

# NORTON CANES PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at 7 p.m. at Norton Canes Library

**Present:** Cllrs:A.Gilbert J.Bernard  
A.Bernard S.Harding  
J.Bridgen J.Preece  
J.Davies P.Gilbert  
J.Beddows R.Bishop  
Z.Stretton  
Mrs.L.Florence (Clerk)

**Cllrs.J.and A.Bernard left the meeting after the Election of Officers.**

**Also in attendance:**

**There were 3 members of the public in attendance.**

### **291/2012 Election of Chair**

Cllr.J.Beddows was proposed by Cllr.A.Gilbert and seconded by Cllr.P.Gilbert. No other nominations were received.

**It was resolved:**

**To elect Cllr.J.Beddows as Chair of the Council for the ensuing year.**

### **292/2012 Declaration of Acceptance**

Cllr.J.Beddows agreed to sign the Declaration of Acceptance.

### **293/2012 Apologies**

Apologies were received from:

Cllrs. J.Hampshire and M.Hopley

### **294/2012 Election of Vice Chair**

Cllr.P.Gilbert was nominated by Cllr.J.Bernard and seconded by Cllr.A.Bernard. No other nominations were received.

**It was resolved:**

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

295/2012

**Committee Representatives**

The following representatives for Committees 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 AND GOVERNANCE**

J.Bernard, J.Davies, S.Harding R.Bishop

296/2012

**Appointment of representatives on Outside Bodies**

**POPLARS LIAISON**

J.Beddows, P.Gilbert J.Davies

**KONCAS**

J.Davies

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

J.Bernard

**AONB PARISH COUNCILS COMMITTEE**

J.Bernard S.Harding

**DR.SINGH'S PATIENT LIAISON COMMITTEE**

S.Harding

297/2012

**Public Participation**

Collage for Community Centre - Cllr.J.Beddows informed the meeting that he had sponsored another Collage of Paintings by the Watercolour Club which will be located at the Community Centre and will be presented at the Craft Fayre on the 4<sup>th</sup> June.

WRVS Jubilee Party – Cllr.Z.Stretton informed the meeting that the WRVS would be holding their Jubilee Party on the 6<sup>th</sup> June and an invitation was extended to the Chairman of the Parish Council.

District Council Representation at Parish Council Meetings - issue of the non attendance of some District Councillors at Parish Council meetings was raised. Discussion ensued on this matter and it was agreed that Cllr.Z.Stretton would speak to the District Councillor and why there is no attendance. The question was raised as to whether the District Councillors received copy agendas and minutes of meetings. It was stated that the list of dates have been made available but that in future

agendas and minutes will be forwarded by email in advance of the meeting.

**Action: Clerk to arrange to email copy agenda and minutes of future meetings to District Councillor.**

Parish Assembly - the issue of poor attendance at the last Parish Assembly was raised. It was felt that in view of the donations given to organisations and particularly this year with the increased support through the Chairman's Civic Service the attendance of groups was disappointing and it would be etiquette to attend or send in a report to state what the money given was being used for.

Travellers – the issues of travellers sited at the entrance to Bleak House between Heath Hayes and Norton Canes was raised. The travellers have now been moved on but the issue is with the rubbish that remains. The District Council did undertake a surface clean of the site but some rubbish remains down the banked areas. There was an issue of a dog that was left on the site when the travellers moved on and the Dog Warden and Police have been involved in resolving this issue. Question raised as to what can be done to prevent the Travellers accessing the site in the future.

Washbrook Lane - it was reported that there are continual problems with getting rubbish removed from Washbrook Lane. Residents have attempted to contact Environmental Health but there appears to be some barriers to them acting on the information provided.

**Action: Cllr.Z.Stretton agreed to speak to the District Council regarding this matter.**

Drains in Chapel Street – there has been a reported problem with the drains in Chapel Street/Walsall Road for some time and this has not been dealt with. The meeting was informed that Mark Keeling from Highways Dept at the County has visited the area in question and it is being added to their work schedule but as yet there is no timescale for completion of the work. It was suggested that the head of Highways Dept Mr.Gerarity be invited to a future meeting to explain the process being followed and why the delays are so long.

**Action: Clerk to invite Mr.Gerarity to a future meeting.**

Norton Canes Primary School Ofsted Report - a question was raised as to whether Ofsted have revisited the School following the last Ofsted Report. It is understood that Ofsted can make a random visit at any time. Question raised as to whether the Head of the School had called in the Bullying Officer to offer support for reported problems relating to bullying. Cllr.A.Gilbert stated that she had spoken to County Councillor J.Rowley about the school and he had received a lot of positive comments. It was suggested that Cllr.Rowley be asked to attend a future meeting to give an update.

**Action: Clerk to invite Cllr.J.Rowley to future meeting.**

Public Participation closed at 8.10 p.m.

**298/2012 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**299/2012 Minutes of Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012**

Minutes of the meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

**Proposed: Cllr.J.Beddows**

**Seconded: Cllr.A.Gilbert**

**300/2012 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Page 1 - amendment relating to the Mining Memorial Hednesford. This should state that not all the sponsors have yet been received to meet the bill for the pathway so all sponsors could not be put in the book. However they will be put on the Plaque when this is erected.

**301/2012 Annual Return and Accounts 2011-12**

This item needs to be discussed at Audit and Governance Committee before being presented to full Council so this item will be deferred to the next meeting.

**302/2012 Police Report**

PSCO Andy Turnock had provided a written report for the meeting giving an update on the activities within the village. The report was read to the meeting which referred to very low levels of crime within the last month with a few isolated incidents of bicycles being stolen and an insecure car being targeted. The report stated that they were still looking for volunteers for Community Speedwatch. Cllr.Harding stated that she had volunteered for the Project but to date had received no contact.

The issue of an out of date Police notice which is still located on the Parish notice board should be taken down.

**303/2012 Reports from Councillors**

Norton Bog - Cllr.S.Harding reported that the group are working hard and the area is being transformed.

Cema Project – Cllr.S.Harding reported that she has invited Victoria Henderson from the District Council to offer support to the Project.

Koncas – Cllr.J.Beddows reported that a meeting had took place at Unit 13 on the 31<sup>st</sup> May with the Solicitor and owners of the building and negotiations are continuing for a further two year lease, There appears to be a lot of support for the Project and he is hopeful that some agreement can be reached either for a further lease or the sale of Unit 13. More groups are now using the facility which provides income generation.

### **303/2012 Reports from Committees**

Projects: Cllr.S.Harding gave an update on the upcoming Queens Diamond Jubilee event on the 4<sup>th</sup> June. Volunteers are needed to be Marshalls for the day and if anyone can offer support they should contact the Clerk. Programmes have now been delivered to all households in the village and the arrangements for the day are now taking shape. Prize Draw had now taken place with 1<sup>st</sup> Prize to Georgina Harper, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize to Rene Fereday from Darby & Joan Club and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Phoenix Hewitt from Norton Canes Primary School. The lighting of the beacon will take place at 10.30 p.m.

Audit and Governance: meeting scheduled to take place on the 6<sup>th</sup> June.

Planning : 2 applications for consideration.

Additions and Alterations to ACP Warehouse on Blakeney Way – meeting was informed that the amended application had been considered and these changes related to health and safety matters raised by the District Council.

#### **No objections**

Planning application for Two front dormers and a rear dormer at 8 Washbrook Lane

This application had been considered and as this did not detract from the street scene no objections was raised.

#### **No objections.**

### **304/2012 Authorisation of Accounts**

The accounts for May having previously been circulated were approved for payment.

**Proposed:** Cllr.Z.Stretton

**Seconded:** Cllr.P.Gilbert

**305/2012 Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

**SIGNED:** ..... **DATED** .....