

NORTON CANES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 23rd May 2011 at 7 p.m. at Norton Canes Library

Present: Cllrs:A.Gilbert
P.Gilbert
J.Bernard
J.Beddows
M.Hopley
Mrs.L.Florence (Clerk)

R.Bishop
A.Bernard
A.Harding
J.Preece

Apologies: Cllr.J.Bridgen

9 members of the public were present.

129/2011 Election of Chair

Cllr.A.Gilbert was proposed by Cllr.J.Beddows and seconded by Cllr.P.Gilbert

Cllr.A.Gilbert received 6 votes and no other nominations were received.

It was resolved:

To elect Cllr.A.Gilbert as Chair of the Council for the ensuing year.

130/2011 Declaration of Acceptance

Cllr.A.Gilbert signed the form of Acceptance.

131/2011 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr.J.Bridgen

132/2011 Election of Vice Chair

Cllr.P.Gilbert was proposed by Cllr.J.Bernard and seconded by Cllr.J.Beddows

Cllr.P.Gilbert received 7 votes and no other nominations were received.

It was resolved:

To elect Cllr.P.Gilbert as Vice Chair of the Council for the ensuing year.

133/2011 To fill the vacancies left unfilled by Reason of Insufficiency

Written nominations for co-option to the Parish Council had been received from

Mrs.June Davies
Mrs.Lynne Barber
Mr.Robert Wilkinson
Mrs.Z.Stretton
Mr.J.Hampshire

All nominees were in attendance and gave an overview to the meeting of their background and suitability to become a Councillor for Norton Canes.

Elected members considered the nominations and a secret ballot was undertaken. The result of which was as follows:

Mrs. June Davies received 7 votes
Mrs.Lynne Barber received 3 votes
Mr Robert Wilkinson received 5 votes
Mrs.Z.Stretton received 6 votes
Mr.J.Hampshire received 6 votes

It was resolved:

That Mrs.J.Davies, Mrs.Z.Stretton and Mr.J.Hampshire be co-opted to the Parish Council.

Those members who were unsuccessful were thanked for their nominations and hoped that they would continue to attend future meetings.

134/2011 Declarations of Acceptance of Office

All Councillors were requested to sign the Declaration of Acceptance. All forms to be completed and returned to the Clerk by the 30th May 2011.

135/2011 Committee Representatives

The following representatives was agreed as follows:

NORTON ALUMINIUM

J Bernard J Bridgen

PLANNING

J.Beddows, Z.Stretton, J.Bridgen

PROJECTS/VILLAGE ENHANCEMENT

A.Gilbert, A.Bernard, J.Davies, S.Harding, J.Bridgen, Z.Stretton, P.Gilbert, J.Hampshire. J.Preece

AUDIT & GOVERNANCE

J.Bernard, P.Gilbert, Z.Stretton, J.Davies

POPLARS LIAISON

J.Beddows, A.Bernard, P.Gilbert

KONCAS

J.Davies

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

J.Bernard

NORTON CANES COMMUNITY CENTRE

A.Bernard

136/2011 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION commenced at 7.30 p.m

Bus Shelter - bus shelter at Norton Green Lane has now been installed and a members of the public have expressed their gratitude that this has not been completed. The bus shelter opposite the Co-op on the Brownhills Road has now been taken down due to some reported health and safety issues and a replacement bus shelter needs to be considered.

Footpaths in School Road - the condition of the footpaths in School Road is still an ongoing problem. Agreed that John Rowley should be contacted about the issue.

Action: Clerk to contact John Rowley.

Chasewater – meeting informed that Staffordshire County Council will now be taking responsibility for Chasewater following the major works that has been undertaken. County Council have taken it over to ensure that the area is maintained as Lichfield District do not have the funds available. Cllr.Stretton suggested that there used to be a Chasewater Liaison Committee at the County Council and perhaps this should be investigated for future reference.

Development Brownhills Road/Red Lion Lane - enquiry made about whether there had been any further information about the proposed housing development as officials have been seen in the area.

Action: Clerk to contact John Hemminsley at District Council.

Parish Website - this had been an agenda item previously and question raised as to what was happening. Meeting informed that this is in the process of being reviewed.

Future Matters – suggestion that agendas and minutes should be displayed on the Parish Noticeboard. Also could information relating to the lengthsman invoice be available at future meetings just to inform what type of activities are being carried out in the village.

Highways – it was reported that work is being carried out in areas that are not considered a priority and that other areas are being overlooked. Some concern about how the contracts are awarded.

Action: Representative from Highways Dept to be invited to future meeting to discuss issues.

Public Participation closed at 7.49 p.m.

137/2011 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 27th April 2011

Minutes of the meeting held on the 27th April 2011 were accepted as a true and accurate record

Proposed: Cllr.J.Beddows

Seconded: Cllr. J.Bernard

138/2011 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Page 1 – to chase Neil Adams re responses to the questions raised re proposed incinerator.

Page 2 – chase District Council re response to enquiry re P.Emery funeral directors regarding the parking issues.

Page 4 – re problems with Turf Island (this was referred to Tip Island). Cllr.J.Bernard informed those present that he had referred the issue to the Highways Dept and was informed that work on the island was on a schedule to be completed but this would be at a later date. Further query raised about the state of the central reservation on the A5 due to the overgrown grass and the Turf island which is causing visibility problems.

Action: Cllr J.Bernard agreed to take this up with the County.

Invite representative from Highways Dept to future meeting to discuss issues.

140/2011 Authorisation of Accounts

The accounts for May which had been circulated were agreed.

Proposed: Cllr.J.Beddows

Seconded: Cllr.J.Bernard

The Clerk referred Councillors to the copy Annual Accounts for the Audit Commission for 2010-11. The Clerk went through the figures and brought Section 2 Annual Governance Statement to the attention of Councillors. Under this Section she made Councillors aware of their responsibility for internal audit controls and following the internal audit report she recommended that an Audit and Governance Committee should be set up to undertake quarterly audit exercises. This Committee could also look at the risk assessments that need to be reviewed and any other items under finance and governance that need to be considered and reported back to full Council.

The Clerk gave an overview of the Internal audit report which highlighted compliance with financial regulations but referred to the risk assessments that needed to be reviewed.

It was resolved:

To accept the Annual Accounts for 2010-11.

It was suggested that a more detailed budget be provided at future Council meetings.

141/2011 Police Report

No Police Report was available.

142/2011 Councillors Reports

143/2011 Incoming/Outgoing Correspondence

- Letter received from Staffordshire County Council re Local Authority Governor term of office expiring in August 2011 for Jerome Community Primary School. Cllr.J.Beddows stated he wished to continue to be the representative.

It was resolved:

That Cllr.J.Beddows be nominated as the Local Authority Governor.

- Letter received from Norton & District Funeral Directors offering support to community groups in the village regarding a donation of

£100 from the proceeds of any funeral for a Norton Canes resident. The Council applauded this initiative and fully supported it. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Chase Post thanking the Company for this and highlighting this to the residents of Norton Canes.

Action: Clerk to write to Chase Post.

- Communication received from Community Partnership on behalf of St. James Church. The Partnership are supporting the Church in sourcing funding for the refurbishment of the Church. The Parish has supported this project previously through \$137 in the sum of £700 but due to the changes in match funding the Church now needs a sum of £5,500 to enable this to proceed. Other funding organisations are being identified but were seeking confirmation from the Parish. Discussion ensued on this subject and it was agreed that such a commitment could not be considered as there were other options open to the Church. There was a considerable amount of \$106 money relating to the housing development on the Church Hall site some years ago and this money went to the Lichfield Diocese. It was agreed to write to the PCC and seek clarification as to where this funding went.

Action: Clerk to write to PCC.

144/2011 Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 22nd June 2011 at 7 p.m. at Norton Canes Community Centre.

145/2011 Items for Future Agenda

- Hedgerow in Brownhills Road.

Signed: **Dated**