

DRAFT

## NYNEHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 2 NOVEMBER 2009 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, NYNEHEAD

Present: Mr. M. Hooper (in the chair), Mr. M. Briginshaw, Mr. A. Howe, Mr. P. Netley and Mr. G. Sparks. Also present were Mr. C. Bishop (Borough Councillor), PCSO J. McAteer and 21 members of the public.

Apologies: Mr. T. McMahon (County Councillor); Mr. C. Spackman (Parish Paths Liaison Officer).

#### 09/114 Declarations of Interest.

- (i) Mr. Sparks: item 5(i) (application for affordable housing) – prejudicial as owner/occupier of neighbouring property.
- (i) Mr. Hooper: item 8 (Jubilee Playing Field registration) – non-prejudicial as a member of the Playing Field Committee.

09/115 The minutes of the meeting on 5 October 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record.

#### 09/116 Matters arising from the minutes

- (i) 09/105(i) – There still was no progress to report on notice board repairs although the Chairman said that he and Terry Binding would be working on it soon.
- (ii) 09/105(iii) – Work on the Jubilee Playing Field registration was still in progress.
- (iii) 09/113 – Mr. Sparks said that the new opening hours for the Poole recycling site were unsatisfactory in that, starting at 9.00 a.m., they were not helpful for people wishing to use the facility on the way to work. It was felt that this could lead to more litter problems in the area. There was also concern about garden waste being dumped on road verges in Higher Nynehead. It was agreed to write to Somerset Waste Partnership.

#### 09/117 Local police report

PCSO McAteer made his monthly report. Apart from shed break-ins there had been few incidents reported in the village. The security of the village hall site was discussed. It was agreed that the police report would be a regular item on the agenda.

#### 09/118 Planning matters

- (i) Application for the erection of 7 affordable dwellings on agricultural land opposite village hall (revision of 26/08/0010).

Extracts from the application had been circulated to members and the application was on display before the meeting. Before the Council discussed the application the Chairman invited members of the public to comment. The comments made reflected those made on the application for 20 houses on the site which had gone to appeal. On a show of hands there was unanimous opposition to the application.

Mr. Sparks made a statement of his opposition to the application and having declared a prejudicial interest left the room.

Members then considered the application. In the lively discussion that took place Mr. Briginshaw and Mr. Howe stated their opposition to the proposed housing. Mr. Netley said that having children he saw the need for affordable housing in the village and supported the proposal, as did the Chairman. A member of the public asked why Mr. Netley had not declared a personal interest in the application in view of his reasons for giving his support, but Mr Netley said that he did not consider it necessary. In answer to another question the Clerk said that the declaration of an interest was a matter for the individual member following the national Code of Conduct for local authority members and the associated guidance. All members had been given copies and he had recently advised members of the need to be rigorous in following the Code.

In the light of the Council being equally divided on the proposal and the use of the Chairman's second and casting vote being raised the Clerk recommended that a formal vote be taken but this was not done. At this point Mr. Briginshaw left the meeting and took no further part in the discussion.

After further discussion it was agreed by 2 votes to 1 to support the application, the reason to be given being that the provision of a small amount of housing to meet local needs would be in the interests of the village as a whole.

- (ii) It was noted that the application for the erection of two storey rear extension, single storey garden room and detached double garage with annex above at Dollings, East Nynehead (ref. 26/09/0009) had been withdrawn.
- (iii) Appeal on affordable housing on land at Poole (ref. 26/08/0011). As agreed at the last meeting the Clerk had drafted the Council's representations on the appeal and after consulting the Chairman had submitted them to the Planning Inspectorate. Copies had been given to members and the Council endorsed the representations made. However the appeal had been withdrawn and it was not known if there would be another application on the site.
- (iv) The Clerk had received an enquiry from a resident about the provision of screening between the new developments at the Court and Court Cottages (application no. 26/2007/017). He had contacted the case officer in the Deane planning department who had advised that there had been discussion between the Court's agent and the occupiers of the cottages and the builder. They had come to an agreement and the plans would be forwarded to the Deane Council. These will then need to be incorporated into the overall landscape plan and submitted to discharge the condition together with the condition requiring details of the screening.
- (v) The Deane Council's planning training had been postponed to 17 February 2010.

#### 09/119 Highway matters

- (i) Somerset Highways had provided pages from the Highway Inspection Manual which would be circulated to members.
- (ii) The footway along Poole Road from the new roundabout will definitely end at the crossing point by the repositioned seat and will not be extended any further. It was understood that it was not considered reasonable to require the extended path as part of the permission for the Cades Farm development.
- (iii) The 10 m.p.h.signs in the village had been removed quickly once the Council had complained.
- (iv) The 'new roundabout' sign will stay up for a maximum period of six months and it will then be removed. So far as the request for directional signing from the Poole direction was concerned Somerset Highways had replied that it is normal practice

DRAFT

for the A and B roads which carry the greater volume of traffic to have map type signs on the approach to roundabouts. This is the reason why there are already these types of sign on the roundabout approach from Wellington and the Chelston/motorway. The Nynehead approach carries far less traffic and also there is insufficient verge space available to erect a large sign. There will be direction signs erected on all the splitter islands around the roundabout giving directions to Nynehead, Poole industrial Estate, Wellington etc.’

- (iv) The surface water drainage system at the Poole roundabout is not yet full complete as a new system still has to be installed down the Nynehead Road as far as the turning to Poole Industrial Estate. When the whole system is complete there should not be any problems with surface water runoff.
- (v) The Clerk would reply to the County Council letter on transport priorities in consultation with the Chairman.
- (vi) The East Nynehead road at Bradford-on-Tone would be closed temporarily in the early hours of 18 October for railway maintenance work.

09/120 Rights of way

In Mr. Spackman’s absence there was no monthly report. The County Council had received a complaint regarding recurrent cropping by maize of footpath WG 8/21 on land farmed by Mr Darby of Hornshay Farm. It had served notice on Mr. Darby and the footpath had now been cleared. He will receive an annual reminder note from the County Council.

09/121 Adoption of telephone box, Higher Nynehead

The Clerk had obtained details of the offer from BT and of the 7-page agreement that would have to be signed if it was decided to take up the offer. In discussion it appeared that there was little enthusiasm for the idea but nevertheless the item was deferred to the next meeting for a decision.

09/122 Allotments strategy for Taunton Deane

The executive summary from the Deane Council’s consultation document had been circulated to members. It was agreed that while the proposed policies were in general worthwhile they were of little relevance to Nynehead at present, and the report would therefore be noted.

09/123 Somerset Rural Youth Project

The Project Worker from the SRYP’s Stronger Communities Team had written asking for the Council’s support for its work on anti-social behaviour. It was agreed to write in support but to point out that in Nynehead at least such behaviour among young people was not an issue at present.

09/124 Parish Council administration

- (i) The Clerk reported on the SALC Clerks’ workshop held on 15 October. As usual it was a useful event at which important issues were discussed: declarations of interest by members; the need to maintain tight financial controls; how to react to reductions in County and District expenditure affecting parishes; effective budgeting processes; the national work on internet banking by parish councils (at present not legal); the suggestion that each council should have a laptop and village halls should have wi-fi facilities.

DRAFT

- (ii) A financial statement and draft budget for 2010-11 would be brought to the December meeting, for a decision on the budget and precept to be made in January. It had been recommended that a member look at the Council's financial systems. Mr. Sparks agreed to undertake this work.

09/125 Payments and receipts

- (i) The issue of cheques was authorised for:
  - a. The Clerk's salary (£191.21) and expenses (£35.49) for October - £226.70. (prop. Mr. Netley, sec. Mr. Sparks) (cheque no. 000529).
  - b. Jubilee Playing Field Committee – TDBC grant - £362.00. (prop. Mr. Sparks, sec. Mr. Netley)(cheque no. 000530).
  - c. All Saints Church – burial ground grant - £630.00. (prop. Mr. Hooper, sec. Mr. Sparks) (cheque no. 000531).
  - d. SALC – workshop fee - £15.00. (prop. Mr. Sparks, sec. Mr. Netley)(cheque no. 000532)
- (ii) The receipt was noted of TDBC grants for playing field, burial ground and footpath maintenance - £1292.00.

09/126 Correspondence

The receipt was noted of the following correspondence tabled at the meeting:

- (i) TDBC – invitation to Remembrance Day service, 8 November.
- (ii) Somerset Waste Partnership – invitation to stakeholders' workshops, 20/27 November in Bridgwater.
- (iii) South Western Ambulance Service – Aspirant Foundation Trust Consultation Plan.
- (iv) Society of Local Council Clerks - regional conference, 3 December.
- (v) SCC – Taunton and West Somerset Public Transport Timetable, October 2009.
- (vi) TDBC – weekly planning application lists.
- (vii) Sir John Popham Trust – notice of flat vacancy.
- (viii) LexisButterworth – publications information.
- (ix) Arien Signs – product information.
- (x) PCSO J. McAteer – monthly report.

09/127 No items were requested by members for the next meeting (7 December).

Signed:

Chairman

Date: