

NEROCHE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Neroche Parish Council held via Zoom on Thursday 11th March 2021 at 7.30pm.

Members Present: Cllrs. Bell, Aplin, Beck, Bray, Macey, Palmer, J Parsons, Pope and Street

In Attendance: Miss Harrop (Clerk), Cllr John Thorne, Jacqueline Wanstall (newly appointed Clerk) and 5 parishioners

2020/72 Apologies

Apologies were received by Cllr C Parsons

It was resolved that the absence of this Councillors be recognised as approved absences for the purposes of s.185 Local Government Act 1972.

2020/73 Declarations of interest and dispensations

None reported

2020/74 Minutes

It was noted that an email had been received from Parishioner Tim French requesting an amendment to January's minutes under item 5 Questions from Members of the Public under Standing Order 1. Tim wishes it to be noted that he had raised the matter of the bridleway T2/11. The minutes were duly amended.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th January 2021 were approved as a correct record will be signed by the Chairman at later date.

2020/75 Questions from members under Standing Order 8 (Voting on Appointments)

None reported

2020/76 Questions from members of the public under Standing Order 1 (d-h) (Rules of Debate at Meetings)

-Annual Parish Meeting- Alan Hyde and Jane Hole wished to speak as they are running the Annual Parish Meeting which is due to take place in April. The event is to be held via Zoom at 7pm on Thursday 15 April, with Cllr Parsons to chair. Due to lockdown, there was no APM held last year, and it was felt to be very important to have one this year, with some pressing local matters needing to be discussed. The event will be publicised through the Neroche Newsletter, Email Alert and the Parish Magazine and although this is not a Parish Council Meeting, the organisers would like as many Councillors as possible to attend and to encourage parishioners to also attend. The 4 main topics will be: 1- Broadband. 2- A358 and Link Roads. 3- Taylor Wimpy Development. 4- Climate Crisis. The organisers have secured speakers. John Thorne will be talking about the A358 and Taylor Wimpy. They have an experienced climate change expert to talk about possible community projects and how we can help as individuals. Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) are also sending a nominated speaker.

With regards to the A358, the Highways Agency declined to send anybody, however, there is a meeting on 25th March, which Cllrs. Aplin is attending. Cllrs. Macey and Bell also expressed interested in attending this.

- Footpath T2/11 – Parishioner Tim French wished to know why this matter couldn't be advanced by NPC. It was stated again, that due to the fact legal parties are now involved, this matter is outside of the NPC remit and will be taken up by County Council for updates. The Clerk will follow this up and provide updates when we have them.

2020/77 Reports from County and District Councillors

Cllr Thorne (SCC) circulated his written report to the council members via email. The main issue Cllr Thorne highlighted in the meeting was the concerning lack of detail with regards to the broadband roll out.

2020/78 Matters arising from the last meeting

None reported

2020/79 Accounts for payment.

Resolved that the following accounts be paid.

a. Salary and expenses of Clerk - £406.40

2020/80 Items of report and Correspondence

-Introduction of new Clerk Jacqueline Wanstall- Jacqueline is to take over from 1st April. As she is new to this role, she will book and undertake Clerk Training at the soonest opportunity. Support was offered from Councillor's present, as well as Miss Harrop (exiting Clerk).

-Update on defibrillator- Cllr Bell ran through the 2 options regarding acquiring a new defibrillator. The first option at £1800 is to hire the machine, this cost covers its provision, maintenance and instruction. Although, due to Covid-19 there are currently no courses available. The alternative was to purchase our own machine. There are 2 different types of defibrillator we could buy, a fully automated one, which does everything for you and provides voice over instruction, so can be used by anybody, or a semi-automated option, which requires more input from the operator. The fully automated one is approx. £1000 with an 8-year warranty. After discussion, looking at both the financial perspective and ease of use by both parishioners and visitors, it was agreed and voted on to buy our own. Cllr Bell to action this, with the Clerks' assistance.

-Grass cutting contract- this existing contract is with Ian Perry to do 3 grass cuts and 1 trim a year on the Curland Green. The contract is now up, and the cheque has been raised. One of the Councillors had been contacted from another company about doing this work and wished to provide a quote. It was agreed to put this out to tender and get some other prices in. New Clerk Wanstall is to deal with this.

-Tick warnings from the Forestry Commission- with 2 parishioners being affected by Lyme Disease it was agreed by all the importance of the signs being displayed about the dangers of ticks. Clerk Wanstall to put up sign on the 4 parish notice boards. Cllr Parsons offered to also place them Forestry Commission locations.

2020/81 Items and date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 13th May 2021

Meeting closed at 8.35pm