

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NETTLETON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN WEST KINGTON BAPTIST CHAPEL ON THURSDAY 9th JANUARY 2014**

PRESENT: Cllrs Kerr (Chair), Pearce, Flint, Maddock, Beare, Wright, Bush, Shanahan
Emma Walker (Clerk)
Four Parishioners – Mr and Mrs Caie, Sally Belcher, Mr Chris Enderby

AP		ACTION
1.	Apologies for Absence. Unitary Cllr Scott	
2.	Declarations of Councillors' personal or prejudicial interests None	
3.	Chairman's Announcements Following Cllr Bell's resignation from the PC in December, Cllr Kerr thanked her (in her absence) for her very valuable contribution to the Parish Council over many years – endorsed en bloc. Cllr Kerr congratulated Mrs Bell and Major Gen. Wilkes (in their absence) following their receipt of Awards in the New Year's Honours List – endorsed en bloc.	Cllr Kerr to write to DB. Clerk to write to Major Gen. Wilkes.
4.	Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th NOVEMBER 2013. Proposed Cllr Kerr, seconded Cllr Pearce. Adopted unanimously. A number of Councillors expressed the view that they would prefer the Minutes to be more concise.	
5.	Matters Arising Cllr Kerr's action to try to establish the whereabouts of missing NPC records (1965-1991) is ongoing. Cllr Maddock/Shanahan's action to redirect the previous Parish Council website is ongoing due to technical issues..	Cllr Kerr Cllr Maddock/ Shanahan
6.	Public Participation Management of the repair of potholes in the Parish has impressed Mrs Belcher, who identified further areas of damage to the road surface which need to be repaired. Cllrs reassured Mrs Belcher that a collapsing wall in Dark Lane is to be made good. Mrs Belcher commented positively on the minutes. Mrs Belcher questioned the potential use of public money to fence land in Burton. Mr Caie reminded the PC of its obligation to "maximise the value to the community of assets" held.	
7.0	PLANNING MATTERS	
7.1	No current applications.	
7.2	Update on planning decisions Applications 13/05896/FUL and 13/05906/LBC - School House, Nettleton have been approved. Cllr Pearce reported that planning applications 13/03728/FUL and 13/04105/LBC (Green Barn, Nettleton) had been refused by the Northern Area Planning Committee.	

	<p>Cllr Pearce informed the meeting that Mr Clark has lodged an appeal (to be heard by written representation) with the Planning Inspectorate in relation to Jubilee Cottage, The Street, Burton (alterations to dwelling, amendments to 08/01682/FUL - retrospective). This item will be put on the February agenda with a recommendation from Cllr Pearce that NPC submit comments to the appeal process based on their response to the original application.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Planning Cllr Kerr reported that the Wiltshire Council training event, attended by himself and Cllr Shanahan, had provided an overview of the Neighbourhood Planning process. Following discussion, Cllrs agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting in April might provide opportunity to present the matter in a public forum, allowing the PC and other potentially interested groups to gain an understanding of Neighbourhood Planning – what the process is, its purpose and how to go about preparing a plan. Cllr Shanahan suggested that NPC request allocation of a Link Officer from WC to enable all options to be explored including the potential to prepare a plan in partnership with a second community. Cllr Pearce reminded the meeting that a Neighbourhood Plan could not supersede principles defined in the Core Strategy.</p>	<p>Feb agenda</p> <p>Feb agenda – outline of process pre April APM.</p>
8.	<p>Financial Matters Cllr Kerr recommended and Cllr Pearce seconded payment to:- Emma Walker (Clerk) £163.60 WKBC £ 30.00 Adopted unanimously.</p> <p>Cllrs agreed unanimously to respond negatively to a fundraising request from the CAB.</p> <p>Cllr Pearce informed the meeting that a consultation has been launched into a small increase on the police and crime element of the Council Tax (£3.15 per annum/Band D), to reduce the impact of government grant reductions.</p>	
	Mr Chris Enderby entered the meeting.	
9.	<p>Public Open Space</p> <p>Burton Land Following recognition of a link between the Neighbourhood Planning Process and discussion relating to public open space in Burton, Cllrs discussed how to ascertain the views of parishioners and arrangements for a public meeting. Cllr Pearce suggested that the Annual Parish Meeting take place in Burton (with a focus on Neighbourhood Planning – see MP 7.3) – and is publicised with notice of intention to hold a subsequent meeting to discuss public open space in early summer 2014.</p> <p>Cllr Kerr proposed and Cllr Wright seconded the motion that the land in Burton remains uncleared for the time being. Adopted by majority vote.</p>	Feb agenda.

	<p>Cllr Kerr proposed and Cllr Beare seconded the motion that the land in Burton should be fenced (to allow the 12 year time period necessary for NPC to exercise a right to adverse possession to commence). Cllr Maddock suggested that this decision should be deferred until after the public meetings in Burton.</p> <p>Cllrs voted to reject the motion by majority vote.</p> <p>Cllr Kerr reported that his action to meet with Mr Clark re the way leave payment in relation to the SSE pole located on the Burton land and also drainage matters elsewhere is ongoing.</p> <p>Nettleton Land</p> <p>Cllr Pearce informed the meeting that his action to meet with the parishioner, who local knowledge suggests has been using part of the land is ongoing.</p> <p>Cllr Kerr informed the meeting that an invoice for fencing the land in Nettleton has not yet been received by NPC and therefore this matter remains outstanding.</p> <p>Following this item, Mr and Mrs Caie and Mrs Belcher left the meeting.</p>	<p>Cllr Kerr</p> <p>Cllr Pearce</p> <p>Cllr Kerr to obtain invoice.</p>
14.	<p>AOB (Brought forward)</p> <p>Mr Chris Enderby outlined a proposal for a solar farm on land to the south of the M4, J18, extending southwards to West Littleton Down (Tormarton Parish). Following a poorly publicised community consultation event in December, residents of West Littleton have sought professional advice in order to submit responses to the promoters of the scheme based on planning policy issues. Nettleton PC recognised that the proposal could have cross-boundary implications and will contact the promoter, who has indicated intention to undertake further consultation.</p>	<p>Clerk to contact promoter re details of second consultation event.</p>
10.	<p>Insurance – review of current policy and level of cover provided.</p> <p>Cllr Kerr reported that he and Cllr Beare had reviewed the current insurance policy document which is satisfactory subject to registration of all NPC’s assets.</p>	<p>Cllr Kerr to provide Clerk with filenote/actions.</p>
11.	<p>Standing Orders</p> <p>Following discussion, Cllrs agreed that adoption of NALC Standing Orders enabled the PC to avoid potential pitfalls which might arise from use of a para-phased version. Cllr Shanahan proposed and Cllr Pearce seconded the motion that the NALC Standing Orders 2011 should be accepted, subject to clarification on the insertion of relevant information – adopted by majority vote.</p> <p>Cllrs agreed, in principle, with Cllr Kerr’s suggestion that a simple “working practice” document be produced.</p>	<p>Cllr Shanahan to provide SO document – Clerk to update.</p>
12.	<p>Highways</p> <p>Cllr Pearce commented positively on the extensive highway works carried out to date in the Parish including repair of potholes – and ongoing arrangements being made to deal with flooding issues (as outlined in Cllr Beare’s highway report appended to these Minutes). Cllr Maddock confirmed that the Snow Plan is on the website.</p>	

	<p>Concern has been expressed by a parishioner in relation to flooding on the footpath between Stile Lane and Lower Leaze – Cllr Kerr proposed that he and Cllr Beare speak to Mr Prior re ditch clearance, adopted unanimously.</p> <p>Cllr Pearce suggested to NPC that he research the background to a letter from WC to NPC inviting comments in relation to a potential change of status of footpath no. 40, currently shown as a bridleway, to allow use by mechanically propelled vehicles.</p>	<p>Cllrs Kerr/Beare to speak to Mr Prior.</p> <p>Feb agenda.</p>
12..	<p>Councillor Vacancy</p> <p>The Clerk informed the meeting that the Notice of Vacancy would be displayed as of 10.01.14 for a statutory fourteen day period. Following this period, Wiltshire Council will confirm whether an election has been requested by more than ten parishioners, or give NPC permission to co-opt a Councillor. If no election is called, NPC will publish the vacancy through notices, providing potential applicants with contact details for the Clerk.</p>	<p>Clerk/Cllr Kerr.</p>
14.	<p>Any other Business</p> <p>Cllr Kerr informed the meeting that NPC had been contacted in the latter part of 2013 by Cooperative Legal Services, in relation to a case being brought against Wiltshire Council (Highways) by a cyclist. NPC contacted Wiltshire Council who advised that they would deal with this matter.</p> <p>Cllr Kerr informed the meeting that he had been contacted by a parishioner in relation to fireworks on New Year’s Eve. Cllrs said that this is not a matter for the Parish Council.</p> <p>Cllrs Shanahan and/or Bush will attend a Parish Council/Local Police forum meeting on 14th January.</p> <p>Mr Enderby reported that an unmaintained single storey stone barn and two unmaintained metal barns on Drifton Hill, West Kington have become hazardous.</p> <p>Mr Enderby reported a significant fly-tipping problem in West Kington.</p>	<p>Clerk to rpt to Building Control</p> <p>Clerk to rpt to WC.</p>
15	<p>Date and time of next meeting – 13th February at 7:30 pm.</p>	

Meeting closed: 9:35 pm.

- SHB and DK to see CW concerning the farming of the field to see if the way the land is cultivated, e.g ploughed in a different direction, could mitigate runoff. PB quoted cases where this approach had been successful
- WC to clean out soakaway pits at 2 locations adjacent to road to Nettleton Mill when JCB is carrying out other work, giving prior notification to Brian Jones/Mike Krohn/Lisa Dafforn and SHB

Site 4 Road between junction by Post Office and Nettleton Lodge

The road has a number of potholes and is very bumpy. It was noted that this road is used by large agricultural vehicles. PB advised that the surface has delaminated. It cannot not be repaired piecemeal and would have to be resurfaced.

Agreed action

- PB said that Atkins are assessing sites for Major Maintenance such as this throughout the County and will prioritize work advising NPC in April 2014 through Parish pack as and when the road will be repaired

Site 5 West Kington Rd/Wood Lane Nettleton

The issue is that water floods down the road from junction near White Cottage to Old King William.

This appears to be caused by a number of issues including

- The open highway ditch needing cleaning out by landowner/WC
- At least one gully is positioned higher than road so is ineffective
- The stretch of ditch close to highway edge is being filled in by large agricultural machinery pushing verge into ditch. This is apparent for a stretch about 20m to west of footpath sign and 30/40m to east
- Possible damage to pipe at entrance to Daryl Leaze

Agreed Action

1. WC to investigate pipe runs and jet out where necessary
2. WC to consider piping stretch of ditch as detailed above and to renew as necessary pipe in front of Daryl Leaze
3. WC to provide tarmac ridge to channel water into gully(s)

Site 6 Ditch between Coates Farm and Nettleton Lodge

Historically the issue has been that water floods the road and freezes

The ditch has recently been cleaned out by one of the landowners, Mr Derry Connors and water now flows to the entrance to pipe.

Agreed Action

1. WC to investigate the pipe runs and jet out together with ratholes
2. WC to investigate gully marked with an orange bollard on opposite side of carriageway from pipe entrance

Sites 7 and 8. Slope down to Lower Leaze Nettleton and from The Piggeries to junction with B4039 Burton

The issue is that water runs down road at both locations
This is caused by blocked rat holes

Agreed Action

1. WC to jet out both holes/pipe runs and investigate to establish what further work may be required
2. WC to clean out road gully by Lower Leaze front door twice per year to prevent flooding of Lower Leaze

NPC waiting to be advised of date(s) for this work to be completed – likely middle/end Jan '14

Site 9 Flooding of road by culvert under road at Edgecorner Lane, Nettleton

The issue is that the road floods due to gully discharging to stream getting blocked by leaves
Solution appears to be replacing gully/pipe with open grip to stream. The adjacent landowner, Mr Tim Derrick has agreed in principle as grip would need to cross his land

Action Required

SHB to discuss with WC

Ditch Clearing

Ditch clearing is required as follows

- West Kington Rd, Nettleton. (Mr and Mrs Rhodes (the White House)
- By footpath from Stile Lane towards Lower Leaze (Mr and Mrs Prior, Stile Cottage)

Recommendation

Councillor Beare and/or Kerr to contact both parties to agree action, to be confirmed in writing by Clerk

Sundry Points

Extensive pothole maintenance has been carried out but the following to be attended to shortly

- There are potholes that need filling at the Smith Street junction in West Kington
- There are further potholes to be filled/manholes rebbed on Nettleton road, Burton between B4039 and farm entrance.
- Passing places to be filled once resurfacing work starts in Spring

Snow Plan

Now available for inspection. Bulk grit bags now at 3 locations in Parish. Farmer contracted to WC to snow clear roads, agrees to fill bins.

S H Beare

Lead Councillor – Highways 27.12.13