

NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the The THIRTY SEVENTH Annual Meeting of Nailsworth Town Council at the Town Hall, Nailsworth on Tuesday 18 May 2010

Present	Cllr S Robinson (Town Mayor) Cllr Mrs DLM Binns Cllr J A Byrne Cllr P Carter Cllr I D Crawley Cllr N I Kay Cllr J R Nicholson Cllr M P Robinson Cllr Mrs G E Smith Cllr Mrs S E Thorpe (Deputy Mayor) Cllr Mrs J M Way
Present for part of the meeting	Cllr JS Waddington
Apologies	District Cllr RTH Blackwell Cllr Miss F Macmillan

2010/01 ELECTION of TOWN MAYOR

Cllr S Robinson was nominated by Cllr Nicholson and seconded by Cllr Mrs Thorpe. There being no other nominations, Cllr S Robinson was duly elected as town mayor for the ensuing year and signed his declaration of office. The Mayor thanked Cllr Kay for his past three years as town mayor and expressed his honour at being elected.

2010/02 ELECTION of DEPUTY MAYOR

Cllr Mrs Thorpe was nominated by Cllr Mrs Way and seconded by Cllr Nicholson. Cllr Carter was nominated by Cllr Mrs Binns and seconded by Cllr Mrs Smith. The nominations were put to the vote and there were 6 votes for Cllr Mrs Thorpe and 4 for Cllr Carter with 1 abstention. Cllr Mrs Thorpe was duly elected as deputy mayor for the ensuing year and signed her declaration of office.

2010/03 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Tony Burton read out a letter from Newport Museum following arrival of the WH Davies clock which was now on display in the entrance. Mr Burton had set up Friends of Glendower, and had asked Mrs Sue Limb local author and the clock restorer to become patrons. The 70th anniversary of the death of WH Davies had been this year. A gift was presented by Mr Norman Phillips to the Clerk for all her help in facilitating the clock's removal.

2010/04 APPOINTMENT of COMMITTEES & WORKING PARTIES & ELECTION of CHAIRMEN

Cllrs chose their committees and elected chairmen as per the schedule attached to these minutes.

2010/05 APPOINTMENT of REPRESENTATIVES on OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllrs volunteered to act as NTC's representative on outside bodies as per the schedule attached to the minutes.

2010/06 SCHEDULE of MEETINGS for the FORTHCOMING YEAR

The list of dates is attached to the minutes.

2010/07 MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the council held on 20 April were approved and signed with the following amendments:

Minute 2010/247 – Jinny Marshall's title was corrected to 'Miss'

Minute 2010/251 – the second sentence was amended to read "the committee looks at matters of stewardship and management of the commons and is currently putting together an information leaflet for residents and local businesses. It is also looking at ways to publicise and educate people about the commons. Cllr S Robinson drew attention to . . . "

2010/08 LITTER BINS (minute 2010/252)

The Clerk advised that SDC had responded that two litter bins had been removed because they were considered 'dangerous' and invited NTC to pay £78 each for replacements to include installation, after which SDC would continue to maintain and empty them. Cllrs expressed the opinion that litter bins were the responsibility of SDC, but Cllr Nicholson thought NTC had paid in the past for replacement bins which may be the ones concerned here. The Clerk was asked to respond that NTC would pay for the two replacement bins in this instance but did not expect this to set a precedent.

SDC was keen to have cigarette bins installed and had asked if NTC would part fund these and advise on suitable locations. The Clerk was asked to respond recommending that all new bins should be dual purpose (as elsewhere in Europe) and the topic was deferred to the Environment Committee for further deliberation.

2010/09 GRANTS TO NAILSWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL (minute 2010/254)

Cllr M Robinson advised that he had written to the school about the grant making organisation he was involved with.

The Clerk showed cllrs the thank you card she had received from school children who went on the course subsidised by the recent NTC grant.

2010/10 REVISION OF STANDING ORDERS

Further to NTC's intention to revise its Standing Orders, the Clerk advised that a training session on SOs would take place at Churchdown on 27 May between 9.30 and 12.30 at a cost of £40 for GAPTC members; Cllrs Crawley and Nicholson offered to attend.

2010/11 TOWN HALL ROOF INSULATION (minute 2010/253)

The Mayor reported that when chasing up on the meeting he and the Clerk had had with a person from the insulation company, he had learnt that the person had left the company, and another representative would now be coming to review the situation.

2010/12 MUGA at FOREST GREEN

Cllr Nicholson would be meeting again on Thursday with Mr Charles Mant of Record Play Equipment who would then provide estimates and drawings for the new MUGA. The Mayor and Cllr Kay hoped to attend the meeting and the Clerk had left a message for Mr Southcott. Cllr Nicholson added that he had visited the site with Mr Southcott and the chairman of school governors and felt their reaction was very promising. Cllr Kay had visited both sites with Mr Colin Peake of FGR-FC and felt Mr Peake's response to the possible land swop was also positive. He would be putting ideas down for Mr Peake to present to the new FC board.

2010/13 MARKET STREET GARDEN

The Clerk had received clarification from Portus & Whitton on the tender document which was now ready to go out, although Recreation & Amenities Committee members would need to review the final precisions beforehand. It was agreed to do so at the end of tonight's meeting.

2010/14 FGR-FC MAINTENANCE of KGV EXTENSION FIELD (minute 2010/255)

The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to FGR-FC advising that NTC expected in due course to receive payment of the £15,682.40 now due for future maintenance of the extension field and reimbursement for legal costs in negotiating the lease.

2010/15 REPORT of COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County Cllr Waddington advised that GCC's AGM would take place tomorrow and Cllr Mark Hawthorn would then take over leadership of the Council. Meanwhile, work on repairing the roads continued.

The Mayor passed on comments about the state of Old Market especially by Brutons, and Cllr Waddington promised to check if this was in the programme. Cllr Nicholson added that the antiskid surface either side of the pedestrian crossing had weathered well despite the road being badly affected elsewhere.

The new Highways area manager Mr Chris Riley had met the Clerk, and Cllr Waddington would be reviewing the town's roads with him. Cllr Carter asked when the bends on the A46 would be repaired and Cllr Waddington agreed that this was becoming urgent and he would pursue the matter.

In response to a query from Cllr M Robinson, Cllr Waddington advised that he would have a clearer idea on any significant cuts on road expenditure that would affect Nailsworth in 2010/11, but added that £60million had to be cut somewhere and he expected a 30% reduction in the Highways budget for a start. There were however no threats to work already fixed under the 2009/10 budget.

Cllr Crawley questioned the delay in letting Children's Centre contracts for the County which Cllr Waddington would check.

2010/16 REPORTS from MAYOR and DEPUTY MAYOR

Neither the retiring nor new mayors had anything to report.

2010/17 REPORT of TOWN CLERK

The Clerk had nothing to add to her written report.

2010/18 REPORT OF FOREST GREEN COMMUNITY HALL WORKING PARTY

Cllr Mrs Thorpe wished to recommend to NTC that the grant of £10k be accepted from Glos Environmental Trust. She was required to announce formally that this grant was being funded by the Gillos Environmental Trust with landfill tax contributions donated by Cory Environmental. The grant would be paid on completion of the build and erection of an acknowledgement plaque. Cllrs unanimously approved the above and the Clerk as proper officer would sign the letter of agreement.

Cllr Crawley drew attention to the grant being in fact recycled money from taxpayers, although it would be Corry which got its name on the plaque!

2010/19 REPORT OF PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Carter presented the report of the meetings of the committee held on 22 April and 4 May with the following amendment to the minutes of 22 April –

Paragraph on Empty & derelict buildings- sixth sentence corrected to read "Cllr Crawley had discussed the secure fencing of the site with Mr Phil Sullivan at SDC."

RESOLVED that the comments made by the Planning Committee at its meetings held on 22 April and 4 May 2010 be approved.

2010/20 REVIEW of INSURANCE COVER

The Auditor required the council once a year to review its insurance policy. Cllrs approved the Clerk's opinion that it was up to date and adequate for council purposes. Cllr Kay recommended that the

Clerk check whether use of KGV field on Nailsworth Games Saturday was covered as this would involve a greater number of people and activities than usual, details of which Cllr Kay would give to the Clerk, noting that the inflatable slide had its own staff and insurance. The Clerk thought that public liability cover had been increased last time.

2010/21 ADOPTION of STATEMENT of ACCOUNTS and ANNUAL RETURN

The supporting notes had been circulated to cllrs and no questions put forward. The figures were being prepared for the annual statement under audit regulations, following the internal auditor's check. Although there had been pressure to get this done by 1st June, Mr Ian Selkirk, internal auditor had not been able to do his check so the Clerk was unable to present cllrs with the finalised annual statement. She had advised the auditors of the delay and had agreed that the papers would go to them after the next NTC meeting, with Mr Selkirk to attend to his duties next week. It was agreed to defer approval of the Accounts and Annual Return to the July meeting.

The Clerk pointed out a discrepancy on which she needed Mr Selkirk's advice; at the end of last year, the list of un-presented cheques was carried forward, one of which was £6810 for signboards which had in fact never been sent. The Clerk awaited advice on how to correctly show this in the accounts, but reassured Cllrs that the total figure was correct.

In response to a request for clarification from Cllr Mrs Smith, the Clerk would provide her with a detailed breakdown of the amount listed under "special projects & misc".

Cllr M Robinson queried the amount of £1488074.00 set against Town Hall which he was advised was the insured value of the building.

2010/22 ADOPTION of PUBLICATION SCHEME

It was a statutory requirement to publicise the council's publication scheme in a pre-designated format and a draft had been circulated to cllrs. The last page had been removed as it concerned charging, and NTC had agreed that it would not charge for information, unless the request came from a commercial organisation or several copies were required, for which 10p/page had been agreed. Non applicable items were crossed out but had to remain on the schedule. Most of the documents would be put on the website, but a speedier method of posting up needed to be established.

The comment 'under consideration' was where currently NTC did not have a policy, but the FE&GP committee could consider these in due course. Cllr Crawley thought GAPTC probably had model documents that NTC could adapt. In response to the question from Cllr Mrs Way, the Clerk confirmed that although some of this information was new, much of it was already available on the website or from the office.

Cllr Crawley advised that the Old Market Working Party had taken the decision that it wanted all its reports and notes of meetings to be available on the website, but the Clerk reminded him that they needed to be approved first. Other working parties could make their own decisions about publicising their paperwork.

PROPOSED	Cllr Kay proposed, seconded by Cllr Crawley to unanimous agreement that NTC adopt the Publication Scheme attached to these minutes.
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The Clerk added that the policy would go on the website and be published in the next edition of the Fountain.

2010/23 ACCOUNTS

Item 43: the Clerk pointed out that gas for the TH was paid by direct debit.

PROPOSED	that the list of accounts for 18 May 2010 amounting to £28,579.76 be approved for payment.
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2010/24 Alzheimer's Society – collection from Civic Reception

The Society had written thanking Cllr Kay for the fact that £72.05 had been collected at the civic reception.

2010/25 GCC – draft order for 20mph for various roads in Nailsworth

The draft order was presented for Hayes Road, Jubilee Road and the surrounding area.

2010/26 GCC – confirmed order of various amended parking restrictions

The Order was noted.

2010/27 Church Commissioners – consultation on proposals for future of Shortwood Church

The Church Commissioners were continuing public consultation on the future of the church.

2010/28 SDC – notification of changes to refuse & recycling rounds

The notice advising of changes in rounds had been emailed to cllrs previously.

2010/29 SDC – appointment of Watercourse Wardens

An AGM would be held tonight for watercourse wardens, and it had been hoped a representative from NTC would attend as there had been no nominations from Nailsworth. It was agreed to keep this in mind.

2010/30 GCC – closure of the W on 27 June

Notification had been sent that the W would be closed on 27 June from 11 – 11.45 for a short road race as part of Nailsworth Games.

2010/31 Lloyds bank account

The Clerk was doing her best to have Cllrs Mrs Smith and M Robinson added to the list of signatories but this was a slow process and a new form needed to be completed. Fortunately Cllr Mrs Binns was still on the list from her previous term of office.

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Date

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Chairman