

NYMPFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
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**MINUTES of the meeting of Nympsfield Parish Council (NPC)
held at Nympsfield Village Hall on Monday, 13th November
2023**

23/140: Present:

Cllr S Price (Chair), Cllr P Tomiak-Baquero (Vice Chair), Cllr T Gaunt, County Cllr W Thomas, District Cllr M Percy, C Fairbrother (Clerk).

23/141: Apologies:

Cllr A Robertson.

23/142: Minutes:

The Draft Minutes of the meeting held on 11th September were approved and signed. (October meeting cancelled).

23/143: Declarations of Personal Interest:

No declarations of personal interest were received.

23/144: Public Participation:

None this month.

23/145: District and County Councillors' reports:

Both reports received with thanks. Planning enforcements have increased in number. Local Plan revision still in progress and this process is time limited – if not resolved within the time there will be a period wherein no local plan legally applies and planning restrictions may be loosened. The poles for the VAS system at Frocester Hill will be installed in November. 'Build Back Better' funding was flagged up as not spent yet. Individual applications can be made – see the Gloucester CC website for details. Some extra funding for bus services, unclear if Nympsfield will benefit.

23/146: Planning matters:

S.23/2050/FUL Land Parcel North West of Ragged Barn, Horsley. Agricultural yard, new access, screening bund and substitution of grain barn for calf shed, including solar panels.

It was noted that most of this development is within Horsley parish.

The state of David's Lane from farm traffic was discussed, along with potential for light pollution. The removal of hedgerow to create the new access was also noted. Some frustration was expressed that Nympsfield PC were not informed of any of the previous planning activity and therefore had no opportunity to express their opinion on a matter which directly affects the parish. Clerk to write to Stroud planning department with no objection, whilst raising the concerns about David's Lane and potential light pollution.

23/147: Grant Applications:

None this month, but a forthcoming village hall fundraising event might welcome a small financial aid, up to £50. NPC would wish to see something from the Village Hall committee but expressed support.

23/148: Financial Matters – Payments of the Council:

October (meeting cancelled) and November payments.

Salary and Expenses £559.60 (Sept and Oct).

HMRC £139.80 (Sept and Oct).

Nympsfield Village Hall £40 hire, (Sept and Oct).

Leopard Press £117, Sept/Oct newsletter.

Nympsfield Village Hall £202.50 Cleaning Grant (3 of 4).

Nympsfield Playing Field Committee £341.04 Mowing Grant (3 of 4).

J Turkington £255, Village Trimming, Aug – Oct.

23/149: Financial Matters:

A draft budget will be circulated with a view to discussion / agreement in December.

It was agreed to appoint GAPTC as internal auditors again.

23/150: Clerk's Report:

Chair reported on NPC concerns with the proposed development at Forest Green Rovers, regarding traffic implications.

Agreed that Chair should write to Stroud DC and policy planners to consider locally observed recent, increased levels of traffic along Tinkley Lane, especially in the light of the Stroud Local Plan which now shows the FGR football ground as 'planned development', whereas it had previously been designated as 'open space'. The previous official survey was conducted in 2017.

Ongoing drainage issues at the pub were reported and concern for its future was discussed.

The bus shelter has still not been mended. Chair to contact Rob Gazzard.

23/151: Consider Councillor vacancy:

Interest has been expressed but it would appear there is a problem with qualification. NPC may now lawfully co-opt a (willing) member of the parish to fill the vacancy. Any parishioner who wishes to become a councillor and or has any questions about the role should contact the clerk.

23/152: Highways:

VAS remains to be installed at Frocester Hill junction. The absence of 'Slow' signs along the Uley / Stroud road either side of the junction was noted.

23/153: Winter:

Cllr Gaunt outlined that grit is well supplied at present, in all grit boxes.

Possible flood risk was discussed. For the most part Nympsfield is thankfully immune, by reason of its elevation, but there are nevertheless some properties which conceivably are at risk from blocked road drains. Clerk has been in touch with Gloucester Highways who intend to jet the main Nympsfield drains in the next few weeks. This is seen as a better time of year than previously when drains were cleared before the autumn leaf fall. Chair asked that Clerk check with Highways that the drains in closest proximity to those properties most at risk, are given priority for clearing.

Wind was seen as a bigger general threat to Nympsfield but it was difficult to see what specific mitigation NPC could make.

NPC continue to express support for the establishment of a place of refuge and would be willing to provide financial support.

23/154: Councillors' items for Future Discussion:

Clerk – Budget 2024.

The meeting ended at 8.45pm.

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