MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTON-JUXTA-KEMPSEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THE 26TH MARCH 2009 AT NORTON PARISH HALL, LITTLEWORTH

Public question time discussions are included as Appendix 2.

1. Apologies for Absence – L. Wallbank, R. Phillips, Cllr. Adams (late arrival).

Attending – H. Turvey (Chair), Mrs. C. McGovern, A. Bennett, Mrs. D. Hewison, D. Lucas, M. Reeves, P. Richmond, G. Dyer, K. Fincher, Cllr. R. Adams (District & County Councillor), Mrs. J. Greenway (Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer).

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Lucas declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 8, SWJCS, due to land ownership within the newly defined and published development area. Cllr. Mrs. McGovern declared a personal interest in agenda item 22b) in view of her employment by the School.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 26th February 2009

It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Hewison, seconded by Cllr. Bennett **and all were in agreement** that the minutes of the 26th February be approved.

4. 2009/57 Reports

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

Cllr. Adams provided a brief report after agenda item 25. He advised that Whittington Parish Council has requested that its share of the £500 District Councillor budget allocation be given to Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council as a contribution towards the cost of the Parish Plan. Cllr. Adams advised that a £500 cheque should be received shortly. Once this has been received the Clerk will write to thank Whittington Parish Council.

Cllr. Adams reported upon information conveyed at the Pershore Forum earlier that evening regarding the Parkway Station proposal. It appears that feasibility evidence is being gathered, with a report due out at the end of April. Cllr. Adams will make further enquiries to establish an up to date position. Cllr. Adams and Parish Councillors expressed disappointment that despite being involved in previous meetings with Worcs CC regarding this proposal and requesting to be kept up to date with developments, no information has been forthcoming. In the wider planning arena, the project had been considered to be on hold at present.

b) Planning Committee

i) Cllr. Richmond and the Cler Approvals	rk summarised the current applications:
23 Keren Drive, Norton Ref: W/09/00037	Raise roof line by 5 degrees (600mm) and convert space into residential use. Parish supports.
SMH Fleet Solutions, Church Lane. Ref: W/08/0281	Proposed workshop. Parish does not support. 5
Stoulton Manor, Mucknell Farm Lane, Stoulton. Ref: W/08/03285	Demolition of existing farm house, change of use of site to a new monastery, construction of a new community building, conversion of existing barns to ancillary and guest accommodation, construction of a new oratory within the courtyard. Construction of outbuildings for biomass boiler and associated landscape works. Parish supports subject to modifications to entrance of existing access road or alternatively a new access being created.

Refusals - None

<u>Awaiting Decision</u> Norton Hall Nursing Home Ref: W/07/00182	Two storey and single storey extensions to provide additional bedrooms, new dining room and lounge. New access & drive and new sewage treatment plant. Parish supports with concerns noted. To Development Control Committee.
Woodside, Hatfield Lane	Demolition of bungalow and redevelopment of three no.
Ref: W/09/00042	dwellings. Parish does not support.
Hatfield Mount, Hatfield Lane	Single storey extension, including link to existing building.
Ref: W/09/00532	Parish supports.
<u>Internal Consultation</u> Land adj. to long Meadow and West View, Hatfield Ref: W/09/00488	Erection of 2 no. dwellings.

Other - None

Concern was expressed that Hatfield is being seen as a development area. The capacity of the mains sewerage system was queried as this may be reaching full capacity. It was noted that flooding in the area of St. James Close near to the pumping station has been contaminated with effluent in the past.

c) Allotments Committee

Cllr. Mrs. McGovern advised that most plots are looking good and she will continue to monitor this. Appreciation has been expressed by the new tenants regarding the ground preparation of one of the recently split plots.

d) Playing Fields Committee

The Clerk advised that the field is being used again by the adult football team and that the ground condition has improved. The Clerk advised that a request has been received for the reserve team for the existing adult team to be allowed to also play at the Parish Hall on the same dates. Home games are planned for the drier months i.e. September to November and March. After discussions, including other previous enquiries made, it was agreed that whilst use of the facilities should be maximised, the drainage issues need to be overcome. The Clerk will advise the existing team that the Parish Council is seeking advice and more knowledge to see what can be done regarding the drainage and will let them know as soon as possible. The Clerk will liaise with Mr. Dyer. The Clerk is making enquiries relating to the pitch modifications suggested at the February meeting.

e) Footpaths Committee

Cllr. Turvey provided an update on progress under the PIP (Parish Improvement Plan) and advised that outstanding work will be chased. A P3 application has been submitted for 2009/10 which it is hoped Worcs CC will approve. This includes grass cutting, some path clearance work and footpath entrance maintenance.

f) Finance

(i) The current account balance was $\pounds 9,194.81$ on 13^{th} March with the deposit account balance at $\pounds 28,608.42$ on 3^{rd} March, plus Treasury Stock of c. $\pounds 15k$.

(ii) The Clerk reported on the accounts circulated with the agenda and again highlighted items that will require some funding from reserves such as the cost of repairs to the play area safety surface (health & safety issues), legal fees associated with registration of Parish Council land ownership and flood alleviation work at the allotments. The Clerk also commented on the tight budget for the

forthcoming year and the need to manage expenditure.

g) Parish Hall Management Committee

The Treasurer's Report to 2nd March was noted. Following discussion, Cllr. Lucas advised that it is understood that a projection is being made for the current financial year and that a budget is being drawn up for next year to include maintenance items. Cllr. Mrs. McGovern confirmed that a rolling maintenance programme is being considered. The Clerk provided background to the management fee that used to be paid by the Hall Management Committee to the Parish Council. In response to a query, Cllr. Lucas will request a breakdown of the wages figure.

h) West Mercia Police

WPC Storr/CSO Fogwill were unable to attend and there was no report. The Clerk advised that the camera has been installed in Crookbarrow Road.

i) Brockhill Recreation Area

Cllr. Reeves advised that at a recent meeting the Cricket Club Committee decided that it no longer wishes the play area to be located near to the cricket pitch as it has safety concerns. The proposal will be raised with the main committee on 5th April. After discussion it was agreed to await the response following this meeting to see if an alternative site is offered. Other sites where suggested and briefly discussed. In view of the ideal position of the land along Crookbarrow Road, adjacent to the garden centre, it was agreed that the Clerk will write a broad enquiry letter to the developers asking if there is any possibility of use of a piece of this land for a recreation area.

j) Parish Plan

Cllr. Turvey referred to the Community Spirit survey responses circulated to all members and summarised that generally there is seen to be a community spirit although this is perceived to have reduced over the last 5 years and suggestions have been made to improve this. The responses can be reviewed in more detail at a future meeting if required. The summary of responses has also been provided to the Hall Management Committee to consider future events. A litter pick day has been suggested which was considered a good idea if someone can be found to co-ordinate this. The insurance position would need to be clarified. The formation of a volunteer group within the Parish was agreed as a good idea, volunteers will be sought at the Parish event on Sunday 26th April, the Annual Parish Meeting on 9th April and a notice will be placed in the next newsletter. Cllr. Lucas will also raise a litter pick with the EnviroSort Liaison Group.

The 26th April Parish event planning is progressing well and it should be an interesting afternoon with the opportunity to both gather and provide information about the Parish and the SWJCS.

5. 2009/58 Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Complaints Procedure & Scheme of Delegation

It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Hewison, seconded by Cllr. Reeves and all agreed that the existing above documents be readopted.

6. 2009/59 Annual Risk Assessment and Review of Fixed Asset Register

Following review, it was proposed by Cllr. Reeves, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Hewison and agreed by all that the annual risk assessment and Fixed Asset Register should be approved.

7. 2009/60 EnviroSort

a) Cllr. Lucas referred to the discussions within public question time (attached as Appendix 2). He added that dates for site visits have been raised with Severn Waste and this will be followed up at the next Liaison Group meeting in April.

b) Cllr. Lucas provided a brief summary of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Herefordshire &Worcestershire. Concern was expressed regarding comments relating to the possibility that EnviroSort could seek expansion to the commercial sector. Thermal treatment

plants were commented upon and the nature of such Energy for Waste (EfW) facilities which include incineration of waste. This type of facility appears to be the preferred option in the Strategy document. There was concern about the proposed location of the EfW plant referred to in this report in view of the comment that it is close to Worcester and within the M5 corridor. This could place it in the proximity of the Parish which would not be desirable, and certainly members feel strongly that Woodbury Lane would not be a suitable location for such a facility. Further enquiries will be made to establish the location of site A referred to in the document.

Cllr. Lucas advised the Parish Council that as a private individual and a member of the public he is planning to send an email to Worcestershire County Councillors and Jack Hegarty (Managing Director of Wychavon DC) expressing his concerns regarding this Strategy. The Parish Council supported Cllr. Lucas' right to submit a personal response as a member of the public.

8. 2009/61 West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)/South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy (SWJCS)

Cllr. Lucas left the meeting in view of his prejudicial interest.

a) The letter circulated to all members of the Parish Council has been sent to Fred Davies which summarised the discussions at the meeting on 3rd March. Fred Davies has offered to hold a further meeting with the Parish Council SWJCS Working Group and dates are being investigated. Enquiries will be made regarding the requirements of a Parish Council Housing Needs Policy.
b) The letter circulated to all members of the Parish Council has been sent to Cllr. Middlebrough, Leader of Wychavon DC, in reply to the response from Wychavon DC to the question put to the full Council meeting of 24th February. No response has yet been received. Mr. Dyer is making enquiries regarding Peter Luff's surgery dates with a view to representatives from the Parish Council potentially attending.

c) It was agreed that petition signatures and questionnaire responses will be collected from the whole Parish. A meeting will be held ideally during the w/c 30th March to brief volunteer signature collectors. Cllr. Turvey, Cllr. Bennett, Mr. Dyer and Mr. Fincher offered their services and additional volunteers will be sought. The Clerk will liaise with Mr. Fincher. Signatures will be collected up until 21st April to provide time for the petition and responses to the questionnaire circulated with the newsletter to be collated. Cllr. Turvey, Mr. Dyer and Mr. Fincher plan to attend the Wychavon DC full Council meeting on 28th April to present the petition. Mr. Dyer will provide a template for collection of petition signatures which the Clerk will arrange to have printed along with a supply of additional questionnaires in case of need. The Clerk will provide Mr. Dyer and Mr. Fincher with a map showing the Parish boundary. Mr. Fincher will arrange a meeting to collate the results.

d) It was agreed to add the information leaflet/questionnaire distributed with the newsletter to the Parish Council website.

e) Mr. Dyer offered to attend the Parish Plan led event on 26th April to explain the SWJCS and gather feedback. Mr. Fincher will also attend if a previous commitment allows. Cllr. Lucas returned to the meeting.

9. 2009/62 Flooding Issues

Cllr. Reeves advised that he and the Clerk have met to discuss the Wychavon DC Flood Alleviation Grant application which the Clerk will finalise and submit.

10. 2009/63 Parish Lengthsman Scheme 2009/10

It was agreed that the Scheme is working well. Continued membership of the Scheme for 2009/10 was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. McGovern, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Hewison and agreed by all. The Clerk will complete the application process.

11. 2009/64 Norton Pre-school

The Clerk advised that a first meeting is being arranged between the members of the Committee agreed at the last meeting. Cllr. Lucas will make enquiries with Pre-school regarding their

schedule for grant applications. Review at the next Parish Council meeting.

12. 2009/65 Provision of New Allotments

a) The Clerk advised that estimates of costs are awaited.

b) The Clerk advised that letters are ready to be sent to those on the waiting list to gauge their interest in working any potential plots on this site.

c) The Clerk advised that feedback from a local resident has been received reminding the Parish Council that drains and pipes to the sewage treatment plant run under the field, which also contains inspection points. This information was noted. In terms of the water logged nature of parts of the field, installation of a land drain was suggested at a likely cost of c. \pounds 1,200. It was agreed to consider the proposals further when cost estimates have been received along with responses from those on the waiting list.

13. 2009/66 Allotment Activity

Cllr. Mrs. McGovern advised that for some time one plot has not been fully worked as dogs were roaming onto part of the plot and fouling the soil. A fence was installed a while ago to assist with this situation however half of the plot remains unworked and is now full of brambles. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to the tenant and ask whether they are planning to cultivate this land, if not the Parish Council will split the plot and offer the unworked half to the waiting list. If they do wish to work the plot fully, then the Clerk will offer the plot rent free for 12 months if they clear the plot.

Cllr. Mrs. McGovern advised that another plot was cleared by the Parish Council some time ago, but the plot is not being worked and will quickly start to deteriorate and require further clearance work. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to the tenant to ask if they wish to keep the plot, or if the plot can be split and also request that the plot is fully worked within the next 28 days. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr. Mrs. McGovern and the situation will be reviewed at the next Parish Council meeting.

14. 2009/67 Allotment Drainage

Cllr. Reeves advised that quotes are awaited. Review at the next Parish Council meeting.

15. 2009/68 Allotment Water Trough

a) The Clerk advised that one quote has been received and another is being sought. It was agreed that if a cheaper quote is received then the Clerk should proceed.

b) The Clerk will chase the outstanding quote. It was agreed that the Clerk may proceed up to a cost of £75.

16. 2009/69 Bus Shelter Maintenance

The Clerk advised that an insurance claim is being investigated. Review at the next Parish Council meeting.

17. 2009/70 Quotes for Installation of Benches on Grass Verge Church Lane/Crookbarrow Rd

The Clerk advised that a second quote is being obtained. Review at the next Parish Council meeting.

18. 2009/71 Annual Insurance Renewal

The Clerk is obtaining a quote to insure the tennis court equipment. Review at the next Parish Council meeting.

19. 2009/72 Worcs CC Street Lighting Initiative

The Clerk is gathering the information required to obtain a quote for this service. Review at the next Parish Council meeting.

20. 2009/73 Parish Council Website (Available via www.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish)

After discussion it was agreed to add the names of Parish Councillors and Co-opted Members. Cllr. Mrs. McGovern will liaise with the Clerk to draft a Parish introduction section. The Parish event on 26th April will be added to the website notice board. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr. Turvey to include photos of the Parish. The website will be publicised in the next Parish Council newsletter. The Clerk will enquire whether Worcs CC can provide the number of hits received.

Cllr. Adams arrived at 9.35pm

21. 2009/74 Archive of Local Historic Photographs

After discussion, it was agreed that Cllr. Bennett will contact the parishioner holding these photographs to discuss possibilities for archiving. In view of the important historic nature of the photographs it was agreed that the Parish Council would fund this archiving activity.

22. 2009/75 Finance

a) It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Hewison, seconded by Cllr. Bennett **and all were in agreement** that the accounts detailed below be approved for payment/confirmation.

Creditor	Detail	Amount £
R. Pullen	Parish maintenance February (4hrs)	22.92
Security Patrol	Locking of Parish Hall gates 9/2/09 to 22/2/09 (Invs.	56.36
Services	14013 & 14037)	
Southern Electric	Regiment Close street lighting Feb 2009	22.37
Shear Perfection Ltd	Churchyard hedge work (£100) and 'manhole' cover	
	drain work FP20 (£195)	295.00
1 st St. Peters Guides	Donation towards Girl Guide & Young Leaders trip to	
	Czech Republic	50.00
	TOTAL	446.65

Accounts for Confirmation:

Creditor	Detail	Amount £
Security Patrol	Locking of Parish Hall gates 23/2/09 to 8/3/09 (Invs.	56.36
Services	14061 & 14086)	
Mrs J. Greenway	Honorarium Mar 2009	643.95
Mrs J. Greenway	Expenses Mar 2009	40.66
Shear Perfection Ltd	Mowing churchyard (£169) & Brockhill verges (£165)	334.00
Shear Perfection Ltd	Allotment mowing, spraying, ploughing & rotovating plus installation of turf paths and removal of excess rubble and miscellaneous rubbish.	325.00
R. Pullen	Mowing, strimming, weeding March (5 hours)	28.65
	TOTAL	1,428.62
	GRAND TOTAL	1,875.27

Accounts for Payment:

b) After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Reeves, seconded by Cllr. Bennett and agreed by all that in line with the donation in previous years, £525 will be donated to Norton-juxta-Kempsey C.E. First School towards swimming transport costs. The Clerk will arrange.

c) The Clerk advised that the annual CALC subscription request has not yet been received.

23. 2009/76 Correspondence for Information

See Appendix 1 for a list of correspondence received.

a) Cllr. Lucas offered to attend the Worcs CC Local Council Conference on 27th April in the Council Chamber 7-9pm. The Clerk will arrange.

The Clerk reported on information received regarding a Pershore Transport Questionnaire to which responses are requested from Parishioners during April. It was agreed that this could be distributed to residents at the time of collecting petition signatures. The Clerk will request a supply of questionnaires.

24. 2009/77 Clerk's Report on Urgent Decisions since the Last Meeting

The Clerk advised that work to modify the fence at the allotments to accommodate a dog waste bin had been authorised at a cost of £75 following receipt of information that the allocated dog waste bins were still available from Wychavon DC if installed without delay. This action was confirmed.

25. 2009/78 Items for Update to Local M.P.

The Clerk read out the letter from Peter Luff M.P. dated 3rd March regarding boundary changes that are considered most unlikely to happen. The Clerk will add this letter to the Parish Council website for information.

Agenda item 4a District and County Councillor Report was received at this point in the meeting.

26. 2009/79 Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agenda

No reports were made and no items were requested for the agenda for the next meeting.

27. 2009/80 Annual Parish Meeting – 9th April

It was agreed that Mr. Dyer will provide a short presentation relating to the SWJCS at the start of the meeting. The SWJCS and the EnviroSort will be included as separate agenda items within the Planning Report section. The Clerk will ask Mrs. Cooper if she is available to serve refreshments. Cllr. Reeves, Cllr. Mrs. Hewison and Mr. Fincher gave their apologies in advance of the meeting.

28. 2009/81 Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 30th April 2009

Mr. Dyer gave his apologies in advance of the meeting.

The meeting closed at 10pm.

Correspondence Received for 26 th March 2009 Parish Council Meeting		
Sender	Subject	
CALC	Updates on various matters and Worcs CC Local Council Conference	
Clerks & Councils Direct	Magazine March 2009	
CPRE	Regional housing campaign report, Fieldwork magazine March 2009 and	
01112	Countryside Voice magazine Spring 2009	
Environment Agency	Acknowledgement of letter re EnviroSort Environmental Permit application	
Glasdon	Street Furniture Product brochure	
NALC	Local Council Review March 2009	
NJK CE First School	Request for a donation towards swimming transport costs	
Parish Hall Management	Annual budget and Pre-school contribution towards overall income	
Committee		
Parish Plan Committee	Summary of Community Spirit responses and minutes of 23 rd February meeting	
Pershore High School	Newsletter March/April	
Peter Luff M.P.	Wychavon boundary change – suggested by Worcester City but fiercely resisted by Wychavon and most unlikely to happen.	
Peter Morgan	Review of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Herefordshire &	
	Worcestershire	
Rural Services Community	Weekly news digests	
Soc. Local Council Clerks	The Clerk magazine March 2009	
Standards Board for	Newsletter Feb 2009	
England		
WebWorcester	E-newsletter - includes mention of 1,000 new allotment plots planned by National	
	trust on Trust land in the next 3 years	
West Mercia Police	Your Police Service 2009 and beyond	
West Midlands RSS	Water seminar	
Worcester City Council	Worcester Local Development Framework – Affordable HOUSING Supplementary	
	Planning Document adopted on 29/1/09	
Worcs Assoc'n Carers	Caring News Feb 2009 & Carers Week 8 th -14 th June	
Worcs CC	Lengthsman Scheme 2009/10	
Worcs CC	Pershore Area Forum – 26 th March, 7pm, Pershore Town Hall	
Worcs CC	Satellite Navigation issues	
Worcs CC	Temporary Closure Notices:	
	• Part of Hatfield from junction with Hatfield Lane to junction with	
	Wadborough Road – essential water service connection works. Expected	
	date of 5^{th} May for one day	
	• Entire length of Orchard Grove, Littleworth from junction with St. James	
	Close – essential footway reconstruction and kerbing works. Expected for 7 weeks commencing 5^{th} May	
Worcs Partnership Board	Partnership Matters newsletter Winter 2008/9	
WPC Storr	Crookbarrow Road camera installed	
Wychavon Community	Funding Fair – 31 st March, 5-8pm, the Old Library, Droitwich	
Action Partnership	r unding r un 31 Watch, 5 opin, the Old Elorary, Blottwich	
Wychavon DC	Artworks magazine Spring 2009 and game On Sports development Newsletter	
	Spring 2009	
Wychavon DC	Coaching sessions for community groups	
Wychavon DC	Communicate – Shaping the Future Together newsletter Feb 2009	
Wychavon DC	Community Grants 2009 – applications by noon on 29 th May	
Wychavon DC	July 2007 Floods – Parish Flood Data Sheets and Action Plans – The Next Steps	
Wychavon DC	Pershore Transport Questionnaire (within 5-10 miles of Pershore)	
Wychavon DC	Planning approval notice:	
	– W/09/00037: 23 Keren Drive – raise roof line by approx. 5 degrees (600mm)	
	and convert space into residential use.	
Wychavon DC	Wychavon Sport – Wychavon Parish Games	

Notes from the Public Question Time Prior to the Parish Council Meeting

One member of the public attended and discussions are summarised as follows.

A letter from Public Interest Lawyers was handed to the Clerk by Mr. Morgan enclosing a ± 1.13 cheque. This represents the interest earned on the funds provided by the Parish Council to the J7 Waste Action Group, as a contribution towards the costs of legal services on behalf of the J7 Waste Action Group regarding the EnviroSort planning application.

Mr. Morgan raised the Environmental Permit application by Severn Waste and provided a brief background to the environmental controls encompassed within the planning conditions e.g. to monitor/control dust levels. It appears that Severn Waste, Wychavon DC and the Waste Protection Agency are relying on the Environment Agency to apply appropriate conditions to the Environmental Permit.

The Environment Agency has advised Mr. Morgan that any information/action that is requested from Severn Waste will be detailed on its website. Mr. Morgan has also asked to be advised.

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council has written to the Environment Agency and outlined the content of the letter as agreed at the February Parish Council meeting.

Cllr. Reeves asked if readings are available from the devices that should have been placed on site prior to work commencing to provide base level readings for monitoring purposes. Cllr. Lucas will raise this at the April Liaison Group meeting. It was agreed that these base line readings are vital to quantify the impact of the facility on the environment once it is in operation.

Cllr. Lucas advised that the issue of contamination of recyclables e.g. wet paper and how this is processed will also be raised at the next Liaison Group meeting.

It was agreed that Cllr. Lucas will draft a letter for approval by Cllr. Turvey (as Chairman) to the Environment Agency advising that Severn Waste did agree to install monitoring equipment to provide base line readings prior to developing the site which would be used by Wychavon DC to monitor the future environmental impact of the EnviroSort facility.

The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Herefordshire &Worcestershire was very briefly discussed and will be picked up under agenda item 7b. Concern was expressed regarding future use of the Woodbury Lane site following news that Arrow Distribution has ceased trading and entered into administration.

Mr. Morgan was thanked for attending.