

Norton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 13th of September 2017 at 7:30pm in Norton Village Hall

Present: Cllr Eirwyn Jenkins - in the Chair
Cllr Graham Garbutt
Cllr Colin Edwards
Cllr David Rolls

In Attendance:

County Cllr. Phil Awford; Phil Pembridge Chairman of the village hall management committee and parishioner Jean Smith.

1. **Apologies for absence.**

Cllr. Steve Norgate, Borough Cllr. Dave Waters

2. **Declaration of interest in items on the agenda**

There were none.

3. **To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th July 2017.**

These were confirmed and signed as a true record

4. **Matters Arising not on this agenda.**

None

5. **To receive reports:**

a. **County Councillor Report.**

Cllr Awford reported that he attended a debate on flooding at the Shire Hall. A report on the Children and Young Peoples Services has come under scrutiny committee and a report is expected shortly in response to the OFSTED report.

Richard Waters, highways, is leaving Glos. County Council for a post outside the county.

He also reported on his attendance of a FEMIS meeting with regards to the badger cull.

Members were very pleased to see Cllr Awford after a recent absence.

b. **Borough Councillor.**

This was taken by Cllr Awford. Discussed the Hitchin's appeal with regards land at Twigworth and also the JCS. Felt it was ironic that the borough's drainage expert was taking one view at the appeal and the opposite view at the JCS. It was noted by Cllr. Garbutt the JCS report was due in the borough councils' hands by the end of the month.

The scrutiny committee is looking at the planning department. It is an internal review. Members regretted that there would be no consultation with the parishes. TBC has met with UBICO with regards inconsistencies with bin collection. The parish council stated that there seemed to be no problem in Norton with the exception of some brown bins being missed

in Prior's Norton. A Supplementary Planning document – flooding - is being produced and will be out for consultation soon.

c. Members.

Councillor Steve Norgate provided an update on various points via e-mail.

- Boulders on verge opposite VH: Gloucestershire CC have written to the occupier of the house and he has advised me that he has written back so that the issue is outstanding.
- School road safety: The yellow zig-zags have been extended as arranged and the road sign correctly aligned.
- Dog waste bin: Still awaiting repair (has now been repaired).
- Hedgerow by New Dawn Inn: Gloucestershire Highways have confirmed their ownership of the hedge and have arranged for it to be flail cut.

Cllr. Edwards reported that he has had a meeting with Ellen Winter, Glos. Wild life Trust, and Graham Spiers with regards to the pond on the green. It was thought that the pond is of roman origin and later next to the village smithy. With the result that it may be polluted. May be of archaeological significance. Low water content was due to low water table and changes to local drainage. It was probably not feasible to reinstate.

Cllr Jenkins has attended a mutli-agency meeting set up as a platform for various organisation involved with the badger cull.

Received an e-mail from Marl House asking to pass on their thanks for the kind welcome they received from the parish residents during their open days at Marl House.

Had an e-mail from the Citizens Advice Bureau wishing to promote their services in our area and requesting a donation. This will go on to agenda for the next meeting

6. Update on the ultrafast fibre-to-the-home broadband service to homes and businesses in Prior's Norton.

A meeting has been arranged with the parish council for the 28th of November at 7pm in the village hall. This will be followed by a public meeting in the new year. This is part of the fastershire project and will cover the whole of Norton and the Leigh.

7. School - extra classroom in the village hall carpark.

The chair reported that we have had a request from the Local Authority (LA) to site a new classroom in the village hall carpark. The matter has been discussed at a recent meeting of the village hall management committee (vhmc) and the main concerned raised was the loss of car parking space. Brian Storer from the LA had arranged a survey of the carpark and proposed a new layout to minimise the loss of parking spaces. The vhmc agreed that the LA could proceed to apply for planning permission and a sub group will be formed from two members of the vhmc and two councillors to discuss the finer points of the request. Cllr. Jenkins stressed that any proposals would be put to the parish council as landowner for final decision. He also said that he is monitoring the carpark during the afternoons to experience the demand on the carpark at the end of the school day. Councillors raised concerns over the reported numbers of pupils at the school and that there seems to be little

control in place with regards to pupil numbers. It is hoped that these concerns would be clarified at the meeting with the Headteacher the following day. There also seems to be little forward planning by the LA to address growing pupil numbers. Pupil numbers would have been known for several months.

There is no room for school expansion on school ground and if the project goes ahead then it must be made clear there would be no more land available from the village hall and playing fields. Concerns raised of the safety risk on the road at both ends of the day. Cllr Jenkins reported that the maximum number of cars using the carpark at the end of the school day was 61 and 8 parked on the road. There seems to be no major issues and the majority of cars had left by 3:25pm. However not all pupils had returned from the summer break, also there were strong concerns about congestion in the roadway and nearby junctions.

Cllr Rolls agreed to be part of the working group.

8. NDP – update.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan is now at the pre-consultation phase. The local planning authority (lpa) have reviewed the NDP and concluded that it does not require Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment. Before the NDP can move on to the consultation period. the lpa have requested that the three parish councils agree with this conclusion and to send council minutes to confirm their agreement. The council agreed unanimously to the following proposition.

Norton Parish Council, being one of the qualifying bodies of the Down Hatherley, Norton and Twigworth Neighbourhood Plan, agrees with the conclusions of SEA/HRA statement, drawn up by the local planning authority, that a full Environmental Report is not necessary.

Cllr Garbutt proposed the proposition should be agreed and it was seconded by Cllr Rolls. This was unanimously agreed by the council.

This would now be passed on to TBC.

9. Planning Matters.

- a. Street lighting on the new development off Wainlode Lane.

It was agreed that being a rural village street lighting would be very intrusive and Bayhill Properties were to be informed that the wish of the council was that street lighting was not require.

- b. Update on application 17/00539/APP - Parcel 5922 Green Acres, Tewkesbury Road, Norton.

The point was made that the house on plot 4 had changed in shape, the garage now at the front. It was regarded that the original comments by the parish council were sufficient.

10. Finance

- a. To receive the finance report.

Noted than an audit report had been received from Grant Thornton and will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

b. To approve payments in accordance with the finance report.

Invoices agreed for payment:

Web Hosting	£39.99
Membership of GPFA	£50.00
Hiring of village hall	£9.75
Admin costs:	
Postage stamp books x3	£11.52
postage GT -7/6/17	£1.62
Phil Staddon	£600:00
Total	<u>£712.88</u>

The finance report was adopted and the invoices were approved for payment, proposed by Cllr. Edwards, seconded by Cllr Rolls

11. Clerk

Even though clerk position does not take up a great deal of time, there are inherent dangers in council having all its eggs in one basket. Members need to set up the effort in finding a clerk locally. Remind people it is a paid position with a minimum of four hours a week.

12. AOB.

None

13. Parishioners questions.

None

Meeting closed at 21:00 hrs

Date of the Next Meeting: 15th of November 2017.

Signed:

Date: