



NAPTON ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

**Monday 4th December 2017
Minutes**

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Williams and Crump
- 2. Declaration of Personal or Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:** Taken by item
- 3. Minutes of meetings of 6th November:** Agreed and duly signed
- 4. Comments and Questions from the Public:**
 - Concern was raised about the speed of cars on the main road and it was suggested that the Council approach Highways to request that the whole of the A425 is made 50 mph. It was agreed to raise the matter with Cllr Crump and Highways and to consider putting our concerns in writing.
 - The drains on High Street are still overflowing and need jetting. This problem is to be added to the list of highways issues.
 - The pavement on Hillside is very slippery and needs treating and the vegetation cutting back.
 - It was pointed out that parking outside the Arc School is still a problem. NPC chair has a meeting with the school planned for 14th Dec and undertook to raise the issue again.
 - The question of the windows in the Crown was raised. The Chair reported that the Council had been in touch with SDC enforcement team and that the owners had undertaken to replace them with the correct design.
 - Jim Sleight, in his capacity as Broad Band Champion, reported that he had been liaising with CSW broadband and had taken up the case of several households who were experiencing problems. The Council thanked him for his efforts.
 - There was a report of a pot hole at Shepherd's Corner. This will be added to the "Highways list" but Cllr Veasey also reminded the meeting that it was possible to report potholes on line and that there is a compensation scheme available if incidents are reported within 30 days <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/potholes>
- 5. Reports from District and County Councillors;**
 - Cllr Williams sent a report explaining that at District Council level little had happened recently which would affect Napton.
 - Cllr Crump reported that the debate about the Children's Centre in Southam continues. It will remain open until March 2019 and will undertake more outreach work. He is attempting to organise a

meeting with Highways to look at some of the bigger highway issues in Napton and will endeavour to encourage Patch Byrne to continue to liaise with Cllr Clarke on day to day repairs.

6. Planning matters:

Application(s) reference: 17/03477/AGNOT

Proposed : Storage of hay/straw for bedding/feed for livestock and machine store.

At : Old Clay Pits, Brickyard Road, Napton-on-the-Hill,

For : Mr Paul Harrison

It was resolved to reject the application and to make the following comments: -

- There does not appear to be a clear justification in agricultural terms for the proposed barn (the site is used for the informal grazing of a small number of ponies)
- The access to the site is poor and the proposed location is a considerable distance from the road
- The proposed location is adjacent to a geological SSSI
- Local knowledge suggests that the site has never been formally farmed and has always been scrub land used for informal grazing.
- It is not known whether the site has an agricultural holding number
- The proposed building is in an elevated position on the site. The location is one which is being considered in the emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan as a possible protected view.

Application(s) reference: 17/02591/OUT: *Cllrs Alsop and Gooderham declared an interest in this item and left the meeting*

Proposed : Outline application (all matters reserved) for the erection of 6 dwellings at the land Adjacent to The Bungalow, Howcombe Lane.

At : Land Adjacent to The Bungalow, Howcombe Lane, Napton-on-the-Hill,

For : Mr M Warner

It was resolved to make the following comments: -

- The Council's previous objection and concerns still stand
- The Council is concerned that 3 smaller properties have been removed from the application and one larger one added. The Council suspects that the smaller ones are most needed locally however it is about to conduct a housing needs survey.
- The overall number of bedrooms has been reduced by one, but the number of car parking spaces has been reduced by six.

- The site is still outside the built up area boundary of the village

7. Finance issues:

- Payments listed in appendix 1 were approved.
- Income and expenditure to date was reviewed and a summary of the finances of the WMWP were provided (copy attached to the minutes).
- The Chair explained that the Council had prepared a draft budget for next year but is awaiting confirmation from SDC on the level of the Council Tax Reduction Grant and the Band D council tax figure before agreeing the final numbers.
- The Clerk reported that the current balance in the HSBC account was £36,522.86. Given the low interest rates it was decided not to transfer any funds to the building society at the present time.
- A number of suggestions have been received for spending priorities for next year. These include: -
 - An interpretation/viewing board at a suitable vantage point on the hill.
 - Improvements to Granton Playing Fields especially the seating area
 - Footpath improvements (various).
 - Finger posts directing people to key facilities e.g. shop/fishing lakes etc
- It was agreed that if any of the above are implemented they should be funded from reserves and therefore should not affect the Council's revenue budget.

8. Correspondence:

- Jim Sleight explained that St Lawrence School are planning to approach to AC Lloyd with a request for funding to improve the playground. It was agreed that the Council would support them in their endeavour

9. Highways issues:

- Cllr Clarke will arrange a meeting with Cllr Crump as soon as is practical.

10. Neighbourhood Development Plan:

- The Clerk reported that the group are about to undertake a landscape character assessment which will identify key features of the village including special views and landscapes. In tandem with this they will also be undertaking a housing needs survey which will help determine the type of houses which the village needs in the future. It is important that all residents complete and return the forms.

11. Councillor's items:

- Cllr Alsop presented the final draft of the licence for Granton Playing Fields. There are still a couple of minor points for the school to discuss. Once these have been agreed it is hoped that the document can be signed at the January meeting.
- It was reported that Cllr Veasey, the Clerk and Malcolm Thomas had recently had a meeting with the solicitors who are checking whether

there is sufficient paperwork to prove title to the land without having to go through the process of “adverse possession”. The Clerk was asked to chase up a response.

- Cllr Gooderham explained that the current planning permission on the Brickyard site runs out at the end of Jan 2018. However, Jim Sleight and Malcolm Thomas reported that as the applicant had made a start on site the permission was now extant. That said it has been suggested that the Council take some planning advice to help shape their thinking about the long-term future of the site as it is likely that a revised application will come forward at some point. It was resolved to engage planning consultant Bob Keith for an initial workshop session. A budget of up to a maximum of £1,000 was agreed.
- Cllr Woodcock raised the issue of Church Road footpath. It was agreed to engage M.Mann to clear the brambles from the verge at the top end of the path. In the spring a decision can be made about whether to look at more significant improvement works and whether to consider a funding bid as part of a range of village improvements.
- In accordance with section 16 of the Council’s Standing orders the Chair requested that the Clerk be given delegated authority to arrange the repair of the street light outside Hattie’s Meadow on Dog Lane. The quote for the works was received on 4th Dec and so did not appear on the agenda, however the repair cannot wait until the Council next meeting in Jan. There was a question about the style of bracket and the Clerk was asked to find out what the options are before placing the order.

12. Dates of future meetings:

- It was agreed that next year’s Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Sunday 13th May in the afternoon. Other dates will be as follows: -
 - 8th Jan
 - 5th Feb
 - 5th March

Napton Parish Council Appendix 1

Expenditure transactions - approval list

Start of year 01/04/17

Tn no	Cheque	Gross	Heading	Invoice date	Details
213		£285.37	2050/2	02/10/17	EON - Energy charges Oct 17
214		£1,147.20	2090	31/10/17	Frank Mann Farmers - October mowing
212		£115.00		22/11/17	WALC - Training and publications
1		£55.00	1002		Staff training 14.11.17, 25.11.17
2		£35.00	1003		Cllr Woodcock training 19.10.17
3		£25.00	1025/2		Publication - Local Councils Explained
216		£167.76	1000	29/11/17	Warwickshire County Council - Pension contribution
					Nov 17
215		£441.64	1001	30/11/17	Jayne Warman - Staff costs Nov
Total		£2,156.97			

War Memorial Working Party financial position as at 30.11.17.

Start of year 01/04/17

Income

Heading

140 War memorial working party

Received	Invoiced	Tn. no	Reference	Details	Net (£)
Vat (£)	Gross (£)				
01/11/17	30/10/17	52	PO171101	War Memorial Working Party - Donation	200.00
0.00	200.00			from Music Festival Oct 17	
23/11/17	20/11/17	54	chq102073	War Memorial Working Party -	130.85
0.00	130.85			Remembrance service collection	
				140 War memorial working party Total	330.85
					0.00
				Grand Total	330.85
					0.00

Expenditure

Heading

1050 Other Groups

Paid	Invoiced	Tn. no	Cheque	Details	Net (£)
Vat (£)	Gross (£)				
06/11/17	03/11/17	210	102637	Parish Magazine - Printing (WMWP	12.00
0.00	12.00			funds)	
06/11/17	03/11/17	209	102636	Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - 2no	34.00
0.00	34.00			wreaths (WMWP funds)	

06/11/17 16/10/17 200 102629 J.B Gardening Maintenance - Work to 70.00
 0.00 70.00

Benches at Observation Post WMWP

1050 Other Groups Total 116.00
 0.00 116.00

Grand Total 116.00
 0.00 116.000

Balance as at 20.03.17	£446.18					
Expenditure	Amount inc VAT	Amount ex	Cheque no	Date		
	£70.00	£70.00	102629	Nov	Work on observer bench	
	£12.00	£12.00	102637	Nov	service booklets	
	£34.00	£34.00	102636	Nov	wreaths	
Total expenditure	£116.00	£116.00				
Income		Amount		Date		
		£200.00		31.10.17	Music festival donation	
Total income		£200.00				
Balance as at 17.11.17		£530.18				
Income		£142.58			Remembrance service Collection	
Expenditure		£7.00			Crosses	
		£5.00			refreshments	
Net income		£130.58				
Balance as at 20.11.17		£660.76				