

NYMPFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on
11th May 2015 at 8pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Mrs Hardy, Mrs Sturgess, Miss Cowle, Mr Acton and Mrs Pittaway

In Attendance: Cllr Lydon and 3 parishioners

Apologies: none

The meeting commenced at 7:40pm after the conclusion of the annual parish meeting and public questions.

15/42 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Cllr Pittaway proposed Cllr Sturgess as chair, seconded by Cllr Acton. There were no other nominations; the appointment was agreed by all councilors.

Cllr Hardy proposed Cllr Cowle as vice chair, this was seconded by Cllr Acton and agreed by all. There were no other nominations.

15/43 Declarations of Interests

None

15/44 Acceptance of Office

The newly appointed chair and vice chair signed the acceptance of office in the presence of the proper officer, Ann Robertson.

15/45 Register of Member's Interests

The Clerk reminded councilors that the register of member's interests should be updated if their circumstances have changed. No updates required.

15/46 Appointment to Outside Bodies

Cllr Hardy to continue to represent the Parish Council on the Village Hall Committee. All Councilors to report on other village groups as the need arises.

15/47 Review of Council Procedures

Standing Orders have been updated to comply with legislation changes with regard to recording of public meetings. Cllr Pittaway proposed that the Standing Orders with the amendments be adopted. Cllr Cowle seconded this and all agreed.

The draft risk policy was discussed; this is to be reviewed by all with a view to adopting at the next meeting. **ALL**

Model Financial regulations were reviewed. It was agreed that a formal 3 year forecast is not required due to the size of the Council/Parish. However, due consideration will be given to future projects when agreeing the annual budget. Clerk to update the regulations with agreed changes for formal sign off at the next meeting. **Clerk**

The proposed meeting dates for the coming year, previously circulated, were agreed by all.

15/48 Review of Inventory of Assets

Asset list reviewed and Councillors noted that these should be considered when reviewing the risk policy.

Two insurance quotes have been obtained, though the level of cover for one needs to be clarified. Clerk to circulate details if possible for a decision at the next meeting. The renewal date if the 19th June 2015. **Clerk**

15/49 Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 13th

April 2015

Previously circulated, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting were confirmed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman. The minutes from the meeting on the 9th March were also signed by the chairman; these had been agreed on the 13th April but not signed.

15/50 Progress Reports for Information

Cllr Lydon: Report circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Lydon thanked the members and clerk for their work over the past year. Cllr Lydon agreed to attend a council meeting with the new highways representative. Clerk to provide dates for upcoming meetings so this can be arranged.

Repair of Boundary Wall behind Benton Court: Despite Cllr Cowle's efforts this remains unresolved. The resident is to pursue the matter with Stroud District Council.

Benton Court security improvements: The upgrade of the lighting has been delayed as the bollards are unserviceable and an alternative approach had to be agreed. This is with the contractors but no date has been agreed as yet. Clerk to send details to Cllr Lydon for follow up.

Clerk

Fastershire broadband upgrade for Nympsfield: The team at Fastershire were unable to confirm whether or not Nympsfield will be upgraded to fibre. Council to monitor progress.

Affordable Housing: A meeting has been arranged for the 18th May 2015 at St Joseph's School to discuss the next steps and prepare for the public consultation. Karen Phimister (GRCC), Chris Knibbs (Severn Vale Housing Association) and John Longmuir (Stroud District Council Planning) are to attend.

Dog Fouling: The dog warden has provided a can of spray paint which has been passed on to the playing field committee. Cllr Acton looked into the new Keep Britain Tidy campaign and found that the cost of posters, etc. was prohibitive. Cllr Acton has created some similar posters which Cllr Cowle has agreed to laminate. These will then be put around the parish. Thanks to Cllr Acton and Cowle for their efforts in addressing this issue.

15/51 Village Maintenance

Repair of boundary walls and stiles: no update

Public Footpaths: Still waiting for sign to be in stock. It may be possible for the council arrange to erect the sign, clerk to follow up.

Clerk

Repair of Sara Wooldridge memorial plaque: No response to the notice in the newsletter. Cllr Cowle to arrange repair.

SC

Register of community assets: Cllr Sturgess has arranged a meeting to progress this. Update expected as the next meeting.

ES

Quarry Wood: St Joseph's school are keen to use this area as an educational resource. Cllr Cowle has arranged for Mr. Alan Smith to cut back the brambles, etc. Council to continue to hold the lease, renewal to be discussed at the next meeting.

Clerk

Cutting back verges: Clerk to ask highways to cut back verges at junctions where visibility is reduced:

- Top of Frocester Hill
- Buckholt Gate (Mansion entrance)
- Playing field entrance
- Tinkley Lane, entrance to Easter Farm Park
- Junction between Blackberry Lane and Bath Road

Consider seeking volunteers to help with maintenance if highways are unable to act in a timely fashion.

15/52 Correspondence

None

15/53 Planning

It was noted that applications had been received for S.15/0914/DISCON for discharge of conditions for the Threshing Tythe Barn, St Bartholomew's and S.15/0634/TCA for tree works at the same property. No comments are allowed on these applications.

The Stables: SDC planning advised that the status could change to a dwelling after a few years. Council to ask SDC to pursue a retrospective planning application to place conditions on future development.

Clerk

15/54 Finance

Documents have been prepared for the internal audit which is scheduled to be carried out before the next meeting. The annual return can then be reviewed before sending for external audit. Cllr Acton has been building a web site for the Parish Council which could become a village site. This can be used to publish council documents as laid out in the new transparency code. There is no cost for the web site, but there will be a cost for the domain name of Nympsfield.org. All agreed that domain name should be purchased so that the site is easy to find and appears professional. Cllr Acton to provide the clerk with access to review.

DA/Clerk

The following expenditure was agreed and the appropriate cheques drawn and signed:

11/05/15	Leopard Press	invoice # 643289	£90.00
11/05/15	Ann Robertson	clerk salary April	£144.00

15/55 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

Cllr Cowle advised that the concrete edging is coming away from the bus shelter. Add to agenda for the next meeting.

Clerk

Chair's Signature.....Date.....

Date of next Meeting: *The next meeting of Council was scheduled for 7:30pm on Monday 8th June*

2015 in the Village Hall