NYMPSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the meeting of Nympsfield Parish Council (NPC) held at Nympsfield Village Hall on Monday, 11th April 2022

22/041: Present:

Cllr S Price (Chair) Cllr E Sturgess (Vice Chair), Cllr P Tomiak-Baquero, Cllr T Gaunt, Cllr R Clements, C Fairbrother (Clerk)

22/042: Apologies: County Cllr W Thomas, District Cllr M Pearcy.

22/043: Minutes and Declarations:

The Draft Minutes of the meeting held on 14th March were approved. No declarations of personal interest were received.

22/044: District and County Councillors' reports:

County Councillor Thomas via email.

Highways

Frocester Hill Junction with B4066: A date for the work is still not forthcoming, but Highways confirm that part of this work will involve a speed survey.

Gigaclear and road closures: Several residents in different towns/villages have raised concerns re the necessity of such complete road closures, lack of accurate signage and comms. All residents with concerns are encouraged to write to Glos Highways in addition to alerting Cllr Thomas.

Stagecoach West bus service

Services are being frequently cancelled again.

In January Stagecoach confirmed that if local buses are cancelled and there is no reasonable alternative, they will reimburse the cost of a taxi fare. Customers will need to email the receipt and a brief outline of the journey taken/bus cancelled and send to west.enquiries@stagecoachbus.com

District Councillor Pearcy via email.

SDC is the only local authority in Gloucestershire which still owns and manages council houses, with the others having transferred them into other social housing organisations. Council houses are being built in Minchinhampton, Eastington and Nailsworth. All future council building will be to high 'eco home' standards.

SDC has a gas supply contract with Gazprom Energy. The contract is ending this year, and they have been exploring whether there are any possibilities of early termination and have agreed in any case not to renew the contract.

22/045: Planning matters:

S.22/0610/HHOLD: The Lodge House, Woodchester Park, Nympsfield, Stonehouse. Demolition of rear extension and garage building. Erection of 1.5 storey rear extension. Internal alterations to main house. Erection of detached 1.5 storey garage. Landscaping. Erection of stone piers to support a new gate. https://www.stroud.gov.uk/apps/planning?AppRef=S.22/0610/HHOLD

This application was discussed and it was agreed to make an objection on the grounds of its general unsuitability to the Woodchester Park environment.

22/046: Payments of the Council and Financial matters:

Payroll, website maintenance, Village Hall cleaning and hire and village newsletter printing costs were agreed and cheques signed.

22/047: Clerk's report:

None this month.

22/048: Climate Change:

25/4/22 meeting @ 7.15pm at Village Hall – a facilitated workshop with Fred Barker.

22/049: Footpath access to Playing Field:

Cllr Clements reported that the Playing Field Committee were considering improving safety aspects of the pedestrian entrance to the Playing Field. Footpath access was discussed. There was acknowledgement that each potential option had its own difficulties, but agreement that improvement there must be.

22/050: Queen's Jubilee:

Commemorative bench for the bus stop at The Cross – Vice Chair reiterated that she will make a donation. The preference is to engage a local bench builder if possible. The probability is that it will not be in place in time for the Jubilee, but NPC agreed that the project was worthwhile, combining as it will facilitation of use of the bus service, especially for the elderly, with a lasting acknowledgement of the Queen's reign.

22/051: Bus Shelter:

In response to a changed offer from Mr Wooldridge for a rental arrangement, a counter offer was agreed. Should it be acceptable, Mr Wooldridge will update the heads of terms document accordingly.

22/052: Road Safety:

Cllr Tomiak-Baquero has spoken to Glos Highways again with reference to a potential speed limit through Cockadilly. He will also speak to the police who need to be involved in any such application.

22/053: The Glebe:

Still awaiting a response from preferred solicitors – NPC will look elsewhere if no contact received soon.

22/054: Councillors' items for next month:

Cllr Tomiak-Baquero - Highways

Cllr Gaunt - Climate

Cllr Clements - Play Equipment

Chair - Audit

Chair - New Councillor process

The meeting ended at 8:30pm.

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