

**NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES of a MEETING of Nailsworth Town Council**  
held at the Town Hall, Nailsworth  
**on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

Present	Cllr Jonathan Duckworth (Town Mayor) Cllr Paul Francis Cllr Steve Robinson Cllr Robert Maitland Cllr Myles Robinson Cllr Norman Kay Cllr Sue Reed Cllr Angela Norman Cllr Ron Kerby
Apologies	Cllr Anne Elliott Cllr Sally Millett

Ref. No		Action
<b>2016/196</b>	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST &amp; REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS</b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest or applications for dispensations</p>	
<b>2016/197</b>	<p><b>Public Questions</b></p> <p>There were a number of members of the public present for Item 10, the future of the Children's Centre. The Mayor brought this item forward and included County Cllr Dorcas Binns in the discussion.</p> <p>Sally Thorpe (member of public) repeated a plea to save Nailsworth's Children's Centre and referred to County Cllr Dorcas Binns' report of 17/01/2017 which she felt did not offer the funding she promised. Rev Mike Smith said he was bitterly disappointed with County Cllr Dorcas Binns' report and urged NTC to maintain whatever provision is there. Colleen Rothwell (member of Christchurch, Nailsworth) stated it was inhumane to reduce the service of a fundamental health priority and an essential building block for our community.</p> <p>Fi Macmillan (member of public) brought attention to a recent Oxford University report outlining importance of this kind of service for communities.</p> <p>The Mayor stated that NTC's report from the Children's Centre Working Party doesn't include a recommendation for a financial commitment from NTC which would need 3 days' notice.</p> <p>The Mayor outlined the paper's contents and repeated its findings that as NTC does not have General Powers of Competence, NTC does not have the powers to fund this service. Having received County Cllr Binns' paper that day, NTC could not act on it now.</p> <p>Cllr Sue Reed asked the Clerk to define what S137 payments can fund and whether this can be used to fund the Children's Centre. The Clerk responded that she had been looking into this and had also sought</p>	

advice from GAPTC to confirm that S137 payments cannot be made for salaries or to run a service, however they can be made to another body for capital spending eg to purchase equipment.

Cllr Norman Kay asked if it was possible to set aside a sum of money against future spending on the Children's Centre. He asked when the Clerk could expect to gain the necessary qualification for NTC to gain General Power of Competence. The Clerk responded that the CiLCA qualification would take a year from October 2017 and even then, there will be other hurdles for NTC to jump regarding competence and compliance to run such a service.

Cllr Robert Maitland commented that NTC needs to be as clear as possible over what is at issue, and how the current Arkell Centre service is better than what's being offered.

Cllr Myles Robinson asked how we cannot run this service even though we can support other services through the town. The Clerk responded that other services were supported through powers given by various Acts and that she had sought advice from GAPTC on these. Responding to a further question from Cllr Steve Robinson the Clerk confirmed that NTC cannot have a Service Level Agreement direct with Barnardo's for the previously mentioned reasons.

Cllr Sue Reed asked if the Arkell Community Centre Trust could run the service. The Clerk responded that as the Trustees and NTC are the same, they are not qualified to do so.

The Mayor said the Working Party was set up to look at all these questions but after two months it's still not clear exactly what NTC is looking at.

Sarah Urquhart (representing PATA and working for GRCC) introduced herself and explained she has recently been appointed to facilitate the transition of Children's Centres to the new service from April 2017. As a part time support worker, she has been commissioned through GRCC to take on the Parent & Community Support Service. Sarah Urquhart's role is to support any volunteers willing to take over the play group services, including training, support and ensuring their buildings are run legally and are financially viable. Children's 'Super Centres' will be offered at Dursley and Stonehouse and people from Nailsworth will be referred to them.

Cllr Norman Kay said that if it's the will of the Town Council to push ahead with this then we may need legal advice to help this happen. The Mayor reiterated that that is what the Working Party needs to consider and that NTC cannot do something which is not legal. This is a fast-moving issue with new information coming out today. NTC need the Working Party to look again at these issues in the light of new information. The Mayor said there was nothing more NTC can do at this stage, which was also the recommendation of the Working Party's report. If a full report appears from Working Party for Full Council at beginning

	<p>of February, then this can be heard then.</p> <p>County Cllr Dorcas Binns said the policy for these changes went through Cabinet a few months ago, and it highlighted that the Children’s Centre provides a unique service for Nailsworth but the new service would still be a targeted service for our most troubled families. Around only 50% of troubled families currently accessed the Children’s Centre at the Arkell Centre so there’s a need to target these families. County Cllr Dorcas Binns was quite pleased with the new provision offered and explained that the new ‘super centres’ will have midwives, social workers and other professionals providing very good services. She observed that if in the future, a service is also run at the Primary School, this helps to get children used to the school setting.</p> <p>County Cllr Dorcas Binns said that some of the funding for these changes will come from the County Council whereas previously this wasn’t going to be the case. She emphasized that if NTC are looking at what’s important for our children then it’s not just about which building it’s in, it’s about the services. Nailsworth will still have provision at the library and also a Parent Support officer at the school. NTC need to look at the families needing this targeted support and County Cllr Binns believes GCC is looking at the best way of doing this.</p> <p>Cllr Norman Kay feels for the County Cllr as the County is having to deal with cuts to services. He asked why last Spring the County Cllr was very keen on keeping the service at the Arkell Centre but now this has changed.</p> <p>County Cllr Binns said she is happy for the Children &amp; Young People’s Fund to support services at the Arkell Centre but emphasizes the new services being provided by the GCC. The Mayor invited County Cllr Binns to go to a meeting of the Working Party and reiterated there was nothing NTC could decide that night.</p> <p>Cllr Ron Kerby asked that the Working Party’s paper shows what services are currently being provided and what is being offered for the future.</p>	<p><b>WORKING PARTY: AN/MR/S REED/ SM/NK/C Cllr Dorcas Binns</b></p>									
<p><b>2016/198</b></p>	<p><b>CONSIDERATION OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AS FOLLOWS: CONSULTATION</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="308 1608 1187 2000"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="308 1608 600 1641">Ref</th> <th data-bbox="600 1608 895 1641">Detail</th> <th data-bbox="895 1608 1187 1641">Comment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="308 1641 600 1868">a)S.16/2875/FUL Plot 1, Land at Windsmeet, Dark Lane</td> <td data-bbox="600 1641 895 1868">Construction of a new 4 bedroomed detached dwelling with attached garage (Amendment to Plot 1 on approved scheme 16/0313/FUL)</td> <td data-bbox="895 1641 1187 1868">Highways to confirm they are satisfied with the visibility splay onto at the egress to Dark Lane as it’s very narrow</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="308 1868 600 2000">b) S.17/0009/LBC 1 Quakers Close Chestnut Hill</td> <td data-bbox="600 1868 895 2000">Proposed demolition of stone shed and lean to in garden of meeting house</td> <td data-bbox="895 1868 1187 2000">Noted</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ref	Detail	Comment	a)S.16/2875/FUL Plot 1, Land at Windsmeet, Dark Lane	Construction of a new 4 bedroomed detached dwelling with attached garage (Amendment to Plot 1 on approved scheme 16/0313/FUL)	Highways to confirm they are satisfied with the visibility splay onto at the egress to Dark Lane as it’s very narrow	b) S.17/0009/LBC 1 Quakers Close Chestnut Hill	Proposed demolition of stone shed and lean to in garden of meeting house	Noted	
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<p><b>2016/199</b></p>	<p><b>MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 20 DECEMBER 2016</b></p>										

	<p><b>AND 10 JANUARY 2017 and ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2017</b></p> <p>The minutes of the Council meetings held on 20 December and 10 January and of the Environment Committee meeting of 10 January were approved.</p> <p>The recommendations of the Environment Committee were considered.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p> <p>1) that NTC join SDC's new Tree Contract (framework agreement) and use Tree Maintenance and Midland Forestry for future work. Cllr Sue Reed observed that NTC needs to look at Management Plans for all our land. Proposed by Cllr Robert Maitland; Seconded by Cllr Sue Reed and agreed unanimously</p> <p>2) that NTC take legal action to remove rough sleeper from NTC land. Costs are estimated at around £2-3,000 and the Clerk was asked to look into legal action to ensure the person could not return to NTC land.  Proposed by Cllr Steve Robinson; Seconded by Cllr Norman Kay and agreed unanimously</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
2016/200	<p><b>MATTERS OF URGENCY</b></p> <p>Bus station toilets: Lucy Biddle SDC has asked to revert to the earlier closure of the toilets as on Monday and Tuesday the family toilet was in very poor state (litter and mess). SDC has suggested NTC supply and pay for CCTV to help curb this problem. Cllr Steve Robinson has been asked previously whether NTC will contribute to a camera for the bus station as there have been problems in the past. It was recommended the Environment Committee investigate CCTV provision.</p> <p>Cllr Steve Robinson has had two complaints about the early closure of the toilets and reported that the Police were not concerned about the mess. It was not being caused by the person originally named by the cleaners and it is not vandalism. In his opinion this should be dealt with by the cleaners.</p> <p>Cllr Ron Kerby suggested that if the problem was just with the family toilet then perhaps that should be locked early and the others left open.</p> <p>Cllr Steve Robinson is happy to take up this matter with SDC.</p>	<b>Environment Cttee</b>
2016/201	<p><b>REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR</b></p> <p>County Cllr Binns responded to a question from Cllr Ron Kerby about the road scheme at Star Hill. One last survey needs to be done and for this GCC are waiting for the weather to improve.</p> <p>County Cllr Dorcas Binns said that although she will be standing down as county councillor, with the agreement of the A46 group and 20mph</p>	

	<p>group, she would like to still sit on this committee as she feels they are very near completion.</p> <p>The Mayor reported the new speed indicator is not working and only worked for around 2 weeks after installation. County Cllr Dorcas Binns has chased this again and been told a spare part is on its way. She apologised on behalf of GCC for not giving the best service.</p> <p>The Mayor said the group has funding from the PCC but it cannot be used until the new policy is in place and asked when this will happen as the clock is ticking for the PCC funding to be spent. County Cllr Binns said she would chase GCC for a date on when the new policy will go to Cabinet. County Cllr Binns said she was having a meeting this week to finalise the 20mph TRO and is chasing this too. She expects to know the results by Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January.</p> <p>Cllr Steve Robinson reiterated the need to keep up the momentum of this project.</p>	
<b>2016/202</b>	<p><b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT</b></p> <p>There was no report from District Councillors.</p>	
<b>2016/203</b>	<p><b>MAYOR'S REPORT</b></p> <p>A report from the Mayor had been previously circulated and was noted. The Mayor added that the Annual Carol Service had raised a final total of £352 for Emmaus.</p> <p>A meeting of the Chamber of Trade has been arranged for 6pm, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at the Mortimer Room and he asked to continue to act as NTC's representative.</p> <p>There will also be a public meeting to gather ideas and feedback on the Nailsworth Noel and this will be 6pm, Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March at the Mortimer Room.</p> <p>The Mayor reported that the final sum collected for the annual Poppy Appeal was around £7300.</p> <p>The Mayor had attended a meeting of NYCE (Nailsworth Sub Rooms) and had found it very positive in terms of their bookings and activities. In the past 10 years they have raised over £200k for their building.</p>	
<b>2016/204</b>	<p><b>DEPUTY MAYOR'S REPORT</b></p> <p>There was no report from the Deputy Mayor.</p>	
<b>2016/205</b>	<p><b>CLERK'S REPORT</b></p> <p>Liz and Jeff Green were put forward as nominations for guests for the Buckingham Palace Garden Party.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>2016/206</b>	<p><b>ACCOUNTS</b></p> <p>The accounts for 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017 totalling <b>£19,268.45</b> were approved unanimously.</p>	

<p><b>2016/207</b></p>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR 2017/2018</b></p> <p>Following a question from Cllr Myles Robinson the Clerk confirmed that £2700 has been earmarked for the Civic Centre project.</p> <p>Last year the precept was £300,783 and this year the request, including new staffing commitments was £300,768.</p> <p>The Mayor confirmed that should funds be needed for the Children’s Centre in the future these can be allocated by NTC. He further explained that we cannot allocate funds to a project when we don’t know what may be funded, how much needed and if it is possible. This will need advice from the Working Party.</p> <p>The Clerk reiterated that NTC has funds in unearmarked reserves to draw on. Cllr Steve Robinson was concerned that the reserves will need to be spread about and that inflation needs to be taken into account.</p> <p>The Mayor commented that we should have a certain amount held in reserve and that the Clerk and Deputy Clerk have been examining all NTC’s reserves. In the coming year, he would also like NTC to look at all contracts and expenditure over 1% of the precept.</p> <p>Cllr Norman Kay commented that there was a recent Government consultation on capping the parish and town council precept and NTC needs to develop a hedge against this by building sufficient reserves for the future.</p> <p>The Clerk explained that the Auditors don’t look kindly on holding too much in reserve and that it would be difficult to explain to residents a raise in the precept when NTC has so much in reserve.</p> <p>The Annual Budget for 2017/2018 was proposed by Cllr Robert Maitland and seconded by Cllr Ron Kerby and was carried with the abstention of Cllr Myles Robinson and Cllr Steve Robinson.</p>	
<p><b>2016/208</b></p>	<p><b>CONSIDERATION OF IMPROVED COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CLERK AND COUNCILLORS AND TO ADDRESS OVERNIGHT CAMPING ON COUNCIL LAND</b></p> <p>Cllr Steve Robinson was concerned that the matter of a rough sleeper on NTC land had not come to the Environment Committee and Cllr Robinson had since been contacted by a resident. He asked that if anything happens the Clerk informs the Council.</p> <p>The Mayor commented that the rough sleeper was brought up in the Neighbourhood Warden’s report in September and that the resident knew about the rough sleeper for a number of weeks before informing NTC. The Mayor noted that this is a sensitive issue and NTC needs to show we have considered the welfare of the person as well as taking the right action for our land.</p> <p>Cllr Sue Reed has also spoken to the resident and is satisfied that due</p>	

	<p>process and contact with other services has been carried out by the Clerk correctly.</p> <p>There was a discussion on how to prevent future overnight camping on NTC land</p>	
<b>2016/209</b>	<p><b>CONSIDERATION OF READ-ONLY INTERNET ACCESS</b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that paper statements would still be sent but that read-only access will allow more accurate bank reconciliations.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Myles Robinson and seconded by Cllr Ron Kerby and agreed unanimously.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>2016/210</b>	<p><b>CONSULTATION ON GCC'S ANNUAL BUDGET</b></p> <p>There were no comments.</p>	
<b>2016/211</b>	<p><b>APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL CHECKER</b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that this person does not need financial qualifications.</p> <p>Cllr Norman Kay volunteered for this role for a term of one year.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Angela Norman and seconded by Cllr Paul Francis and approved unanimously.</p>	<b>Clerk/NK</b>
<b>2016/212</b>	<p><b>CONSIDERATION OF NEW FORMAT FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING</b></p> <p>The paper previously circulated outlined the proposals for a new format to the Annual Town Meeting and the Mayor explained the aim is to promote the town's activities to a wider audience and to provide a more interesting prospect for residents. The intention is still to allow town groups to report on their year, but in a different way.</p> <p>Cllr Norman Kay suggested we give the new format a go. Cllr Angela Norman felt it was a good idea and would give groups a chance to recruit new members.</p> <p>It was agreed to try the new format and to have just one meeting, combining the Annual Town Meeting with the Mayor's Reception on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April.</p> <p>Proposed by the Mayor and seconded by Cllr Norman Kay.</p>	
<b>2016/213</b>	<p><b>REVIEW OF CURRENT WORKING PARTIES</b></p> <p>Councillors went through the list of current Working Parties;</p> <p>Communications Working Party – to meet as and when needed.</p> <p>Civic Centre Working Party – to meet.</p> <p>Flood Risk Working Party – meeting currently being arranged.</p> <p>KGV Buildings Working Party – meeting next week.</p> <p>Asset Transfer Working Party – to meet.</p> <p>MUGA Working Party – disband</p> <p>Market Street Improvements Working Party – to meet as and when</p>	

	needed. Neighbourhood Plan Working Party – Cllr Norman Kay will put together a report of the WP’s findings so far for the next council meeting. Section 106 & CIL Working Party – to meet as and when needed. Grant Applications Working Party – review at the end of financial year.	<b>NK</b>
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Town Mayor

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Date