

**NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES**

Meeting of the Town Council at the Town Hall, Nailsworth
on Tuesday 19 June 2007

Present	Cllr N I Kay (Town Mayor) Cllr W S Affleck Cllr J D Bratby Cllr J Eddyshaw Cllr J R Nicholson Cllr A G Wheeler	New Co-opted Councillors Cllr J A Byrne * Cllr B Jayes Cllr S Robinson Cllr Mrs J M Way
Present for part of the meeting	County Cllr W S Waddington District Cllr J T Jeffreys	
Apologies accepted	Cllr Mrs S M Reed District Cllr Mrs DLM Binns	

* Denotes absence from part of the meeting

2007/52 CO-OPTION TO FILL VACANCIES FOLLOWING RECENT ELECTION

The Mayor advised that there had been six candidates to fill the four vacancies and following interviews, four had been selected.

PROPOSED Cllr Affleck proposed, seconded by Cllr Bratby, to unanimous approval, that Mr John Byrne, Mr Brian Jayes, Mr Stephen Robinson and Mrs Joy Way be co-opted to the Council.

The aforementioned duly joined the table and signed their declarations of office. The Mayor extended a warm welcome to the new Cllrs. He recommended they take advantage of training courses on offer, such as an SDC Planning session on 27 June. Cllr Bratby added that he had attended a previous session which he had found very informative. Cllrs Mrs Way and Wheeler, along with the Mayor indicated they would attend on 27 June. There were regular seminars on "Being a Good Councillor" – see minute 2007/66.

Cllr Nicholson offered to run an in-house training session commencing at 7pm on Thursday 28 June.

2007/53 CASUAL VACANCY for TOWN COUNCILLOR

The Mayor announced that Cllr Mrs Reed had recently taken on a full time job which involved travelling regularly out of the area and, now that the Council was at full strength again, had decided she should resign. Her valuable contribution had already been noted and she would be missed. This meant the co-option procedure would recommence in order to fill the casual vacancy. The Clerk outlined that procedure and hoped that an additional councillor could be in place for September

2007/54 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES – REPRESENTATION on OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllrs agreed to take on membership of committees and representation on outside bodies as follows, with the addition of Nailsworth Primary School which had requested a council representative on its board of governors, and Minchinhampton Education Foundation which had invited the council to recommend a trustee.

NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Membership of Committees 2007-08

<p>ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>Cllr J A Byrne Cllr J R Nicholson Cllr Mrs J M Way Cllr A G Wheeler</p>	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>Cllr J D Bratby Cllr J Eddyshaw Cllr Mrs J M Way Cllr A G Wheeler</p>
<p>PROPERTY MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Cllr J D Bratby Cllr J Eddyshaw Cllr B Jayes Cllr S Robinson</p>	<p>RECREATION & AMENITIES</p> <p>Cllr J A Byrne Cllr B Jayes Cllr J R Nicholson Cllr S Robinson</p>
<p>FINANCE, ECONOMIC & GENERAL PURPOSES</p> <p>Chairmen of committees</p>	<p>TOWN NEWSLETTER</p> <p>Cllr J A Byrne Cllr B Jayes Cllr J R Nicholson</p>
<p>Mayor - Cllr N I Kay Deputy Mayor – Cllr W S Affleck</p> <p>(ex officio on all committees)</p>	<p>* denotes chairman of the committee</p>
<p>REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES</p>	
Nailsworth Youth Club Management Committee	Cllr Robinson
Citizens Advice Bureau	Cllr Bratby
League of Friends of Stroud Hospital	Cllr Eddyshaw
National Trust Minchinhampton & Rodborough Commons Local Management Committee	Mr Bryan James
Nailsworth & District Twinning Association	Cllr Bratby
Nailsworth Youth & Community Enterprise (NYCE)	Cllr Bratby
GMTF and GRCC	Cllrs Eddyshaw and Kay
Nailsworth Chamber of Trade	Cllr Bratby
Minchinhampton Educational Foundation – Trustee	Cllr Wheeler
Nailsworth Primary School, Board of Governors	? Cllr Jayes

Cllr Jayes would investigate the responsibilities relating to the role of governor on the board of the Primary School before confirming if he would be able to take on this role.

2007/55 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the Thirty Fourth Annual Council meeting held on 15 May 2007 were confirmed and signed with the following amendment:

Minute 2007/22, penultimate sentence to read:

It was resolved to respond that, although NTC

The minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 29 May 2007 were approved and signed.

2007/56 MARKET STREET TRIANGLE (minute 2007/11)

Cllr Byrne confirmed that the levels had been taken and he awaited the report and drawings.

2007/57 USE OF SCHOOL PLAYING FIELD IN SUMMER HOLIDAYS (minute 2007/17)

The Mayor advised that he had met with the Head Teacher, Mrs Jo Smith and Nailsworth's Youth Worker and it had been agreed in principle that the playing field could be used over the summer holidays under appropriate supervision. It was suggested Neighbourhood Warden Ashley Nicholson could be involved.

2007/58 CLUBS & ASSOCIATIONS FAIR 9 June (minute 2007/17)

The Mayor had received positive feedback from participants, with the four stands positioned outside being busier than those within the Mortimer Room. It was hoped to repeat the exercise next year in Mortimer Gardens. Cllr Affleck had heard some disappointment at the poor turnout and thought more publicity next time would be helpful. The event had been advertised in both the Fountain and Nailsworth News, in addition to posters around town, and full window display in the TIC in the week prior to the event.

2007/59 NAILSWORTH URBAN DESIGN STATEMENT (minute 2007/22)

Cllr Affleck was concerned that under standing orders, the resolution made at the last meeting would be unchangeable for the duration of this council term, but it was pointed out that the phrasing allowed for a change of mind as and when the report was satisfactorily completed. The Planning Committee would be asked to take over monitoring of this matter.

2007/60 CLLR PROFILE/PHOTO (minute 2007/38)

Cllrs were reminded to let Mrs de Lacroix have their profile and photo by the copy date of 13 July, for inclusion in the September edition of the Fountain.

2007/61 NEW STAGE LIGHTING, TOWN HALL (minute 2007/40)

Cllr Bratby advised that he had met with the new NDS chairman and treasurer, and that the Society was submitting an application to the SDC Rural Community Investment Scheme for both its lighting and the electrical installations.

2007/62 HEARING LOOPS FOR MAIN HALL AND COUNCIL CHAMBER

The Clerk had investigated this idea with SDC's recommended supplier. A circuit with PA system for the main hall would cost £3857, and up to a quarter of the cost could be refunded through an SDC grant for the 08/09 financial year.

PROPOSED The Clerk was asked to submit a grant application to SDC, result of which would be known in November, for a hearing loop system in the main hall at a cost of £3857. If successful a suitable amount would be included in the NTC 08/09 budget. The motion was carried unanimously.

A slightly better than basic system for the council chamber with four microphones would cost £1600.

RESOLVED Cllr Bratby proposed, seconded by Cllr Wheeler to unanimous approval, that a hearing loop system be installed in the council chamber as soon as possible at a cost of £1600, with funds to be taken from reserves.

2007/63 REPORT OF COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County Cllr Waddington drew attention to the recently completed resurfacing work on **Spring Hill**. Repairs to **Pensile Road** were still on hold since discovery of badgers in the area, which required a special licence only obtainable in October/November before any work could commence.

With regards to the bad condition of the road at the **bottom of Nailsworth Hill**, Cllr Waddington was trying to have repairs included on this year's programme of work.

As part of its energy saving initiative, GCC officers from Mr Barry Greenaway's department would be visiting the Clerk later in the week to provide a schedule of Nailsworth streets where it was proposed to **switch off street lighting** between midnight and 5am. Cllrs would be given the opportunity to review the schedule which would be considered at the meeting of the Environment Committee on 2 July. As soon as the proposal was agreed, the scheme could be put into effect, although this would take some time to complete as each street lamp needed to have an individual timer fitted. The pilot scheme in Cam had met with a very positive reaction, and GCC was now keen to trial in a larger community.

Cllrs were invited to attend a **Shared Spaces Seminar** on 3 July in Cheltenham to consider a concept from the continent of changing street design to give the pedestrian precedence over the motor vehicle. Cllr Waddington felt Old Market would be an ideal site to trial this scheme. Parish and Town councillors were invited to attend a **Rural Speed Conference** on 11 September to discuss speeding issues and solutions. The **SW Gloucester bypass** opened a couple of weeks ago providing a much better route into the city.

Budget discussions and **financial strategy** were currently starting at GCC, in anticipation of an announcement from government on grants for next year. GCC was looking at **enhanced two tier working** in order to bring forward proposals to reduce duplication and save costs. Currently SDC collected the district's **waste** which was then disposed of by GCC, and the consultants' review had identified this as a significant area needing attention. Whilst reviewing waste disposal contracts, a new strategy for residual waste was required to move away from landfill which was becoming very expensive with ever increasing landfill tax.

In response to a request from Cllr Nicholson, Cllr Waddington would try and have the road at **Old Market** between the Library and Cossack Square resurfaced, to match the end of the road which had been included in the Spring Hill job.

District Cllr Jeffreys advised that the civic year was just beginning and he had nothing special to report at this stage. He was now cabinet member for wellbeing, which covered health, sport and culture. The Ward Cllr for Painswick was now cabinet member for housing.

2007/64 TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor reported that he had been introducing himself and getting to know local organisations. He had been working with District Cllr Mrs Binns on the possibility of a **Nailsworth Olympics** (see minute 2007/17). He had met with the sports development officer at SDC and various local clubs in the town and received a positive response. Recreation & Amenities Committee would be asked to take the idea forward.

The Mayor had received support from the SDC officer to his idea of creating a **Youth Council** although he had suggested that a **Youth Forum** might be more appropriate. He was consulting a

number of interested bodies and Acorn School and Ruskin Mill would revert with their thoughts by the end of the month.

2007/65 REPORT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Cllr Affleck had shadowed the Mayor on several occasions over the past month and shared ideas.

2007/66 REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

It was agreed not to place an advert in the West Midlands Weekly Newspaper. It was agreed that it was not appropriate to promote the Fiore Wedding Fayre at 5 Valleys Leisure Centre on the council website, nor accept to display a banner advertising this commercial event, as had been subsequently requested.

The excellent Mill Walks Leaflet produced by the Stroudwater Textile Trust would be sold in the TIC at £1 each, and purchased at cost.

GRCC's three-part 'Being a Good Councillor' training course would take place on 4, 18 and 27 September and Cllrs were invited to attend. The details would be passed around and Cllrs Jayes, Robinson and Mrs Way expressed an interest.

2007/67 CHARITABLE STATUS OF KGV PLAYING FIELD

A paper outlining the situation with the Charities Commission review had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk explained the current options and discussion ensued on the possible alternatives and ramifications in the light of current knowledge. The Charity Commission had also questioned the validity of the charitable registration of Hazelwood Bungalow which would require extensive investigation of old records at the Gloucester Record Office.

RESOLVED Cllr Eddyshaw proposed, seconded by Cllr Bratby that the KGV Field should not be retained as a charitable trust at the present time and NTC would request that it be removed from the Register. This decision to be reviewed within 12 months. The motion was carried with one vote against and the rest in favour.

2007/68 SDC CONSULTATION ON FUTURE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (LDF) DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS

Cllr Affleck explained that this document described SDC's changes in presentation and access to the planning framework which was now available online. The document was available in the office if any Cllr wanted to take a closer look and it was agreed to register for online access, though value of this new facility was unknown. The Clerk was asked to make the necessary registration and circulate login details to Cllrs so they could access the information individually. The online access to planning applications was functioning, sometimes, and plans back to 2004 could be reviewed.

2007/69 REPORT OF PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Bratby presented the report of the meeting of the committee held on 17 May and Cllr Affleck presented the report of the meeting held on 5 June.

Cllr Eddyshaw was concerned that the committee's comments on application 07/0104/COU had not been made sufficiently clear to SDC, although it was pointed out that the application had since been approved. The second sentence in the recorded comment was amended to read as follows – we are concerned at the effect that the size and weight of the cranes will have on the flow of traffic and *road use* and the *risk of stream pollution*.

Discussion ensued as to the notice taken by SDC of NTC's comments on applications, and the Clerk advised that SDC was legally under no obligation to take into account the views of any other party. If a parish council wished an application to be taken off delegated powers it had to obtain the support of a ward councillor to initiate this action. It was noted that Cllr Mrs Binns had proved very helpful in this respect.

It was agreed to discuss how NTC's views could be made more effective and better influence the planning process.

Cllr Bratby advised that the Environment Agency was uninterested in the Nodes Lake unless there was a blockage, which was not the case. Cllr Bratby had spoken with the owner who intended to reinstate the weir and sluices 'at some point'. Cllr Nicholson reminded the meeting that any permission for development on this site was dependent on first putting right the lake.

In relation to licensing applications, NTC was merely informed and had no power to comment, and again, Cllrs would like to have a greater say in the granting of licences and the power to support objections from residents.

With regard to the Crown Inn at Inchbrook, Cllr Affleck advised that GCC Highways was concerned about road access and had opposed the plan. As far as he was aware, the developers had not yet applied for permission to demolish the existing building. The plans would be reviewed at the July meeting.

RESOLVED that the comments of the Planning Committee made at its meetings held on 17 May and 5 June 2007 be approved.

* Cllr Jayes left the meeting during the above discussions.

2007/70 ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED that the list of accounts at 19 June 2007 amounting to £14,361.41 be approved for payment.

2007/71 AE Smith – proposed sub station at Homefield

The lease had finally been agreed but the Land Registry had indicated that NTC's ownership of the land, relying on the Lowsley Williams deed of gift to the town, was not proven. The Clerk would respond accordingly.

2007/72 GCC – Transforming Streets, Creating Communities Conference

The conference would take place from 9am to 4pm on 3 July at the Pittville Pump Rooms in Cheltenham. More information was available on the website and Cllrs were asked to let the Clerk know if they wished to attend.

2007/73 GCC - Snow Warden and Plough Operators 2007/08

Nailsworth did not currently have a snow warden.

2007/74 GCC – Kingsway development, public transport links, service 14

NTC was thanked for its feedback. There was one change to the Saturday timetable for this Gloucester to Stroud route.

2007/75 GAPTC – elections to County Committee and resolutions for AGM

Nominations were invited by 7 September and resolutions to be submitted by 27 July for the October AGM. Cllrs were asked to consider these matters for the next meeting.

2007/76 Cotswolds Conservation Board – review of AONB management plan

Cllrs should ask the Clerk for the website address if they wished to have further information.

2007/77 Local Works Campaign – sustainable communities bill

A draft letter was provided and NTC was urged to write to Gordon Brown and Nailsworth's MP. As previously noted, Mr David Drew MP was a leading light in this campaign and no further action was required. Cllr Nicholson added that the third reading of the bill had been approved.

2007/78 GCC – road closure Tinkley Lane

The road would be closed on 30 July.

2007/79 GCC – rights of way and countryside access improvement plan

The country-wide footpath survey was progressing well and was now half completed.

2007/80 CPRE, Gloucester branch - AGM

The AGM would take place in Cheltenham on 5 July at 6pm to be followed by a buffet supper.

2007/81 Nailsworth Art Group – exhibition week

The Clerk reminded Cllrs that the Nailsworth Art Group and Barnabus Painters from Avening took turns in having use of the Mortimer Room for the exhibition week in October, and that it was the turn of the former this year. This was confirmed.

2007/82 Viewing of correspondence

Cllrs were welcome to view the correspondence in advance of the monthly meeting and should make an appointment with the Clerk.

2007/83 SDC Code of Conduct

Cllrs were asked to review the document and bring any queries to the July meeting of the Council so that it could be agreed at the September meeting, ready for adoption on 1 October.

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Date

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Chairman