

# NORTON CANES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Projects Committee  
held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2011  
at Norton Canes Parish Office

**Present: Cllrs, A.Bernard (Chair) A.Gilbert, P.Gilbert J.Hampshire, S.Harding, J.Bridgen. J.Preece and L.Florence (Clerk)**

1. **Apologies: Cllrs.J.Davies and Z.Stretton**

2. **Minutes of Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> September were agreed as a true and accurate record.

Amendment: Page 1 in attendance should have recorded that Cllr.J.Preece was in attendance.

**Proposed: Cllr.A.Gilbert**  
**Seconded: Cllr.P.Gilbert**

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising as these appear as agenda items.

4. **Bus Shelters**

The meeting was informed that the bus shelters were cleaned on the 21<sup>st</sup> September. On inspection they do appear to have had good results as far as the green algae is concerned but some shadows still remain of the graffiti. It was agreed that this was worthwhile exercise and that this should be commissioned again in the Spring 2012.

Discussion ensued about the possible replacement bus shelter for Brownhills Road (opposite the Co-op). This had previously been taken down due to health and safety issues of the bus shelter and at the time the bus was only stopping at this stop on a Sunday. The routes have changed and buses are now operating here on a regular basis. It was felt that the cost of repairing the old bus shelter was excessive and that Arriva should be approached about providing a pole with bus stop to identify that this is a bus stop.

**Action: Clerk to write to Arriva.**

5. **Public Paths Initiative**

Access to the PSMA is still ongoing as there have been a few minor problems with accessing the right data so at present we do not have any definitive maps. Discussion ensued on other different forms of leaflets that had been produced in other areas and it

was suggested that contact be made with Gt.Wyrley Parish Council who had recently released a publication to ascertain what the costs involved were. Other funding streams including approach to Cllr.John Rowley should be considered.

**6. Burial Ground**

Cllr.A.Gilbert gave feedback on a conversation she had with Father Neil relating to the burial ground. The Church are happy to look at the maintenance of the churchyard and an email had also been received from Father Neil putting forward certain issues relating to planning consent for change of use and also removal of existing hedge at the churchyard which may affect the stability of the already occupied burial ground. There are certain factors that still need to be explored to enable this to be taken forward. Cllr.P.Gilbert agreed to discuss with Mr.T.McGovern at the District Council regarding the planning issues.

**7. Skatepark**

Cllr.P.Gilbert informed the meeting that the issue of S106 funding was still being explored with Cannock Chase District Council. The request for the £9,375 which is currently sitting in the S106 fund at the District needs to be taken to a Cabinet meeting. Once this is resolved a bid can be put together to Veiola Trust for the refurbishment of the skatepark.

**8. Queens Diamond Jubilee.**

The Meeting was informed that the sub committee had met to discuss plans for the event. It was suggested that the focus should be on the Beacon event and to keep other celebrations simplistic to avoid issues of health and safety and other legislation that may have to be adhered to. The sub committee had discussed publishing a commemorative brochure to inform residents what events are taking place and to organise a shop window competition. It was agreed that other groups and organisations in the village should be encouraged to take part.

Cllr.A.Bernard highlighted the importance of looking at associated costs for this event to enable these to be built into the 2012/13 budget.

**9. Development of land opposite Croft Bakery (Burntwood Road/Brownhills Rd).**

The meeting was informed that a meeting had taken place with Peter Scoles from the District Council to look at how this can be taken forward. He agreed to produce some plans for consideration. It was suggested that consultation within the village should be commenced to ascertain views on the Project and also involve the local schools. To promote the consultation process it was felt that a prize incentive should be offered one for adults and one for children to be judged independently.

Further discussion ensued on the timetable for this Project and it was suggested that it would be appropriate if the completion, dependant upon funding, could be linked to the Queens Diamond Jubilee date. This will be advertised on the website and an article put in the local newspaper to raise awareness.

It was agreed to approach 3 companies to put forward plans for the site and that the consultation process would ask people to decide which is the most popular plan.

**Action: Clerk to approach 3 companies to produce plan for the area.**

**10. Cema Project**

The meeting was informed that the Project had not been invited by Big Lottery to apply for a full application. One of the areas that needs to be addressed is how to identify the Project will change people's lives. The Friends of Norton Canes will be reapplying with support from the Community Partnership.

**11. Amenity signs for village**

No further information discussed as this will link in with the Public Pathways initiative.

**12. Christmas Lights**

The lights will be switched on on the 18<sup>th</sup> November. Efforts have been made to try and resolve the taking down of the lights on the big tree located in Chapel Street. However this requires a cherry picker to enable the task to be done safely but quotes received for this are excessive. Request for £100 to be ringfenced to try and get this issue resolved.

**It was resolved:**

**To ringfence the £100 to pay for a cherry picker to take down the lights.**

**13. Festive Window Competition**

Draft letters have been prepared to send to shops in the village to enter the competition. It was agreed that the judging will take place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7 p.m. The judges will be Cllr.J.Hampshire and Mr.Dennis Rutherford. The winners will receive their prizes at the January Council meeting.

It was also agreed that the Community Award would be presented on the same evening.

**Action: Clerk to send out letters.**

**14. Lantern Parade**

Application has been made to Community Fund of Cllr.J.Rowley for funding for the lantern parade. It has been suggested that the lantern parade should take place prior to the Carol Service on the 11<sup>th</sup> December. This event will be taken forward by the Community Partnership which the Parish Council will offer support to.

**15. Green Communities Report**

Meeting was informed that Norton Canes has been a designated area for low carbon and the District Council are piloting solar panels on some council houses in the area. Cllr.A.Bernard will continue to report back on this issue.

**16. Website**

The work on the website is ongoing. Suggestion that links should be made to the local schools. Any information that is required to be include on the website should be forwarded to the Clerk.

**17. Community Speedwatch**

The meeting was informed that Cllr.J.Bernard has approached Heath Hayes & Wimblebury and they are happy to share the use of the equipment provided the Parish Council agree to contribute to the costs of the calibration which happens twice a year. It was agreed to speak to PC Spicer about the volunteers for this Project.

**Action: Clerk to liaise with Cllr.J.Bernard re agreement to be in writing re the use of the equipment. Contact PC Spicer re volunteers.**

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

**Meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.**

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