed

Position on
the Council.

Date

Appendix.

Financial Statement

To note and approve Receipts:

To note and approve payments

Excl. VAT

Napton Village Hall – April – June (Hire of Committee Rooms) -	£ 85.00	£ 85.00
E.On – Street Lighting -	£ 203.11	£ 169.26
HMRC – Clerks Tax and NI (April – June)	£1,441.21	£1,421.21
The Good Book-Keeping Service (Payroll Services)	£ 30.00	£ 30.00
G A Bailey – Clerks Salary (July) -	£ 932.07	£ 932.07
MFM Services – Grass Mowing & Strimming (June) -	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
G A Bailey – Expenses (new phone, stationery, postage) -£	53.48	£ 53.48
SDC – Charge for Uncontested Election -	£ 100.00	£ 100.00
Warwicks Training Partnership – Good Cllr Guide X 3 -	£ 4.50	£ 4.50
E.On – Street Lighting -	£ 209.87	£ 174.89
MFM Services – Grass Mowing & Strimming (Jul) -	£ 880.00	£ 880.00
Edgehouse Solutions (Web Site Domain & Management)£	130.24	£ 130.24
G A Bailey – Clerks Salary (Aug) -	£ 932.07	£ 932.07
Southam Office Supplies – Stationery, printer cartridge etc	£ 54.40	£ 45.33
Warwicks Training Partnership – Good Cllr Guide X 3 -	£ 4.50	£ 4.50
Plus.Net.Com - Broadband Internet & Telephone Services –		
Aug 2015	£ 31.37	£ 26.14
Sept 2015	£ 28.84	£ 24.03

Bank Balance & Bank Reconciliation as at 30th June 2015 **Balance: £8,210.04**
Bank Balance & Bank Reconciliation as at 31st July 2015 **Balance : £4,020.74**
Bank Balance & Bank Reconciliation as at 31st August 2015 **Balance: £1,735.22**