

NEROCHE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Neroche Parish Council held at the Neroche Village Hall on Thursday 8th July 2021 at 7.30pm.

Members Present: Cllrs. Bell, Macey, Palmer, C Parsons, Bray, and Street

In Attendance: J Wanstall (Clerk), Cllr John Thorne, Cllr Ross Henley and 4 parishioners.

2021/15 Apologies

Apologies were received by Cllr Aplin, J Parsons and Pope.

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

2021/16 Declarations of interest and dispensations

None reported

2021/17 Minutes

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20th May 2021 were approved as a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman.

2021/18 Reports from County Councillor and District Councillor

Cllr Thorne (Somerset County Cllr) circulated his written report to the council members via email. The main area Cllr Thorne highlighted in the meeting was the update on the issue of Bridleway T2/11. Cllr Thorne had a response from Right of Ways informing him that they are following up with the landowner, who has applied for a diversion to the route. They hope to have a further update in the next few weeks.

Cllr Henley (SWAT District Cllr) also provided an update on several areas.

Fly tipping – this has been worse during lockdown and Cllr Henley is working to get cameras installed to catch the offenders.

Taylor Wimpy development- over 25% of residents have now signed a petition to stop this development in the Orchard Portman area.

A358 – Cllr Henley has attended 2 Highways England meetings, and there is much concern regarding whether HE are listening to the residents. 8 other parishes have presented an alternative proposal to HE and await a response.

Recycling issues- there have been a lot of missed collections, there is currently a recruitment campaign to employ more HGV drivers to help address this issue.

2021/19 Questions from members under Standing Order 8

The drain at the end of Bickenhall Lane has been blocked now for over 6 months.

Action- Clerk to contact Highways England to report this.

Cllr Street suggest a Working Group to check all the pathways in the parish. Many are blocked or inaccessible and some have signposts missing.

Action- Cllr Street to explore setting up a Working Group for the footpaths.

The road sign at the end of Bickenhall Lane, directing traffic to the Neroche Village Hall and the RSPCA has been missing for a approx.1 year.

Action- Clerk to contact Highways England to report this.

2021/20 Questions from members of the public under Standing Order 1 (d-h)

Neroche Newsletter Parish Council Contribution- Mike Aspray, the Chairman of the Neroche Communication Action Group, spoke about the finances of the Neroche Newsletter and why it needed advertising revenue to cover the production costs and secure the future of the publication. Moving forwards the adverts for the

newsletter will be inserted into the publication electronically, as oppose to separate flyers. There was concern that by placing adverts within the publication itself, it would be in competition with the Parish Newsletter.
Action- Mike Aspray to speak with the Church to get their views. Mark Palmer to research further.

Vehicles parked in field in Curland- Cllr Henley reported that they are still waiting a decision on the planning appeal for this Curland planning application issue.

2021/21 Actions from the last meeting

Bridleway T2/11- an update was given by Cllr Thorne, see Item 2021/18.

Countryside Charity Membership- NPC has now been signed up to this.

Blackdown Hills Parish Network signing up- they have yet to respond.

Action- Clerk to chase and sign up to Blackdown Hills Parish Network

2021/22 To consider the co-option of suitable candidates to fill the vacancies on the Council

The Council had received an expression of interest from Mike Vacher and Dave Knight to become members.

Dave has lived in Staple Fitzpaine for over 20 years and was a church warden. Mike has lived in Staple Fitzpaine for 12 years, he has an army career background and runs a farming charity. Both proposals were approved by the members and Mr Vacher and Mr Knight were co-opted onto the Council.

2021/23 To receive the Annual Accounts for 2020-21

The annual accounts were presented to the Council.

The Income amounted to £11,600 and expenditure incurred was £7,290.

The Council approved the annual accounts, which are published on the website.

2021/24 To receive the Internal Audit report for the Council

The internal audit has been completed by Gillian Midworth, who kindly completed the work free of charge. The Internal Audit Report is available to view on the website.

2021/25 To approve AGAR Section 1- Annual Governance Statement 2020-21

The Council approved the Annual Governance Statement 2020-21.

2021/26 To approve AGAR Section 2- Accounting Statements 2020-21

The Council approved the Accounting Statements for 2020-21

2021/27 Accounts for payment.

Resolved that the following accounts be paid.

- Salary and expenses of Clerk £572.24
- Membership to CPRE £36
- Bristol Foundry- Fingerpost Project £1,400
- Payment for website to Neroche Communication Action Group £150
- SALC training courses for Clerk £90 and Chairman £30
- TD & AA Lock Verge Cutting £300

2021/28 Items of report and Correspondence

A358 and other parishes responses- this item was postponed until the next meeting, due to the absence of Cllr Aplin, who raised the item.

Queen's Jubilee- applying for free trees- NPC agreed it would be a nice for the parish to receive some trees from the Woodland Trust to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.

Action- Clerk to put some information about this initiative in the Email Alert to gage local interest.

2021/29 Items and date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 9th September 2021 at the Neroche Village Hall

Meeting closed at 9.00pm