

NYMPSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
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DRAFT

**MINUTES of the meeting of Nympsfield Parish Council (NPC)
held at Nympsfield Village Hall on Monday, 14th June 2021**

21/054: Present: Cllr S Price (Chair), Cllr E Sturgess (Vice Chair), Cllr T Gaunt, Stroud District Cllr M Percy, C Fairbrother, clerk.

21/055: Apologies: Cllr G Warden, Cllr P Tomiak-Baquero, Gloucester County Cllr W Thomas.

21/056: Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th May were unanimously agreed. No personal interests were declared.

21/057: Public questions/participation: Leah Farrer and Alexa Timbrell of St Joseph's PTA gave a presentation of their plans to upgrade and extend the provision of play equipment at the school. Much fundraising work is being undertaken, despite lockdown difficulties, but there remains a funding gap which NPC were asked to help fill. Public access was questioned and confirmed, with the proviso that it is and would be outside of school hours. The charitable status of the PTA was confirmed, which would be beneficial should NPC wish to make a contribution. The PTA were thanked for their presentation and asked to liaise with the group interested in developing facilities at the Nympsfield Playing Field. There was agreement that only one development should be made and supported.

21/058: District and County councillor's reports: Both reports have been submitted ahead of the meeting. Stroud Cllr Percy highlighted that the owner of Coaley Peak was considering installing a height barrier at the entrance. NPC asked if they could consider granting a licence to the few 'travellers' there as they have been a positive influence on the tidiness of the site. Cllr Percy agreed to ask. He also flagged the closing date for comment on the Stroud District Plan (subsequently delayed to the 21st July). The discussion turned to the merits or otherwise of a Neighbourhood Plan and/or a Design Code Statement. Action: Vice Chair to check Stroud District Plan for potential red flags for Nympsfield. Clerk to report on Design Code statements as prepared by local parish councils.

21/059: Planning matters:

None this month.

21/060: Internal Audit 2020/21:

Documentation relevant to the audit process was processed.

In particular:

21/061: The Internal Auditor's report was noted and recommended actions were agreed.

21/062: the AIAR Report was noted and recommended actions were agreed. Publication to the website was agreed.

21/063: The Annual Governance Statement was noted, approved and signed. Publication to the website was agreed.

21/064: Section 2 Accounting Statements were noted, approved and signed. Publication to the website was agreed.

21/065: Certificate of Exemption to be sent to external auditor before deadline. Noted, signed. Agreed to publish to website.

21/066: Information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (Inc period for exercise of public rights). Noted and agreed to be published to website.

21/067: Payments of the Council:

Staff, payroll, printing and Village Hall cleaning for April and grant for furniture replacement payments were agreed and cheques signed.

21/068: Clerk's report:

None submitted this month.

21/069: Communication policy:

A discussion was held as to how best to interact with our community, in order to best receive ideas, support and complaints and disseminate information of value. Various views were expressed on the use of social media, the newsletter and the website. Agreed – social media is relevant to many in the community but should be used with care by NPC. Impartiality is paramount but difficult to achieve. The newsletter is to be used with more imagination than hitherto. As a beginning, short introductions by our new look council will be submitted. The website requires overhaul and the Clerk will investigate options.

21/070: Potential purchase by NPC of the Glebe:

A further discussion was held in the time remaining. It was agreed that Cllr Sturgess should approach the Church land agents to open negotiations.

21/071: Councillors' topics for next month:

Sustainability in the context of NPC – how to adopt and promote good sustainability practice. Cllr Gaunt to provide a discussion paper to inform this agenda item next month.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

(Signed).....(Dated).....