

# NORTON CANES PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Projects Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011 at The Library, Norton Canes

**Present:** Cllrs, A.Gilbert, Z.Stretton, A.Bernard, J.Hampshire, S.Harding,  
J.Bridgen. L.Florence (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Cllr.J.Preece and Cllr.P.Gilbert

### 1. Appointment of Chairman

Nominations for the Chairman of this Committee was requested. Cllr.A.Bernard was nominated.

Proposed: Cllr.Z.Stretton  
Seconded: Cllr.J.Hampshire.

### 2. **Bus Shelters** – discussion re ownership of all bus shelters and the benefits of Parish taking responsibility for these. Clerk to investigate.

Clean up of existing bus shelters by the lengthsman.

Re bus shelter removed on Brownhills Road – need clarification from Arriva about where their bus routes go to before making decision about replacement bus shelter at this site.

The two old shelters are now sited at Norton Lodge Farm. Agreed to one shelter being scrap metal and receive any funds but that the other shelter should be kept on the farm until clarification about the Brownhills Road bus route is confirmed it may then be possible to just refurbish the other removed shelter for re use.

**Action: Clerk to ascertain ownership of shelters.**

### 3. **Public Paths Initiative** - letter received from County Council regarding the Public Paths Initiative. It was suggested that the Parish should take this forward as it keeps the history of the village going. Chairman of the group agreed to work with the history group regarding this issue. Need to establish with the County Council what paths are adopted.

John Hampshire agreed to look into the rights of way issues particularly Burntwood Road and Norton East Road which have on the list for many years.

**Action: John Hampshire to locate information re rights of way.**

### 4. **Burial Ground** – discussion about how this can be taken forward. There is only about 3/ 4years left before the churchyard is full which has prompted a meeting with St.James and the Diocese about how this can be progressed. The initial meeting took

place in March when the PCC agreed to discuss this further and get back to us. No information has yet been forthcoming. Agreed to write again to Diocese and ask if decision reached as this issues need to be progressed.

Discussion about the Parish Council being able to become a Burial ground in its own right. Letter to be sent to the Diocese to ascertain where the S106 money was allocated

Cllrs. J.Bridgen and Z.Stretton to commence negotiations with Tim Holford re potential purchase of additional land at the rear of existing churchyard. Funding for this purchase was also discussed and suggested that future S106 money could be looked into.

**Action: Chase PCC re response to action from meeting.**

5. **Skatepark** – discussion ensued on the current position regarding the skatepark. Two companies have provided drawings and costs for a refurbishment of the park but this is in excess of £30,000. The development of the skatepark also now becomes part of a bigger picture of the development of the Brownhills Road site pending the development of the Community Centre.

This is an ongoing project that the Parish are taking forward.

6. **Queens Diamond Jubilee** – a letter has been received from Staffordshire Office of the Lieutenancy inviting participation in celebrating the Queens Diamond Jubilee in 2012. It was agreed that this should be discussed at the next Projects Committee.

**Action: To be discussed at next Project Meeting.**

7. **Development of land opposite Croft Bakery (Burntwood Road/Brownhills Rd).** Under the previous Chairman discussions had taken place at previous Projects Committee about the development of the piece of land on the corner of Burntwood Road/Brownhills Road along the similar lines of the Millennium Garden. Some discussions have taken place with Peter Scholes at the District Council and he is providing some drawings and costings about this. It was highlighted that this had previously not come to full Council for discussion and this needs to be actioned. Friends of Norton Canes are also part of the working group looking at this issue. However, the land would be transferred to the Parish Council from the District and it would be the Parish responsibility to maintain this in the future.

**Action: To be taken to full Council meeting.**

8. **Fingerpost** – suggestion that a fingerpost should be erected on the Bridge (possibly in the new developed land) which would enhance the village. Discussion also took place about a map of the village being located here which would be helpful in identifying schools, churches etc given that there are now no amenity signs in the village.

**Action: To be discussed at full Council meeting.**

9. **Cema Project** – this is an initiative being taken forward by the Friends of Norton Canes and the Parish Clerk is part of that working group. Cllr.S.Harding is involved with the Project. Consultation with the public has taken place which was very positive. Now need to submit funding application to Big Lottery. The original request to the Parish Council was for their support in the maintenance of the equipment on the development. It was suggested that the costings for a designated person to undertake these risk assessments should be included in the bid.

10. **One Stop Information Event** - this is being promoted by the Community Partnership and the Parish Council have been approached about whether we require a stand at the event. It was agreed that this should go to full Council with a recommendation that the Parish Council should have a stand.

**Action: To be discussed at full Council.**

11. **Amenity signs for village** – this has been an ongoing issue at Parish Council Meetings. The County Council will provide signs for the village but this is at a cost. It was agreed that this could be linked to the Map of the village being erected on the proposed development on the Bridge which would include all locations.

Also explore the Woodworking Group in the village providing a wooden fingerpost.

**Action: Explore wooden fingerpost with Woodworking Group**

12. **Green Communities Report** - this report has been prepared and presented at a recent Community Partnership Meeting. It is agreed in principle that the Parish should support this initiative and as members of the Parish Council sit also on the Community Partnership group there is an opportunity to link this together. It was also agreed to link in with the person responsible for Green Communities at the County Council.

13. **Website** – it was reported that the Clerk on her appointment had been tasked with the development of a website. Other Parish Council websites have been looked at in terms of good practice. A link has been made with a website developer who has experience in developing websites for other Parish Councils. It was agreed to ask him to attend the next Parish Council meeting to take this forward.

**Action: Invite website developer to June Council meeting.**

14. **Community Speed watch** - the Parish Council has been approached by the PSCO's about the implementation of a Community Speedwatch in the village. The PSCO's have advertised this in the press and two people have come forward offering their services. The Police are looking to the Parish Council to support this initiative financially at a cost of £1,000 which would include the purchase of the equipment and some training.

It was agreed to discuss this at a future Projects Committee and take back to full Council at September meeting.

**Action: To discuss at future Projects Committee.**

**15. Hanging Baskets** – 15 hanging baskets have been ordered and should be in place early June.

**16. Date of Next Meeting: To be arranged**

**Meeting closed at 12.15 p.m.**

**Signed: ..... Date: .....**