



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

**Meeting Minutes  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 2020  
7.30pm.**

**Present:** Councillors Veasey, Woodcock (Chair) and Heaf. J.Warman (Clerk). Cllr Andy Crump joined at 8.10pm. 4 members of the public were also present

- 1. Apologies for Absence were received from** Cllrs Gooderham, Alsop and Clarke plus District Councillor Nigel Rock.
- 2. Declaration of Personal or Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:** Taken by item
- 3. Filming and recording of meetings:** The Clerk explained that the meeting would be recorded to allow the Clerk to write the minutes and that the video would not be shared. After the minutes are written the recording will be destroyed.
- 4. Minutes of previous meetings:** The minutes of 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020 were agreed as true record. There were no matters arising from the meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> June.
- 5. Comments and Questions from the Public:**
  - A question was asked about how NEAT might get involved in the future proposals for Pillory Green. The Chair explained that in the first instance the Council was focusing its efforts on getting the new posts installed and making sure the area looks tidy. Any further proposals for landscaping/planting etc will be considered at the next Annual Parish Meeting which will hopefully take place in spring 2021.
- 6. Planning Matters:**

**Arc School planning application:** The Council had intended to debate whether it should make a complaint to SDC about the decision making process associated with this application. However due to unforeseen circumstances the meeting was not quorate and so the debate could not take place. It was pointed out that some of the condition attached to the decision may in fact be incorrect . The Council will be taking this up with Stratford.
- 7. Finance matters:** The payments for approval for Aug are set out below. The Clerk reported that, in line with recommendation made by the internal auditor, a quarterly review of the accounts was undertaken with Cllrs Veasey and Gooderham. It was noted that some additional work is needed on the NDP. Whilst there are no significant or substantive changes to any of the policies it would be helpful to be able to have some further support from Bob Keith. The Clerk reported that additional grant funding may be available and it was agreed to support an application, assuming we are eligible.
- 8. Update on Pillory Green:** WCC highways have informed NPC that they are unable to install the posts on Pillory Green as originally hoped. The Council has obtained one quote for the work and is in the process of obtaining a second.
- 9. Village maintenance:** General update and identification of works needed
- 10. To discuss proposals for a Community Recognition Scheme (Citizen of the Year )**

Cllr Woodcock explained that the Council is proposing to establish an annual Citizen/s of the year award which would be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting in May following

nominations from the Community. This year it was suggested this should be awarded to those individuals or organisations who had made a significant contribution to the Community during the Coronavirus epidemic. It was therefore agreed to recognise Phil Tyler for his fantastic efforts in running the village helpline and to Napton Village Stores for its outstanding support to the Parish during the epidemic. It was also agreed that Jayne Warman (Parish Clerk) should be recognised for her work in keeping the Council services operating during lockdown.

### **Report from County Cllr Andy Crump**

#### **Gatherings at Napton Reservoir**

Crews from Southam (and Rugby visited the site. PCSO Hussain Visited several times too. WFRS put out a press release and Facebook story about Napton and also general water safety

A resident raised an issue re parking and wanting double yellow lines on Hillside. These are not really suitable in a rural location unless absolutely necessary. AC has referred to WCC

#### **Household Recycling**

Works are progressing well to reopen the **Stockton Recycling Centre** which is planned for Saturday **26<sup>th</sup> September**, with bookings scheduled to be released a week before.

As Stockton is one of Warwickshire's smallest sites more measures have been needed to be put in place to ensure the safety of the public and staff when it opens.

**Stockton will be open only on Saturday and Sunday with opening hours for these days extended to 17:45 (5.45pm)**

Anyone wishing to book a slot at one of the centres, can do so via <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/recyclingcentres>

**Local Government Reform** – Covid-19 has put an immense strain on all sectors, nationally. Local Government was not immune to this strain and demand for its services rocketed. Stratford District (SDC) is forecast a multi-million pound shortfall in its budget for 2020-21. Warwick District Council (WDC) has similar problems so agreed to work more closely and share services (even leading to a potential super district in the future) with SDC. A recent report by the County Council Network (CCN) has suggested that creating unitary councils (remove boroughs/districts) could potentially reduce local government costs by nearly £3billion. Warwickshire County Council will be meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September to decide whether to bid, as part of the Government's reform of local government, to become a unitary authority. Like every decision there are pros and cons, I will update on any developments over the next few weeks.

#### **Road Safety and parking around schools**

An initiative called **SAFER in Warwickshire** is being launched by WCC in October. It intends to promote and facilitate more walking and cycling to school, safe and considerate parking near schools etc, which will hopefully lead to long-term BEHAVIOUR CHANGE. There are many benefits –less pollution, tackling obesity, stress reduction for drivers, mental health benefits of walking etc – but obviously safety is the over-riding factor.

In some parts of my ward, the emergency services would have great difficulty accessing certain areas during school picking up and dropping off times.

#### **Overgrown Hedges etc**

Usually it is the landowners responsibility to ensure hedges etc do not adversely impact the footpath/highway. If it does WCC will write to the owner asking for remedial action.

**Cycle routes** - now likely between Southam and Ladbroke and Long Itchington. A route from Southam to Napton is less likely due to land purchases needed, lots of culvert/remedial work and overall cost £4m+

**50mph limit now in between Southam & Napton** - Community Speedwatch being relaunched.

Payments approved in Aug 20

Warwickshire County Council	Pension contribution	£208.02
EON energy	Energy charges July	£400.67
Staff costs		£739.03