

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF
NORTON-JUXTA-KEMPSEY PARISH
HELD AT NORTON PARISH HALL, LITTLEWORTH ON
THURSDAY 3RD MAY 2018

1. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr. Fincher, Cllr. Richmond, Cllr. Mrs Ritter, Rev'd Badger.

Attending:

Cllr. Turvey (Parish Council Chairman), Cllr. Dawson, Cllr. Hughes, Cllr. Mrs Kelly, Cllr. Lucas, Cllr. Pollard, Cllr. Adams (District and County Councillor), Mrs Greenway (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer) and 33 parishioners.

2. Welcome and Report from Cllr. Turvey, Parish Council Chairman

Cllr. Turvey welcomed attendees and reiterated the Chairman's Report included within the Annual Parish Meeting Information Pack (which was circulated at the meeting, attached as Appendix 1).

3. Parish Information Pack

Attached as Appendix 1 and includes:

a. Minutes of the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting 3rd May 2017

Accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman, as proposed by Mr. P. Poole, seconded by Mrs. A. Poole and agreed by all.

b. Parish Reports - As detailed in Parish Information Pack attached as Appendix 1.

i. Planning (also see item 4)

ii. Allotments

iii. Bus Services

iv. Playing Fields

v. Public Rights of Way

vi. Finance Summary

vii. Norton Parish Hall

viii. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr. Lucas reminded attendees of the questionnaire circulated with the Parish Council newsletter and encouraged these to be returned. Cllr. Lucas offered his availability at the end of the meeting for discussions and any questions relating to the Neighbourhood Plan.

ix. Norton Methodist Church

x. Norton Charities

xi. Police

Cllr. Turvey welcomed questions relating to the content of the Parish Information Pack.

The Norton-juxta-Kempsey CE First School report was received after agenda item 3 but is recorded in the minutes under agenda item 7c.

4. South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP), Parkway Station, other developments within the Parish and highways/adoption matters

Cllr Turvey referred to the SWDP Review information pack circulated to attendees and provided an update on matters relating to the SWDP, Parkway Station development and related matters such as traffic calming measures and pedestrian/cycle access to the Station. In response to residents' questions/comments, concerns relating to the potential for noise from station announcements will be raised with the Parkway Station project team.

5. Report from Cllr. Rob Adams (District and County Councillor)

Cllr. Adams provided a report including updates on the Parkway Station, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites, Fire Authority changes, New Homes Bonus, budgets and funding at County and District levels, the potential for Parliamentary Constituency Boundary changes, recycling facilities

successes and concerns about the impact of work relating to improvement of the Southern Link Road and the Parkway Station on the local road network. Cllr. Adams welcomed residents' feedback.

Cllr. Adams thanked the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Councillors and the Clerk for their support, hard work and service to the community. Residents were also thanked for their support.

Cllr. Adams was thanked for his continued efforts on behalf of the Parish and for his support.

6. Future Uses for New Homes Bonus (NHB) Funding

Potential ideas for NHB funding were discussed, including a brief overview of the funding criteria and the need for community consultation. Further details relating to NHB funding will be added to the Parish Council website and Facebook page, to provide further information to residents. Suggestions for projects included Church heating improvements, better HGV highway signage, development of extra parking facilities for school, youth facilities, a new bus shelter in Littleworth and a WW1 sentry statue at Norton. In response to an enquiry about the demographics of the Parish and how this could help to shape project ideas, Cllr. Lucas provided details gathered as part of the Neighbourhood Plan project. Difficulties previously experienced in acquiring land to develop projects was highlighted, along with the need for projects to be both deliverable and sustainable. Ideas for projects for funding were welcomed.

7. Parish Reports

a. Norton Parish Hall

Mr Morgan, Hall Trustee, provided a report which included the Hall operating as a registered charity, management/operation/booking of the Hall, volunteer running the coffee shop and community events/activities. It is hoped that coffee shop opening hours will be extended and volunteers were welcomed to help to achieve this aim. Also see the Trustees' Report included within the Parish Information Pack (Appendix 1).

b. St. James the Great Church

Rev'd Mark Badger was unable to attend the meeting.

c. Norton-juxta-Kempsey CE First School

Mrs Dean, Head Teacher, provided a report reflecting the vibrancy of the school including the school community, delivery of the school's mission statement, strong Church links, the nature of the curriculum, pupil achievements and activities, recent academisation and joining of the Avonreach Academy Trust. Further information can be found by visiting the school website www.nortonfirst.worcs.sch.uk

Residents highlighted issues relating to parking at school times. Mrs Dean acknowledged the problems and provided details of measures being taken to try to alleviate these, whilst accepting that unfortunately not all drivers respond and park considerately. With the support of the Parish Council, warning/no parking signs are being purchased by school to reinforce the message and seek co-operation. School has also met with the local Police for support. School asked residents to report problems to them, at the time, so that efforts can be made to try to locate the driver and also welcomed suggestions to help to alleviate the problems.

d. Norton Community Trust (NCT)

A representative of NCT was unable to attend the meeting. Details of NCT community events are included in the Parish Council newsletter.

e. Worcester Norton Sports Club (WNSC)

A representative of WNSC was unable to attend the meeting. Worcester Norton Croquet Club highlighted National Croquet Day on 13 May and welcomed visitors to the Club for a free taster session.

f. Norton Worcestershire Regiment Group

Mrs Hodgkins provided a report explaining the background to the Group, its achievements and activities to date, and those being planned, which include a project to install a WW1 sentry statue at Norton. An outline of the project was provided, including the potential for some funding by New Homes Bonus, with a community consultation to be undertaken to

evidence the level of support for such funding. A Group website is being developed, with details and other information for the Group included in the Parish Council newsletter.

g. Norton Theatre Group

Mr. Simms provided a report on a successful 2018 panto and explained how productions have evolved, and regulations have changed, over the 31 years of performances. The January 2019 panto is being planned and details for rehearsals and volunteering will be included in the Parish Council newsletter, on the Parish noticeboards and on Facebook, or speak to Mr Simms. All were welcomed.

h. Royal British Legion – Littleworth and District Branch

A representative was unable to attend the meeting.

8. Residents Questions

In addition to questions detailed within the agenda items above, the problem of dog fouling was highlighted and discussed. A new notice will be included in the Parish Council newsletter seeking the co-operation of those dog walkers that aren't picking up after their dogs or are leaving bags of dog mess on the ground etc. In response to a particular problem highlighted around the Public Right of Way from Norton Road to the end of Brockhill Lane, a 'dog poo fairy' sign will be installed in the vicinity of the Norton Road entrance as a reminder to dog walkers.

9. Close of Meeting

The Chairman thanked all those attending and closed the meeting at 9.15pm.



May 2018

**Annual Parish Meeting
Information Pack**

Contents:

Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council

Parish Council Chairman's Report

Summary of Planning Applications Considered

Allotments Report

Bus Service Report

Playing Fields Report

Public Rights of Way Report

Financial Summary

Norton Parish Hall Report

Neighbourhood Plan Report

Norton Methodist Church

Norton Charities Report

Police Report

Draft Minutes from the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting

Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council

Parish Councillor	Main Areas of Responsibility (in addition to general Parish Council matters)
Cllr. Howard Turvey Parish Council Chairman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning matters • SWDP, Parkway Station and infrastructure matters • Public Rights of way • Neighbourhood Plan
Cllr. Kevin Fincher Parish Council Vice-Chairman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning matters • SWDP, Parkway Station and infrastructure matters • Parish Hall representative and Parish Hall Trustee • Parish Hall car park re-surfacing group
Cllr. Chris Dawson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing fields/recreation facilities • Parish Hall matters
Cllr. Maurice Hughes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport & infrastructure matters (incl. bus service)
Cllr. Mrs Dawn Kelly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Data Protection Regulation
Cllr. Doug Lucas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood Plan
Cllr. Martin Pollard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be agreed
Cllr. Peter Richmond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning matters • Playing fields/recreation facilities • Parish Hall car park re-surfacing group
Cllr. Mrs Rachel Ritter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PACT representative
Mr. Mike Reeves (co-opted member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding/drainage matters • Parish Hall car park re-surfacing group

Parish Clerk	Contact Details
Mrs Jane Greenway	18 Corunna Close Norton Worcs WR5 2PW Email: NJKparishclerk@aol.com Tel: 01905 763515

Chairman's Report for Annual Parish Meeting 2018

Firstly, welcome to the Annual Parish Meeting and Community Update. It is a legal requirement for the Parish Council to hold an Annual Parish Meeting that is open to all residents. However, we have decided, as previous years, to make this open to other Community Groups who may wish to provide an update on their activities.

Once again it has been a busy year for the Parish Council.

I would like to welcome Doug Lucas, Dawn Kelly and Martin Pollard as new members of the Parish Council. I would also like to thank all the members of the Parish Council who work well in harmony, the Clerk, Jane Greenway, and Assistant Clerk, Katy Watkinson, for their guidance and hard work, and the continued support of Councillor Rob Adams, who represents us at both District and County level.

There have been two particular items of note. Firstly, the Parish Council has campaigned with First Bus for improvements to the bus service, which as you will see from the new timetables for the 50s services has been a success. Particular thanks to Maurice Hughes.

Another major concern has been the dangers facing pedestrians and cyclists trying to cross the A4440 at the Norton roundabout since the road was dualled. The medium term solution will be the construction of a pedestrian and cycle-bridge between the Norton and Ketch roundabouts as specified in the SWDP, but we felt that an interim solution is required as that is likely to be some months away. We approached the County Council and were pleased that temporary traffic lights have been installed. There is also a plan for a bridge (known as the Bridleway Bridge) between the Norton and Whittington roundabouts that will be accessed from Brockhill Lane. For technical reasons this cannot be built until the railway bridge has been completed, which is currently under construction.

The Parish Council is planning two major capital items in the coming year, firstly improved surfacing for the Parish Hall car park area, and refurbishment of the War Memorial near St James' Church. You may have noticed that we have had to implement a higher than normal increase in our proportion of the Council Tax to help fund these items.

The Planning Applications for the three developers of the South Worcester Urban Extension have been approved. However, the s106 agreements that define the responsibility of the developers to build or contribute towards infrastructure costs have yet to be finalised so no significant development in the area is likely for a few months, until these are agreed. The Parish Council continues to lobby hard regarding the concerns about parking on Church Lane, and Woodbury Lane and Church Lane being used as a 'rat run' or cut through for traffic. We have made some progress in our discussions with the County Council regarding access to the Parkway Station and have stressed that we would like to see this completed before the Parkway station opens. As reported last year, we received 271 responses to our questionnaire on this topic, and an overwhelming majority of 75% favoured option C: traffic light control and alternate single way working over the railway bridge, so this is the option we are campaigning for.

Finally, the community is all about the people that live here. We hope that more people will become involved in the Parish (Parish Council, Parish Hall Trustees, Youth Club, Norton Community Trust etc...) and new faces are always welcome. If you have an opinion about something happening in the Parish that you would like to share, whether it's supportive, critical, or an item you think we have overlooked, then please get in touch.

Howard Turvey
Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council Chairman

**Summary of Planning Applications Considered by
Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council**

Since the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting:

- 21 submissions have been considered from Wychavon District Council, Malvern Hills District Council, Worcester City Council and Worcestershire County Council.
- 3 applications were not supported by the Parish Council.
- 15 applications which were approved by the Planning Authority and one was refused.
- 2 applications were withdrawn by the applicant.
- 3 applications are awaiting a decision.

Mrs Jane Greenway
Clerk to the Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council

Allotments Report

Despite the recent cold and wet weather we have had, the allotments are looking in good shape. Many thanks for keeping them tidy and well maintained, fingers crossed for some nicer weather.

Over the last year plots have been given up and as a result these were not being maintained, we are pleased that these plots have now been rented and we would like to welcome our new plot holders - we hope you enjoy the allotments.

We currently have 50 allotment plots, 48 of which have been rented out. There is currently a waiting list for plots, so we anticipate the final 2 plots to be taken on shortly.

If you are if you are interested in taking on an allotment, please contact Katy at njkassistantclerk@gmail.com who will add you to the waiting list.

If you have any issues or comments regarding the allotments, please contact Maurice Hughes on mightymo44@googlemail.com or Katy Watkinson on njkassistantclerk@gmail.com.

We wish you all the best for a fruitful and productive growing season.

Katy Watkinson
Assistant Clerk to Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council

The 50's Bus Services

New Services

As part of the Vale Passenger Transport Group (VPTG), which actively works to improve both bus and train services to villages and towns in the Vale of Evesham, including our parish, I pressed for further improvements to our 382 bus service.

At this time last year, when we had very few off-peak weekday buses, I was able to report that we had successfully negotiated an extra shopping bus each Wednesday and Friday. This improvement was very small and fell short of what we had hoped for. It was however, a significant step forward as it gave us the opportunity to convince First Midland Red Buses (FMR) that if we had extra buses they would be used. They were used, and FMR were pleased with passenger numbers which were on target. Thanks to all parishioners who used these buses.

VPTG wanted improvements for all areas of the Vale of Evesham, which I supported, but my overriding concern was to better the existing service for our parish. As always FMR were willing to negotiate with us and the outcome was that our 382 service was ended, being replaced by a number of buses journeying from Worcester to Pershore and Evesham, collectively known as "The 50's". Buses numbered 52, 53 and 54 provide an hourly off-peak service through our villages. Number 52 is a two-hourly service to Evesham via Drakes Broughton, Pinvin and Pershore; number 53 a two-hourly service to Pershore and Eckington also via Drakes Broughton and Pinvin, and number 54 a service between Worcester and Pershore, largely following the route of the former 382. Peak time buses have slightly revised timetables, but mainly remain as before. It was unfortunate that the revised scheduling caused us to lose our 6.00pm bus from Worcester, the latest then being 5.20pm. Following talks with FMR, the company agreed to re-instate the 6.00pm bus during weekdays, but only as far as Littleworth, where it now turns in the Parish Hall grounds at 6.26pm before returning to Worcester. A 6.00pm bus on Saturdays is being discussed. Buses use the concreted area for turning, so to ensure the safety of Parish Hall users and bus passengers, parking restrictions and speed limit signs have been erected. If you visit the Hall by car, please do not park your vehicle on, or allow it to overhang the concrete.

Bus Stops

I asked for a meeting with County Councillor Rob Adams, FMR, and Worcestershire County Council, and together we looked at all potential bus stops in our parish. The outcome is that buses will stop in both directions at Norton bus shelters, The Barracks (signs soon to be erected), SMH Vehicle Depot, Norton St. James' Parish Church, The Retreat, Littleworth School bus shelter, The Hidage and the Parish Hall. Exact locations of the stops at St. James' Church, The Hidage and Parish Hall were given in the Spring edition of our Parish Newsletter. Some bus stops have bus stop signs (flagged), but not all, so please note that every bus stop, including flagged stops is a "Request Stop". If you want to board a bus you must indicate this to the approaching bus driver.

The 50's Early Days

I said in my report to the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting, and on many occasions since, that buses will be lost if we do not meet passenger number targets. Early indications for the first three months of the 50's is good. I will try to have more up to date figures at this meeting.

There are invariably minor alterations needed to be made to new scheduling, and so it has been with the 50's. Revised timetables have been printed which include all 50's services, and copies are available this evening at the back of the Coffee Shop. Please pick up a copy on your way out.

Subsidies from Government have over several years been lost or reduced, putting at risk the continuation of many public services, including our buses, so it is important that they are used. FMR are a trading company and will only operate a bus service if it is profitable. Unlike the former Wednesday/Friday shopping buses which was a stand-alone service competing with the 32 St. Peters buses for passengers, the 52, 53 and 54 routes are part of the scheme for the whole of the Vale of Evesham, which I hope will make the service more secure. Each month the company looks at overall passenger numbers, but also usage over sections of bus routes, so it is important to board buses at one of the bus stops in our villages. I make no apologies for repeating what I say in all my reports, which is "Use it or Lose it".

Requests have been received for a late bus on Saturday night from Worcester. Talks are ongoing for a 11.00pm bus from the City via. St. Peters, Norton, Littleworth and Drakes Broughton to Pershore.

Damage

The Parish Council was concerned that the bus shelter at Norton (Pershore direction) was being defaced with graffiti, and roof tiles were damaged. Repairs have been carried out, the cost of which has been met out of Parish Council funds, which are primarily funded by residents' Council Tax. The vandalism has been reported to the Police, with extra patrols of the area being undertaken, and other initiatives are also underway to discourage and monitor any such further damage.

Further updates and bus information generally can be found in bus shelters, on Parish Council notice boards, and on the Parish Council Facebook page, which can be accessed at www.facebook.com/NJKParishcouncil

Maurice Hughes
Parish Councillor

Parish Hall Playing Field/Recreation Facilities

Trim trail funding bids were unfortunately not successful and options for this proposal are being reviewed.

Work to improve the drainage of the playing field is planned during the summer/early autumn of 2018, which should improve the playing field ground condition and it is hoped will allow for more use of the field during the wetter/winter months.

The play area, multi-use games area (MUGA) and tennis court continue to be well used and enjoyed by the local community, with the coffee shop at the Parish Hall providing welcome refreshments to those using the Hall outside space.

If you have any ideas for other community use facilities for the Hall outside space, please let us know.

Sadly, dog fouling and dogs being allowed off their leads at the Parish Hall remains a problem and we are very grateful to those dog owners who keep their dogs on leads and pick up after their dogs.

Please can we remind all dog walkers that:

1. Dogs must be kept on leads at all times in the Parish Hall grounds.
2. Dogs are not permitted in the play area, tennis court or multi-use games area.
3. All dog mess must be picked up and disposed of in the bin provided.

Unfortunately, litter is becoming a problem around the Hall grounds. To keep the area tidy, we would be grateful if all rubbish could be disposed of in the bins around the Parish Hall site.

Thank you for your support and we hope that you continue to enjoy the outside space at the Parish Hall.

Mrs Jane Greenway
Clerk to the Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council

Public Rights of Way Report

There are two main aspects to the Parish Councils activities on the Public Rights of Way:

- Maintenance
- Improvements

With regards to the first, we work closely with the Worcestershire County Council Countryside Department to rectify any faults to the furniture e.g. stiles, gates, bridges. We also cut back vegetation that may be impacting effective use, both on the ground and adjacent trees and bushes. We also undertake way-marking to ensure the route is clear and monitor the road side finger posts that indicate the existence of a Public Right of Way.

In respect of the second we look for opportunities to make access improvements, for example changing stiles for gates. There have been a number of new gates installed over the last year and we are seeking further opportunities where we can obtain the landowners agreement.

Howard Turvey
Parish Path Warden

Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council

Financial Report - Year to 28th February 2018 (11 months)

	Year to Date Actual	Annual Budget
<u>INCOME</u>		
Precept	44,273	44,273
Allotment, Ground & Garage Rental	2,241	2,400
Sports & Other Field Lettings	160	0
Investment Income & Bank Interest	32	20
Grants	1,767	1,767
Tax Rebates	4,243	0
Lengthsman Reimbursement from Worcs CC	1,575	2,110
Pre-school Rent	2,093	2,283
Other Income	25,867	75,000
Neighbourhood Plan Funding	0	15,000
Transfers from Parish Council Reserves	1,500	21,500
TOTAL INCOME	83,750	164,353
<u>EXPENDITURE (NET OF VAT)</u>		
<u>Capital Items</u>	3,190	88,000
<u>Parish Maintenance</u>	15,013	24,924
<u>Administration</u>		
Donations, Grants & Events Support	14,934	7,750
Newsletter	1,295	2,250
Audit/professional/legal fees	1,945	2,260
Neighbourhood Plan	0	15,000
Election Costs	0	0
Parish Officers Honoraria (Clerk, Asst. Clerk, RFO etc)	14,142	17,034
PAYE tax and NI paid to all employees	1,711	900
Pension Contribution to NEST	142	135
General Administration	913	1,500
Insurance	2,665	2,800
Subscriptions	1,061	1,200
Training for Members & Clerk	0	200
Councillor Expenses	0	100
Vandalism Costs	0	200
Chairman's Allowance	0	100
Reimbursement of training room fees collected	0	0
<u>Total Administration and Other</u>	38,809	51,429
TOTAL EXPENSES	57,011	164,353
VAT paid on expenses - recoverable	2,269	
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	26,739	0

Parish Hall Trustees – Chairman’s Report APM 2018

The Parish Hall is in its 40th year and a number of events have been held to celebrate the fact and to bring in much needed funds to enable it to continue serving community for years to come. The Halloween and Fireworks event in November 2017 drew record crowds, and though the Community Carol Concert in December 2017 had to be cancelled due to weather, in January Norton Theatre Group’s 31st production ‘Camelot – the panto’ played to full houses for the Friday and Saturday performances, and was hailed a great success. In 2018 small, turn-up and take part pub-quizzes have been held in the Coffee Shop on a Friday night, supplemented by a Big Quiz in the main hall in March with over twenty teams, all of which were well attended and much enjoyed. Looking forward, (still a week away as I’m writing this), we have the Barn Dance on 28 April, a further pub-quiz on 4 May, Wine-tasting on 18 May and the Solstice Music Festival on 23 June. The annual Halloween and Fireworks event is scheduled for Saturday 27 October and is intended to be bigger and better than the 2017 event.

While the Coffee Shop itself is fully operational and is fulfilling its promise of becoming a community hub, we are keen to keep developing it. The attached kitchen is now moving towards completion, and already we are offering toasted tea-cakes and the like at peak times. Once the kitchen is fully operational we will re-assess the requirement with the potential to offer a variety of food if the demand is there, or alternatively offer it for hire as part of a Wedding Venue or similar package. The possibilities are numerous, but we first need to get it operational and correctly certified, all of which is being actively pursued.

Other initiatives include the pursuance of a ‘green agenda’. We have recently moved from oil-fired to LPG heating, begun recycling in earnest and have been surveyed for Energy Efficiency, the most immediate result of which will be a move from fluorescent strip to LED lighting. In concert with the Parish Council we are also pursuing the re-surfacing of the car park and the creation of a woodland walk and picnic area on the playing fields, both of which complement what we are trying to achieve with the Hall generally.

The Coffee Shop would not be the success it currently is without our volunteers. Opening to a regular timetable, we have an eclectic mix of people from Duke of Edinburgh Award and Work Experience students, to retirees with a surplus of energy and a strong community spirit. Recently recognised in their nomination for the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Community Award, the certificate proudly hanging in the Coffee Shop, and it is hoped that we can encourage still more people to become part of the team.

The body of Trustees is an equally eclectic mix, playing to individual strengths, with no such thing as a stupid idea or suggestion, and on that basis we welcome anyone who shares a passion for the community to become a Trustee. Focussed on delivering our mission statement, ‘To manage the Parish Hall and its facilities to maximise its benefit for the community’, the intent is for ‘bigger and better’, while maintaining the Parish Hall for future generations.

The Parish Hall is a charity and any surplus made is ploughed straight back into the maintenance of the building or future events for the benefit and enjoyment of the community. If you wish to become involved in some way please contact Claire, the Hall Manager, on 07714673915, or pop into the Coffee Shop, leave your details and one of us will be in touch.

Here's to the Parish Hall and further 40 years of it serving the community it sits in.

Kevin Fincher
Chairman, Parish Hall Trustees

Norton-juxta-Kempsey Neighbourhood Plan

Although a little delayed the questionnaire was compiled and distributed to all 1100 households in the Neighbourhood (Parish) using the Spring 2018 Parish Newsletter as the vehicle. In order to maximise the returns a prepaid envelope was provided. My thanks to the small group of volunteers, who gave up their time to put together the questionnaire.

To date 200 + questionnaires have been completed and returned via free post representing 20% of the total distributed. A little disappointing as we expected a return around 40 %. However, we are advised that the returns that we have experienced sit well within the average experienced by other Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaires.

We accept that filling in a questionnaire is low on the priority list of many residents, for many reasons but would ask that time be put aside to complete and return via the free post envelope. It is not too late!

Analysis of the returned questionnaires is taking place and the results and comments will help us fine tune the way on which we move forward. It is planned that the next stage will be a number of public meetings allowing us to present the finding of your comments and feelings identified from the answers and discuss in more detail the challenges that our community is facing.

Outline planning permission for the South Worcestershire Development Plan has been in put in place and the Worcestershire Parkway Station is due to be opened late 2018 early 2019.

We can expect planning applications to be submitted for domestic and commercial development between Junction 7 of the M5 along the B4084 corridor to the new Parkway Station. It is essential that a Neighbourhood Plan is put in place registering the views of those that reside in the Neighbourhood prevent the actions of speculative builders.

It is important that you complete and return the questionnaire as your views and comments will help us reinforce the feelings and views of those who have already completed and returned the questionnaire.

If you require additional copies please contact me – Doug Lucas, Winnells Farm, Church Lane Norton Worcester WR5 2PS - 01905 820495 or Mobile 07562 346735.

Doug Lucas
Parish Councillor

Norton Methodist Chapel

We meet for worship every Sunday morning at the Chapel in Wadborough Road, Littleworth at 10.00am. We have preachers and worship leaders from the SW Worcestershire Methodist Circuit, and members of the congregation who come from Worcester and other local villages. On the first Sunday of every month worship is informal, locally led and includes, for example, a meal or a craft or prayer and praise. We support a number of charitable causes through the year, local, Methodist and international. All are welcome to any services.

We continue to have a link with Norton Hall Nursing Home, including midweek communion services and an occasional Sunday service.

The Methodist Church is working with St James Parish Church, including holding some services together, and reaching out into the community to share the life we experience as Christians.

Rev Helen Caine
Norton Methodist Chapel

Norton Charities Report

Charities within the parish of Norton-juxta-Kempsey are regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners 28th July 1882.

The Charities originally received donations from;

- Thomas Knight in 1652 who left £100 for the poor of the parish.
- Elizabeth Stevens in 1668 who also left £100 for the poor of the parish.
- Parish Lands (1568) income from rent to be made available for the relief of poor, furnishing soldiers, amending the highway and other such works in the parish.
- James Alexander Walker (1880) to provide beef to the poor.
- In 1898 by way of order of the Charity Commission from the total income £6 a year was made available towards church expenses and any income left to provide bread and coal to the needy.

In 1905 an order was made that the interest from £600 being held within the above charities be used for educational purposes. This is now called the Educational Foundation Charity. In 1963, 268 shares were purchased with the balance of the charity and it is the interest from these shares which produces the income today. Main objective to help towards Educational needs for the children of the parish. Each year a Bible is purchased for the leavers of Norton-juxta-Kempsey First School.

In 1922 parish lands were sold and the proceeds to remain in the charity.

In 1972 the Knight, Stevens, Parish lands, and Walker charity were modernized to make a more effective way to use funds and is now called the Norton-Juxta-Kempsey relief –in-need charity. 454 shares were purchased and the interest from these is income. The scheme was approved in 1973 and could benefit anyone who lives in the parish and is in conditions of need, hardship or distress either in gifts in kind or grants of money. A yearly sum is given to the Church.

Both charities are managed by six Trustees:

- One Ex-Officio Trustee - Vicar of parish
- Three nominative Trustees - Appointed by the parish council of Norton-juxta-Kempsey, although they do not need to be a parish councillor
- Two Co-opted Trustees - shall be persons who through residence, occupation or employment, or otherwise have special knowledge of the parish of Norton-juxta-Kempsey.
- If a vacancy occurs any competent person may be appointed as a Trustee.

Yearly accounts are examined and are available for anyone to see.

If you have any ideas or know of anyone who could benefit from funds from either of the charities, please contact me.

Christine McGovern

Secretary/Treasurer/Trustee, Norton Charities

Tel: 01905 820459 Email: mcgovern260@btinternet.com

Annual Police Report 2017-18

The last 12 months has continued to be busy throughout our ever increasing local policing area which extends from Whittington, Upton Snodsbury and Dormston in the north to Bredon and Beckford in the south. With targeted patrols, attendance at village surgeries and numerous parish events, messaging via Twitter and the Community Messaging Service (CMS) the team have continued to be actively involved in the community. The whole team remain committed to tackling all levels of crime throughout the area including rural crime and poaching and providing security advice and support to victims and vulnerable residents.

This report is based using the recorded crime figures between 14/04/2017 and 14/04/2018 the comparison is relating to the corresponding dates in 2016/17.

Overall the police recorded 233 incidents that were reported by members of the public this is compared to 263 incidents reported the previous year.

Of the 233 incidents, the Parish had 85 recordable crimes (incidents where a specific offence has occurred) this was in comparison to 88 recordable crimes the previous year.

The breakdown of offences is as follows:

	2017/18	2016/17
Burglary Dwellings	4	6
Burglary other (sheds)	0	3
Burglary business	1	0
Theft of vehicle	2	1
Theft from vehicle	1	5
Vehicle crime	0	1
Arson	0	1
Theft other	8	8
Criminal Damage	9	10
Shoplifting	3	1
Deception/fraud	1	1
Road related offence	1	1
Environmental	0	1
Other Offences	55	49

(Includes mostly domestic related incidents/concerns for safety)

Overall the figures show a steady but low crime rate for the past few years. This year has seen a reduction in burglaries in Norton. We have continued with increased patrols in the area and have issued security advice to residents which we are hoping has had some effect on these numbers.

The number of 'other' crimes has increased on all areas. This could be put down to increased social and economic pressures.

The figures clearly present the picture that Norton and the surrounding area is still a safe place to both live and work, however we all have a responsibility to ensure we maintain this.

On behalf of the team and myself I should like to offer my thanks to the Parish Council for all its help over the last 12 months. I would also like to say thank you to the Parish as a whole for its

continued support of the local policing team and for the numerous calls we have received relating to suspicious activity, all we ask is that you continue to do this.

Pershore Rural North and South Local Policing Team

Non-emergency phone number: 101

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF
NORTON-JUXTA-KEMPSEY PARISH
HELD AT NORTON PARISH HALL, LITTLEWORTH ON
WEDNESDAY 3RD MAY 2017**

10. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr. Dawson, Cllr. Richmond, Mrs Way-Vautier and Mr Reeves.

Attending:

Cllr. Turvey (Parish Council Chairman), Cllr. Brooker, Cllr. Fincher, Cllr. Hughes, Cllr. Mrs Ritter, Cllr. Sparling, Cllr. Adams (District and County Councillor), Mrs Greenway (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer) and 38 parishioners.

11. Welcome and Report from Cllr. Turvey, Parish Council Chairman

Cllr. Turvey welcomed attendees and reiterated the Chairman's Report included within the Annual Parish Meeting Information Pack (which was circulated at the meeting, attached as Appendix 1).

12. Parish Information Pack

Attached as Appendix 1 and includes:

a. Minutes of the 2016 Annual Parish Meeting 10th May 2016

Accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman, as proposed by Mr. P. Poole, seconded by Mr C. Arrow and agreed by all.

b. Parish Reports - As detailed in Parish Information Pack attached as Appendix 1.

- i. Planning** (also see item 4)
- ii. Allotments**
- iii. Bus Services**
- iv. Playing Fields**
- v. Public Rights of Way**
- vi. Finance Summary**
- vii. Norton Parish Hall**
- viii. Neighbourhood Plan**
- ix. Norton Methodist Church**
- x. Norton Charities**
- xi. Police**

Cllr. Turvey welcomed questions relating to the content of the Parish Information Pack.

13. South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP), Parkway Station, other developments within the Parish and highways/adoption matters

Cllrs Fincher and Turvey provided reports relating to the SWDP, Parkway Station development and related matters such as traffic calming measures and pedestrian/cycle access to the Station. In response to residents' questions/comments, further discussions took place regarding Station parking facilities, Church Lane speeding, access to the Parkway Station and traffic calming measures. The Parish Council continues to provide input to these development projects to seek the best outcome for its residents.

Following a request for the Church Lane speed limit to be increased from the existing 30mph limit, a vote was taken which found 2 attendees in favour of increasing the limit. On the basis that the majority of attendees were not in favour of an increased speed limit, the matter will not be pursued.

Cllrs Fincher and Turvey agreed to meet with Mr Smith to discuss speeding and parking in the vicinity of Smiths Livery Yard, Church Lane, Norton.

14. Police Report

As detailed within the Parish Information Pack.

15. Report from Cllr. Rob Adams (District and County Councillor)

Cllr. Adams provided a report including re-opening of Abbotswood Bridge, issues shared across many Parishes and updates regarding operations at both Worcs CC and Wychavon DC, with the value of residents' feedback highlighted.

Cllr. Adams thanked the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Councillors and the Clerk for their support, hard work and service to the community.

Cllr. Adams was thanked for his continued efforts on behalf of the Parish and for his support.

16. Development of Parish Hall Facilities

As detailed within the Parish Information Pack (Appendix 1).

17. Future Uses for New Homes Bonus (NHB) Funding

Details of previous projects funded by NHB were noted including the recent development of the coffee shop and community hub at the Parish Hall. Ideas for projects for future NHB funding at the Parish Hall site included development of a community garden, development of a swamp garden and picnic area, installation of a Trim Trail and resurfacing the Parish Hall car park. Volunteers were welcomed to assist with progressing these projects, as were ideas for other projects across the Parish which may be eligible for NHB funding.

18. Parish Reports

a. Norton Methodist Church

As detailed within the Parish Information Pack (Appendix 1).

b. St. James the Great Church

Rev'd Mark Badger provided a report including Church activities, community facilities and working together for the benefit of the community.

c. Norton Parish Hall

As detailed within the Parish Information Pack (Appendix 1).

d. Norton Community Trust (NCT)

Details of NCT community events will be included in the Parish newsletter.

e. Worcester Norton Sports Club (WNSC)

An update was read out from Mr. Goode, Chair of WNSC, regarding developments at WNSC. A formal consultation will take place in due course.

f. Norton WW1 Group

Mr Lucas provided a report on the Group's activities and future plans. The Group was thanked for its hard work promoting the long association between the Worcestershire Regiment and the Parish, which has been reflected in the Group winning a Wychavon Community Groups Award.

g. Norton Theatre Group

Mr. Simms provided a report on a successful 2017 panto and thanked the Parish Council, the Parish Hall and all those who supported the event. The January 2018 panto is being planned and details for rehearsals and volunteers will be included in the Parish Council newsletter, on the Parish notice boards, on Facebook, or speak to Mr Simms. Mr Simms and the Norton Theatre Group were thanked for their continued work to deliver this long standing and very successful community event.

19. Residents Questions

Questions related to the following topics:

- i.** Camera at the junction of Norton Road/Taylor's Lane – The Parish Council will make enquiries relating to the camera's function.
- ii.** Remedial work/maintenance to the Talavera Road play area – The play area is still under the ownership of the developers, pending adoption by Wychavon DC. The Parish Council has

highlighted safety concerns regarding the play area to the developers and to Wychavon DC and is pressing for the work to be completed.

- iii. Bus service provision – The need to use the bus service is critical to its survival. Based on data from First, passenger numbers for the two new additional services are not covering the cost of the services (although at the meeting, passengers questioned these numbers). A meeting is being arranged between the Parish Council and First to discuss ideas to develop the 382 service and to make this more cost effective. It was noted that Worcs CC no longer subsidises this bus service. Development of the Parkway Station may provide an opportunity for better bus service provision to the Parish and the Parish Council will provide input to bus route planning relating to the Station.
- iv. The Norton/St Peters A4440 temporary crossing point – Safety concerns were noted and these have been reported to Worcs CC. Disappointment was expressed at the lengthy delay before the proposed A4440 bridges will be in place (due 2019). The Parish Council and Cllr. Adams will continue to press for early completion of the bridges and for safe crossing measures in the interim period.

20. Close of Meeting

The Chairman thanked all those attending and closed the meeting at 9.25pm.