# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTON-JUXTA-KEMPSEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THE 26<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016 AT NORTON PARISH HALL, LITTLEWORTH

There were no public question time discussions.

#### 1. Election of Chairman

Cllr. Turvey was proposed as Chair by Cllr. Fincher, seconded by Cllr. Hughes and all were in favour. Cllr. Turvey accepted this position and was elected as Chairman. Cllr. Turvey signed the Chairman's undertaking and declaration of acceptance of office.

**2. Apologies for Absence:** Mrs A. Clinton, M. Reeves. These apologies and the reasons for them, were accepted and approved.

**Attending:** H. Turvey (Chair), R. Brooker, C. Dawson, K. Fincher, M. Hughes, P. Richmond, J. Sparling, Cllr. R. Adams (District and County Councillors), Mrs. J. Greenway (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer).

#### 3. Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr. Fincher was proposed as Vice-Chairman by Cllr. Turvey, seconded by Cllr. Brooker and all were in favour. Cllr. Fincher accepted this position and was elected as Vice-Chairman. Cllr. Fincher signed the Vice-Chairman's undertaking and declaration of acceptance of office.

It was agreed for Cllr. Fincher to act as Chair for this meeting.

#### 4. Changes to Membership

None.

#### 5. Declarations of Interest

- a) Cllr. Fincher reminded Councillors of the need to update their register of interests if necessary.
- **b) and c)** None. Existing dispensations were noted.
- d) None.

## 6. To consider and adopt Council's Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Complaints Procedure and Scheme of Delegation

The existing Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were re-adopted. The revised Complaints Procedure was adopted. The Scheme of Delegation was revised to include an additional delegation for urgent business in the absence of both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to allow urgent decisions required between scheduled meetings of the Council to be delegated to the Clerk in consultation with 2 Parish Councillors. It was noted that new model Standing Orders and Financial Regulations are available and agreed that the Clerk will review these and report back to a future meeting for discussion. Proposed by Cllr. Richmond, seconded by Cllr. Hughes and agreed by all.

#### 7. To Note Council's Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct was noted.

#### 8. To Consider Areas of Focus and Agree Allocation of Areas of Responsibility to Councillors

The existing allocation of responsibilities was agreed, with Cllr. Dawson becoming the lead Councillor for playing fields/recreation areas and Cllr. Richmond providing support with Cllr. Mrs Clinton.

#### 9. To Note the Council's Risk Assessment and Insurance Requirements

These were noted as agreed at the Parish Council meetings of 28th January and 24th March 2016.

#### 10. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 28th April 2016

Approved as proposed by Cllr. Sparling, seconded by Cllr. Brooker and agreed by all.

#### 11. 2016/142 Reports

#### a) Cllr. R.C. Adams (District & County Councillor)

Cllr Adams provided an update on the closure of Abbotswood Bridge and agreed to ask Highways for improved signage from the B4084 at Stoulton, to give advance warning to motorists.

#### b) Finance

- (i) The current account balance was £4,521.58 on  $19^{th}$  May with the deposit account balance at £53,760.68 on  $3^{rd}$  May. There has been no S.137 expenditure during 2016/17 to date.
- (ii) Monthly accounts and bank reconciliation are not available due to preparation of the year end accounts.
- (ii) The Clerk provided an update on the audit process including account preparation, internal audit, advertising of the audit, Annual Return completion and the external audit. The accounts and Annual Return will be approved at the 30<sup>th</sup> June Parish Council meeting.

#### c) West Mercia Police

The Clerk provided a report from the Police, including recently reported crimes. Cllr. Adams advised that there is a team at Wychavon DC that is providing assistance to residents who have been burgled. The SmartWater initiative isn't being pursued and will be removed from the agenda.

#### d) St. James the Great Church, Norton

No report was available from Rev. Sloggett. It is understood that Rev. Sloggett is due to retire at the end of August and news on a replacement is awaited.

#### 12. 2016/143 S106, New Homes Bonus (NHB) and Other Funding Opportunities

Cllr. Brooker advised that the £37k NHB application is progressing regarding the coffee shop/community hub project and the outcome of the application should be confirmed after 1 June. Cllr. Brooker offered to attend the Wychavon Executive Board meeting to provide assurances about the NHB consultation being undertaken. Evidence of residents' support for use of NHB funding for this project is required and a questionnaire is being circulated with the Parish Council newsletter which is due out in early June. The project and its funding were also highlighted at the Annual Parish Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May, along with other ideas for developments at the Hall and its outside space.

A Tesco funding application for the trim trail, coppice area and swamp garden (linked to NJK CE First school) is being prepared for submission. The Parish Hall has applied for a Lottery Grant and other funding opportunities are also being explored e.g. Landfill Grant. The Woodland Trust also has trees available for community projects. Cllr. Dawson will circulate costings for the trim trail and outside gym equipment, with costs envisaged c. £30k.

If the funding bids are successful an extraordinary Parish Council meeting will be arranged to consider fuller detail of the projects, spending requirements and to agree the expenditure.

#### 13. 2016/144 Current Planning Applications

There were no questions relating to the following applications.

**Approvals** 

Granary Barn House, Hatfield Lane. Ref: W/16/00548/PP

Single storey rear extension and alterations to fenestration and chimney (resubmission of W/15/01461/PP). Parish supports.

The Cedar, Hatfield Lane, Norton. Ref: W/16/00925/PP

Erect a garden room, demolish shed and erect new shed, erect open gazebo, build a water feature with surrounding hard surface. Parish supports subject to conditions.

#### Refusals - None

#### **Awaiting Decision**

Land to the south of the City of Worcester, Bath Road. Malvern Hills DC Ref: W/13/00656/OUT Welbeck Land Outline planning application, including approval of access (appearance, landscape, layout and scale reserved) for a mixed-use development with local centre to the south of Worcester.

Land north of Taylors Lane, south of and part north of A4440 Broomhall Way, Worcs.
Malvern Hills DC Ref: W/13/01617 St. Modwen Developments

Outline application with all matters reserved except for access, for a mixed use development comprising residential development up to 255 dwellings, employment (B1) (b and c), B2 and/or B8, access, footpath, cycleways and highway infrastructure, pedestrian/cycle bridge over A4440, public open space, landscaping and associated development and drainage.

Land adjacent to Lobelia Close, Cranesbill Drive, Broomhall Green and the A4440 Broomhall Way Worcester City Ref: P13A0617 St. Modwen Developments Erection of pedestrian/cycle bridge over A4440 Broomhall Way to facilitate access to a mixed use development comprising of up to 255 dwellings and employment (B1) (b and c), B2 and/or B8, on land between Taylors Lane and the A4440 Broomhall Way.

Middle Battenhall Farm Worcester City Ref: P13B0632 Miller Homes Outline planning application for the construction for up to 200 dwellings, open space, new vehicular junction and access and associated infrastructure

Land at Broomhall Way Worcester City Ref: P14L0266 Outline planning permission for the erection of up to 103 dwellings with all matters reserved, excluding access. Parish supports subject to revision of application.

Land at Broomhall Way Worcester City Ref: P14L0266 (amended application) Outline matters application for the erection of up to 81 dwellings with all matters reserved, excluding access.

Land adj. Pattann Bungalow, Abbotswood, Littleworth MHDC Ref: 16/00008/FUL 1 no. 4 bed house. Parish does not support. **Also see discussions below.** 

Maple Cottage, Hatfield Bank, Norton. Ref: W/16/00605/PP

Conversion of existing detached garage into a 3 bedroom annexe including new doors, windows and additional dormer on front elevation. Paris supports subject to conditions.

Land at Bath Road (OS 8571 5128), Broomhall. MHDC Ref: 16/00623/FUL Proposed vehicular access on to Norton Road. No comments submitted

#### **Internal Consultation**

Grange Farm, Hatfield Lane, Norton, Ref: W/16/01163/PP

Two storey side extension.

Winnells Farm, Church Lane, Norton. Ref: W/16/01235/PP

Construction of detached garage with annexe over. Resubmission of planning permission W/15/02627/PP.

#### Other

Appeal re Tree Preservation Order application decision: HEARING DATE 8 JUNE 2016

19 Salamanca Drive, Norton
Removal of tree from TPO protected tree from grass verge adjacent to property.

Land adj. to Pattann Bungalow planning application: Cllr. Brooker and Cllr. Richmond reported on a site meeting with the consultant who produced the drainage report for this application, which raised issues of concern with the Parish Council. The consultant advised that the property would be connected to the mains sewer and not to a septic tank as detailed within the planning application. Concerns regarding run off water from the proposed development and the impact of this on the Parish Hall playing fields and the wider local drainage system were discussed. Cllrs Brooker and Richmond explained that the current proposals appear to increase the flow of water to the Parish Hall playing field, which is already subject to drainage issues. The drainage consultant advised that the proposals should improve the situation and will provide a map of how the proposals will achieve this. It was noted that the land drains down to the playing fields from the direction of Stonehall Common and also from Hatfield Bank. The drainage from the application site runs across the road and into a ditch adjacent to the road in the fields rented out by the Parish Council. This ditch is currently overgrown and the consultant indicated that the applicant would clear this ditch. The water then flows under the road and into a ditch in the vicinity of the gate in the far corner of the playing fields. This ditch then flows along the perimeter of the Parish Hall grounds. Approximately half way down the length of the field, the ditch joins a manhole that takes water in from the Parish Hall playing fields and flows out into the field behind, believed to be now owned by Mr Saunders' estate. The consultant indicated that the ditch from the corner of the playing field to the manhole cover would also be improved, to hopefully improve the flow of water from the playing field. Water that the doesn't flow out across 'Mr Saunders' field, flows along the ditch behind the MUGA/tennis courts, Pre-school and Coppice Cottage to drain away across the field behind Coppice Cottage to the railway. The consultant has also indicated that the applicant would clear the ditch around the perimeter of the Parish Hall grounds in the hope that this would improve the flow of water to the railway. The consultant has advised that they have permission to dig a ditch across the field behind Coppice Cottage to improve the flow of water away from the vicinity of the Parish Hall. It was suggested that the Parish Council may consider jetting the pipes in 'Mr Saunders' field to allow water to flow away from the manhole adjacent to the playing field. It was agreed that downstream issues need to be improved, or the work to clear ditches around the Parish Hall could exacerbate the issue if the water can't get away. It was noted that the applicant is apparently offering to undertake significant ditch clearance work. The consultant has agreed to provide a report summarising discussions and proposals, with supporting maps/diagrams. It was agreed not to make comment on the planning application at this stage but to await the report from the consult to review the proposals. In an effort to start to improve drainage of the playing fields, it was agreed for Cllr. Brooker to arrange for jetting of the pipes from the manhole into 'Mr Saunders' field at a cost of up to £500. Further playing field drainage work will be considered once the impact of this work has been established. It was also agreed to investigate use of up to £500 s106 funding for this work and if unsuccessful, to fund from reserves. Proposed Cllr. Richmond, seconded Cllr. Turvey and agreed by all.

#### 14. 2016/145 South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) and Associated Matters

No further news, consultation documents have been reviewed and commented upon as required.

#### 15. 2016/146 AVL Proposals for Development of Land adjacent to Norton Road

No further news to report. A planning application has not yet been received for consultation.

#### 16. 2016/147 Worcester Parkway Station

Cllr. Fincher reported on a meeting to consider public art at the gateway entrance to the station. Representatives from Worcs CC have agreed to provide a presentation to the Parish Council regarding the Parkway plans and art work. The Clerk will investigate availability for an evening meeting during July. Changes to the public rights of way around the station were briefly discussed and the stopping order/creation of alternative footpaths, that had previously been agreed by the Parish Council, was noted.

#### 17. 2016/148 Severn Trent Water (STW) Sewerage Scheme and Associated Matters

The Clerk advised that the statutory declaration has been signed by Mrs McGovern and returned to the Council's solicitor to progress the land registration. Details of the Council's solicitor's fees relating to

the STW land transfer/contract and the land registration work have been received and have been queried.

#### 18. 2016/149 Employment Matters

- a) Assistant Clerk The Clerk advised that two good references have been received and the contract of employment has been drafted with a view to a start date w/c 13<sup>th</sup> June.
- **b) Pensions Auto-enrolment** The Clerk advised that employees have been assessed and written to accordingly. The Clerk is the only employee being auto-enrolled and this will be undertaken on or after the staging date of 1 June 2016. The Clerk is liaising with Wychavon payroll regarding the process to calculate and process contributions, which will be uploaded to the NEST website for the monthly DDR. Once appointed, the Assistant Clerk will be assessed and written to in line with requirements. The HMRC declaration of compliance is being progressed for completion.

#### 19. 2016/150 Parish Hall Recreation Facilities and Outside Space

Cllr. Hughes provided an update regarding the Wychavon promotion of smoke free play parks and following discussions it was agreed not to pursue. Playing field drainage matters as discussed under agenda item 13. It is hoped that the STW funds relating to the pumping station will be received over the next 3 months and Cllr. Fincher will revisit the car park resurfacing quotes. The situation regarding maintenance and adoption of the Talavera Road play area was briefly discussed. Cllr. Adams will seek an update from Lynn Stevens (Wychavon Parks Officer) to include clarification on who carries the risk for this site. This was considered likely to be the developers as the site is not yet adopted.

#### 20. 2016/151 Parish Hall

Cllr. Fincher provided an updated on Parish Hall matters and a successful AGM. An 80's night is planned on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, a Harvest Fun Day in September (with a potential link with school) and a Halloween and a fireworks event on 29<sup>th</sup> October. The Clerk will investigate the insurance position regarding a bonfire on the playing field so that this can be given further consideration (turf would be protected/rolled back, the main pitch would be avoided and the bonfire would be supervised). In response to a question about responsibility for the boilers in the Hall, this was confirmed as a Hall responsibility. The Hall will review needs e.g. oil/gas/electricity, taking into account the impact of the proposed coffee shop on boiler requirements. It was noted that the Hall may seek a contribution from the Parish Hall towards boiler replacement.

#### 21. 2016/152 Norton Pre-school

No further news relating to the Pre-school proposals regarding change of structure/ownership and revision of the lease. The Clerk will seek a meeting with Pre-school to ensure that arrangements with the Parish Hall e.g. electricity billing, are working well and to discuss the potential to relocate the Pre-school container in view of the car park resurfacing proposals. Cllrs Brooker, Dawson and Fincher to attend.

#### 22. 2016/153 Allotments

Cllr. Brooker provided an update and advised that one plot that has been vacated needs removal of carpet below the surface prior to being re-let. It was agreed for the Grounds Contractor, Mr Gill, to clear this and to move the concrete/debris at the back of the Hall to the skips at the allotments, at a cost of £250. Proposed by Cllr. Sparling, seconded by Cllr. Richmond and agreed by all. Complaints have been received about the impact of some bonfires and waste being brought to the allotments to be burned. Tenants will be reminded of bonfire requirements and Cllr. Brooker's contact details have been provided to a neighbouring resident, so that he can visit the site at the time should the problem re-occur. It was noted that there is no longer an allotments waiting list and this will be highlighted in the next Parish Council newsletter, with existing tenants also asked if they would be interested in further plots. STW has provided a quote for provision of a mains water supply to the garage side of the allotments, at £1,932.03 including a traffic lights fee. This would provide a connection to the edge of the road where the Council wishes the standpipe and trough to be located. The Council would be required to install pipework to the required position of a standpipe, the standpipe and trough and to provide the trench (around 2m long) for STW to inspect and connect to. It was agreed for Cllr. Brooker to ask the Grounds

Contractor, Mr Gill, to provide a quote to dig a trench and provide/install pipework, a standpipe and trough. Concern was expressed that costs relating to the allotments are increasing. It was noted that the mains water connection work is a final piece in providing an effective allotments area and efforts are being made to establish the allotments as cost neutral. Total costs for completion of the mains connection were agreed up to a cost of £2,500 to be funded from reserves. Proposed Cllr. Sparling, seconded by Cllr. Richmond and agreed by all.

#### 23. 2016/154 Public Rights of Way (PRoW)

The Clerk advised that the first cut of the PRoWs has been completed. Cllr. Turvey advised that he will contact the Worcs CC PRoW Officer to discuss any outstanding matters, including progress with a new gate for the PRoW entrance in the far corner of the Parish Hall playing field and a new sign for the Wadborough Road entrance to NJ543.

#### 24. 2016/155 Annual Parish Meeting (APM) – 10<sup>th</sup> May

Discussions at the APM were considered and Councillors were thanked for attending. Cllr. Turvey offered to write an article for the Parish Council newsletter, to explain the nature of the APM and community update meeting and to encourage attendance.

#### 25. 2016/156 382 Bus Service

Cllrs. Hughes and Sparling provided an update following a meeting with Cllr Adams and two Worcs CC Transport Managers. The 382 service is no longer subsidised and is a commercial function that can be changed/ceased if it becomes uncommercial. It is understood that advance notice is not required for a timetable time change. The potential for the 32 service to be extended to Norton Parish Hall to reintroduce an hourly service to the Parish was discussed, but it appears that the same bus isn't used for all 32 services and after completion of one 32 route, the bus may be used for another route, which appears to reduce the scope for the proposed extension. If another bus and driver were required, this could add £80k pa in costs. Cllr. Hughes advised that feedback received from local residents is that whilst they would like an hourly service reinstated, they can work around the existing service but don't want to see the service ceased. Cllr. Adams advised that it was a useful meeting with the Parish Council establishing its position and interest in future bus service provision, including that to service the Parkway Station and the impact of the SWDP. At present services have not been planned for the Parkway Station. It was agreed to write to Worcs CC and First Group to advise that the Parish Council wishes to remain engaged regarding service provision, including to the Parkway Station. Cllrs Hughes and Sparling agreed to draft a letter and to provide an update on service provision for the next Parish Council newsletter. Feedback received from a resident regarding an incident at the new bus stops at Cathedral Square was also discussed at the meeting and Cllr. Adams will follow up directly with the resident. If required in the future, alternative transport provision could be explored e.g. via Worcester Wheels.

#### 26. 2016/157 Worcester Norton Sports Club (WNSC)

No further news.

#### 27. 2016/158 Highways and Drainage Matters

<u>Parking in The Hidage</u>: Feedback regarding parking issues in The Hidage was noted and residents have been advised to contact the Police at the time of the problem using the 101 service. A notice will continue to be included in the Parish Council newsletter as a reminder to park safely and considerately. <u>Church Lane hedge maintenance</u>: No maintenance work has yet been carried out by Worcs CC and the Clerk will chase.

Watercourse adjacent to Garden Centre/Sobroan Close: The Clerk provided an update from Wychavon DC regarding the watercourse work and verge encroachment. Wychavon have met with the land owner and undertaken site visits to review the work undertaken. Wychavon are happy with the work undertaken and that this has not worsened the situation relating to the watercourse and so have closed the case. Planning enforcement are dealing with the location of the sheds and it is anticipated that this situation will also be resolved shortly. The Clerk will update the resident that reported the watercourse work and will provide a copy of the Wychavon response to Cllr. Hughes for information.

#### 28. 2016/159 Finance

It was proposed by Cllr. Turvey, seconded by Cllr. Brooker **and all were in agreement** that the accounts detailed below be approved for payment/confirmation.

#### **Accounts for Confirmation:**

Creditor	Detail	Amount £
Severn Trent Water	Fee to apply for a quote for installation of a mains water	137.88
Ltd	supply to allotments (garage side)	
New Farm Grounds	2 cuts of playing field plus one perimeter cut for April	186.60
Maintenance	(£155.50 plus VAT)	
	TOTAL	324.48

#### Accounts for Payment:

Creditor	Detail	Amount £
Shear Perfection Ltd	Churchyard mowing x 2 (£88.50) plus VAT (15/5/2016)	212.40
Mrs J. Greenway	May 2016 (Gross) including expenses paid via payroll	1,157.36
D. Fletcher	April/May – Groundsman duties (£376.00) and litter	459.25
	picking (£83.25) including holiday paid in lieu (Gross	
	incl. materials purchased and mileage)	
The Richards Sandy	50% of annual accountancy fee (£425) plus VAT	510.00
Partnership Ltd		
Blackpole Recycling	2 skips for the allotments £360 plus VAT	432.00
Ltd		
Duplikate	Summer newsletter (net of advertising income) £513, plus	709.00
	New Homes Bonus questionnaire inserts £38, Annual	
	Parish Meeting road side signs £115 and information	
	packs £43	
K. Gill	First cut of public rights of way £260 plus VAT	312.00
	TOTAL	3,792.01
	GRAND TOTAL	4,116.49

#### 29. 2016/160 Correspondence for Information

See Appendix 1 for a list of correspondence received and noted.

#### 30. 2016/161 Clerk's Report on Urgent Decisions since the Last Meeting

As discussed during the meeting.

#### 31. 2016/162 Items for Update to Local M.P.

The Clerk will invite Nigel Huddleston to the Parkway Station meeting which is being arranged with Worcs CC officers.

#### 32. 2016/163 Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agenda

It was noted that cabinet 11 in Littleworth is now superfast broadband enabled and that cabinets 4 and 5 should be enabled in early 2017. Cabinet 4 is located at the top of Hatfield Bank.

### 33. 2016/164 Date of Next Meeting:

Thursday 30th June 2016

The meeting closed at 9.55pm.

Correspondence Received for 26th May 2016 Annual Parish Council Meeting		
Sender	Subject	
Balfour Beatty	Update re M5 smart motorway works J4a to 6	
Clerk & Councils Direct	Magazine May 2016	
Community First	Elmley Grants for the Arts in Herefordshire & Worcs	
CPRE	• Invitation to talk on SWDP – 14 <sup>th</sup> June, 7pm, Throckmorton Village Hall	
	Campaign Update: unnecessary greenfield development	
	• Newsletter and annual report 2015/16, events information	
Fields in Trust	WW1 Centenary Fields Programme	
Glasdon	Street furniture/equipment product information booklet	
Hags SMP	Play area/recreation facility product brochure	
Health Watch Worcs	Engaging with rural communities	
Kompan Ltd	Sport and fitness range of equipment	
Lloyds Bank Plc	Financial Services Compensation Scheme	
Mr Waizeneker	Superfast Broadband – Cabinet 11 in Littleworth is now connected	
Mr Webber	Newsletter advertising	
Mrs Yates	Parking in Littleworth	
NJK CE First School	Letter of thanks for donation towards swimming transport costs	
Norton Parish Hall	Parish Hall Trustees AGM and meeting agendas and papers 18 May 2016	
Open Spaces Society	Deadline of 2026 to apply for unrecorded historic routes to be added to definitive maps	
Rooftop Housing	Shortage of affordable homes nationally and an invitation to meet to discuss local	
	affordable housing needs	
	• Newsletter incl. 2016/17 neighbourhood inspection programme	
Rural Services Network	Rural Opportunities Bulletin	
Soc. Local Council	The Clerk Magazine May 2016	
Clerks	• Notice of EGM 10 June 2016	
The Woodland Trust	Community Tree Packs	
West Mercia Police	• Incident reports	
	Heating oil and diesel security leaflet	
West Mercia Police &	Election of John Campion and newsletter	
Crime Commissioner	Section of Country on the Mosetter	
Worcs Assocn of Carers	Caring News magazine	
Worcs CC	• Volunteering event 9 <sup>th</sup> June, The Hive, 5-7pm	
	Worcester Parkway – Public Art Workshop 18 <sup>th</sup> May	
	• Timetable of events for The Queen's 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations 11/12 June 2016	
	Hiring the Enterprise and Learning Bus	
	• Application for public path stopping up order 2016 stopping up of footpaths NJ-523	
	(PART) and NJ-524, formerly footpath 9 and of footpath NJ-545 (PART), formerly	
	footpath 21 and creation of alternative footpath	
Wychavon DC	Hard copy and website links to the final approved SWDP	
	• Election of Cllr Mrs Frances Smith as Chairman of the Council for 2016/17, Vice-	
	Chairman Cllr Mrs Liz Eyre. Chairman's Charity St Richard's Hospice	
Wychavon DC Planning	Minutes for Planning Committee meeting 28 April	
	Agenda for Planning Committee meeting 26 May	
	Planning Approvals:	
	• W/16/0025//PP – The Cedar, Hatfield Lane, Hatfield: Erect a garden room,	
	demolish shed, erect open gazebo, build a water feature with surrounding hard	
	surface	