

NYMPSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
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**DRAFT MINUTES of the meeting of Nympsfield Parish Council
(NPC) held at Nympsfield Village Hall on Monday, 12th
December 2022**

22/155: Present:

Cllr S Price (Chair), Cllr P Tomiak-Baquero (Vice Chair), Cllr T Gaunt, Cllr R Clements, Cllr A. Robertson, one member of the public, C Fairbrother (Clerk).

22/156: Apologies: GCC Cllr W Thomas, SDC Cllr M Percy,

22/157: Minutes and Declarations:

The Draft Minutes of the meeting held on 14th November were not ready in time for this meeting. They will be reviewed at the next meeting. No declarations of personal interest were received.

22/158: Public Participation:

The Treasurer of the Village Hall Trust explained changes to their charitable status and future plans for the refurbishment of the VH. The kitchen is to be renewed and an extension built to the rear. A large amount of money is required to be raised. As part of an application for central government funding, a letter of support from NPC was requested. Chair agreed to provide this and stated that NPC support the continued existence of a thriving village hall.

22/159: District and County Councillors' reports:

Both reports received with thanks.

22/160: Planning matters:

S.22/2485/TCA Marist Convent, Front Street, Nympsfield, Stonehouse.
Trees in a Conservation Area. Fell 4 Leyland Cypress trees. Trim secondary branches of a Pine tree.

<https://www.stroud.gov.uk/apps/planning?AppRef=S.22/2485/TCA>

NPC offered no objection to the felling of the trees concerned.

22/161: Financial Matters – Payments of the Council:

James Turkington – grass/hedge trimming around village November - £85.

Softlink website maintenance November - £27.60

Village Hall cleaning November and hire invoice 305 - £78.75

Salary & expenses November £210

HMRC tax November £52.60

PATA Payroll admin October – December - £23.85

£709 income received – Play equipment donation and defibrillator course receipts.

Budget 2023 possible headings – play equipment, glebe gate, bus shelter maintenance, climate initiatives, general emergency funding, potential TRO expenditure. Budget will be prepared for discussion next month.

22/162: Clerk's Report:

One builder – Ian Page – has quoted and has been approved to make the repairs to the bus shelter roof resulting from the theft of tiles. He will also make repairs to deteriorating ridge tiles. Cllr Robertson has spoken to Rob Gazzard re the crack in the back wall.

Letters to village hall, playing field committee and village newsletter have been sent re grant applications for 2023. A change in playing field committee personnel was noted.

Snow – There was some uncertainty about the process, after the recent first snow of the year. Mr Toms was called out by NPC with his snowplough. No reference was made to GCC Bad Weather help line nor were they consulted about the decision. There is no known occasion that GCC did not pay for snowplough work and GCC have never been asked for permission. Chair stated that private land should not be included in any ploughing exercise, which should be confined to those areas of the public highway which are not cleared or gritted by GCC Highways.

Cllr Gaunt was asked to explain his role as newly appointed trustee to the Village Hall Trust. He explained that he is the NPC nominated representative, but that the process of his appointment has been done twice, as at the same time, the VHT has disbanded and reconstituted itself as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. NPC agreed unanimously that Cllr Gaunt should be NPC's representative in the new CIO.

22/163: Climate Action:

There was acknowledgement that CAN needs a reboot, a new meeting is to be planned for the new year.

22/164: Highways:

Comments from the public have been received, anonymised and passed on invited with a closing date around 22 November, regarding the GCC plan for the Frocester

Hill junction. One positive result from the meeting held at Coaley Peak with GCC Highways manager was that any TRO application can be combined to cover several local speed limit requests. Criteria need to be established to find the extent of a possible combined TRO. In the face of GCC reluctance to consider other ideas than those contained in their proposal, other approaches were discussed. These included involving the Press, Siobhan Baillie MP and possibly school parents. Chair stated that 22 accidents around Frocester Hill junction have been reported to the police in the last two years – with many more not reported.

22/165: Glebe:

Contact with Bruton Knowles has been made. The vicar is to be consulted. Clerk to contact Julia Allen at Bruton Knowles as the NPC representative.

22/166: Bus Shelter:

No further news on change of use progress.

22/167: Warm Hub:

The Working Men’s Club have had work assessed towards installing a backboiler for their woodburner. Changes to membership terms have been discussed – this is ongoing. They would be interested in any financial help to do the plumbing installation. Chair asked if Stroud DC warm hub funding has been applied for. The existence of alcohol and people drinking when young children might be present was seen as an issue which could be resolved by using the space upstairs for the warm hub. Chair suggested a program of periodic talks to give advice on insulation etc. Councillors saw a risk that people would be less likely to make use of such a facility if they felt it was receiving (and given as) charity. It was also felt more elderly people might wish to sit downstairs and would probably leave when the ‘normal’ membership began to arrive, by which time it would most likely be getting dark. There was agreement that everything remained to be worked through but if that could be done, there was nothing to prevent an effective warm hub being established at the Working Men’s Club to the benefit of all.

22/168: Councillors’ items for Future Discussion:

Several councillors - Coronation.

The meeting ended at 9:00pm.

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