

NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES of a MEETING of Nailsworth Town Council
held at the Town Hall, Nailsworth
on Tuesday 20 September 2016

Present	Cllr Jonathan Duckworth (Town Mayor) Cllr Anne Elliott Cllr Paul Francis Cllr Norman Kay * Cllr Ron Kerby Cllr Robert Maitland Cllr Sally Millett Cllr Angela Norman Cllr Sue Reed Cllr Myles Robinson Cllr Steve Robinson
Also present for part of the meeting	County Cllr Dorcas Binns
* denotes absence from part of the meeting	

2016/111 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND COUNCILLORS' DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations or dispensations.

2016/112 CONSIDERATION of PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED CONSULTATION

		COMMENT
a) S.16/1897/FUL Scout Club, The Old Warehouse, Old Market	New porch to front, landscaping to rear. Staircase to top floor flats to rear. Provision of two studio spaces and top floor apartment	It was agreed to defer comments on this application until the next Council meeting to allow cllrs the opportunity to take account of any comments which might be made by members of the public.
b) S.16/1972/FUL Nailsworth Friends Meeting House, Quakers Close, Chestnut Hill	Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of new children's meeting room	It was agreed to defer comments on this application until the next Council meeting to allow cllrs the opportunity to take account of any comments which might be made by members of the public. Cllrs M Robinson, S Robinson, Reed, Kay and Maitland expressed a wish to visit the site and the Clerk was asked to contact the applicant to arrange a convenient time.

INFORMATION

c) S.16/1968/TCA Fountain House Watledge Road	Prune existing yew trees underneath the canopy of existing beech, sycamore and holly trees. 6 large yew trees - pollard to 5m high and top smaller trees to 2-3m high	Noted
d) S.16/1945/TCA	Leylandii - Reduce height	Noted

Brockley House, Watledge Road	by 3m and spread 2.5m	
e) S.16/1969/DISCON Cambray House, Bath Road	Discharge of conditions 3 (turbine details) & 4 (colour and finish) from S.16/0652/HHOLD	Noted
f) S.16/1918/DISCON The Bungalow, Harley Wood	Discharge of condition 5 of planning application S.15/1826/FUL	Noted
g) S.16/1841/DISCON Gables, Newmarket	Discharge of condition 3 (windows) from permission S.16/0340/HHOLD	Noted

2016/113 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 19 JULY, 2 AUGUST AND 6 SEPTEMBER AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 6 SEPTEMBER 2016

The minutes of the Council meetings held on 19 July, 2 August and 6 September and of the Environment Committee were approved. The Clerk explained that the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 2 August had inadvertently been left off the agenda, though they had been emailed to all councillors on 17 September. Under the circumstances it was agreed that approval of the Recreation and Amenities should be deferred until the Council meeting on 4 October.

2016/114 MATTERS OF URGENCY

Cllr Sally Millett reported that she had been disappointed to learn that SDC had decided against putting anti-climb paint on the Lawnside MUGA. Cllr Steve Robinson added that the CCTV camera now installed at the location appeared to be effective in dispersing groups of young people. The situation would continue to be monitored.

Cllr Sally Millett reported that she would pursue possible sources of grant funding to support the Nailsworth Children's Centre if appropriate, depending on the outcome of the recent review of children's services in the county.

The Mayor reported that Cllr Dorcas Binns had agreed to make a comment at that day's SDC Development Control Committee (DCC) meeting on NTC's behalf regarding planning application S.16/1023/FUL for an Aldi supermarket at Bath Road Trading Estate, Stroud (minute 2016/86). He read out a draft statement registering the Council's dissatisfaction at the short notice it had been given regarding the DCC's consideration of this application, and expressing concern that the change of day for DCC meetings had resulted in a permanent clash with NTC's monthly meetings, rendering it impossible for members to attend DCC meetings to put NTC's case. The statement suggested that SDC consider its DCC meeting dates against parish and town council meetings in order to prevent the latter from being disenfranchised. The statement was approved and the Mayor undertook to email it to SDC. **ACTION: MAYOR.**

The Mayor reported that Stroud and District Motor Club had written to inform the Council of its Mechanics Classic Trial event to be held on 16 October to take place on a local bridleway and local roads. He undertook to use the Council's new mapping software to check the location. **ACTION: MAYOR.**

The Mayor was pleased to report that the A46 Road Safety/20 mph group had received a grant from the Police Commissioner's Fund to purchase two 'Smiley Sid' traffic speed controls for the town. It was proposed that one be installed on the A46 near the Shell

garage and the other in Springhill opposite Churchill Road. Under the conditions of the grant NTC will be responsible for ongoing maintenance costs and the Mayor undertook to investigate these. It was agreed in principle to pursue the purchase of the devices and the Mayor undertook to present a report on the matter to a future Council meeting. In response to a question, he confirmed that an additional 'Smiley Sid', funded from County Cllr Binns' divisional highways allocation, was planned for the A46 near Tetbury Lane.

2016/115 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY CLLRS

District Cllr Sue Reed had submitted a written report containing an update on the activities of the Ringfield Residents' Association. This was noted.

** Cllr Ron Kerby joined the meeting during the above item.*

County Cllr Dorcas Binns joined the meeting at this point. She reported that consideration of the Bath Road Trading Estate supermarket application had been deferred until the October meeting of the SDC Planning Committee. She indicated that she was happy to speak on NTC's behalf at that meeting and would also convey the Council's concerns about the dates of the DCC meetings and the short notice given to NTC that the supermarket application had been on that day's agenda. She suggested that NTC might write to the Chair of Planning to suggest that under the circumstances Nailsworth planning applications could in future be taken as the first item on the DCC agenda. The Clerk was asked to write to SDC accordingly. **ACTION: CLERK**

Cllr Binns reported that she had submitted the questions raised by NTC regarding the future and location of the Children's Centre in Nailsworth to Cllr Paul McLain. She read out a response from Cllr McLain, addressing some of the questions, and explained that he had not been able to answer all of them because some of the issues raised were still in negotiation. Cllr McLain had indicated that the contract for the Children's Centre provision would be awarded in December 2016 and become operative from April 2017. GCC was in ongoing discussions with Nailsworth Primary School to identify a sustainable long-term solution to support children and their families within the Forest Green area. This could include the development of a parent advisor role within the school. Some provision for families could be offered at the school site by qualified staff employed at the school and this could be an alternative or in addition to any service delivered from the Arkell Centre.

In response to a question, Cllr Binns confirmed that she would honour her pledge to allocate her £5,000 divisional allocation for children's services to the Nailsworth Children's Centre if she was selected and re-elected to the County Council next May. She hoped that any other candidate selected/elected would do the same.

In response to questions, Cllr Binns stated that local parents had not yet been consulted specifically on the proposed venue for the Children's Centre. However, she anticipated that such consultation would take place in due course. Cllr Binns accepted that the Arkell Centre might be a more 'neutral' space than the primary school, given that not all Nailsworth parents sent their children to the school. However, she was aware that officers had used the school model of children's service provision successfully in other areas. She was confident that the final choice of venue would be fully researched. Cllr Binns undertook to investigate the reasons the Arkell Centre Trustees and NTC had not been informed of GCC's negotiations with the Primary School and report back.

Cllr Sally Millett stated that it was her understanding that the current Children's Centre staff at the Arkell Centre had not been informed of GCC's discussions with the school. She understood that users of the Nailsworth Children's Centre were not generally in favour of the service moving to the school. Cllr Steve Robinson suggested that, depending on the outcome of these discussions, NTC might wish to make provision for supporting the Children's Centre in its budget before Christmas. Cllr Binns confirmed that she would

attempt to ensure that NTC was informed of the outcome in good time. She undertook to email Cllr McLain's statement and any future correspondence on the matter to the Clerk.

The Mayor thanked Cllr Binns for her input. He suggested that NTC might wish to meet to discuss Cllr McLain's response, following which there could be further questions. Cllr Binns undertook to field any such questions and gain as speedy a response as possible.

Cllr Binns reported that funding had now been secured for the repair of the carriageway following the Horsley landslip, and the legal issues had been resolved. She understood that work would start in December 2016/January 2017 and that the restoration of a 2-way carriageway might be possible. If so, new speed restrictions were planned to compensate for the existing speed reduction caused by the traffic lights on that section of road. In response to a question, she stated that she would anticipate that the existing GCC public rights of way officers would be kept on if the current contractor, Amey, failed to win the new highways contract which would be up for renewal in 2018.

Cllr Sue Reed reported that the next town, district and county councillors' surgery in Nailsworth had been arranged for 5 November 2016 and Cllr Binns confirmed that she would be able to attend.

District Cllr Sue Reed reported on the recent activities of Ringfield Residents' Association and updated members on SDC's progress in meeting the accommodation needs of former Ringfield tenants as a consequence of the Ringfield Close refurbishment project, destined for completion in 2018.

** Cllr Binns left the meeting at this point.*

2016/116 REPORT FROM TOWN MAYOR

The Mayor reported on his activities during the period July to September. These included meeting with Fields in Trust (FIT) to highlight the works done on the KGV Field through the FIT 90th anniversary grant, attendance of the AGM of Nailsworth Community Land Trust (CLT) followed by a celebration of the 'yes' vote in the CLT's recent referendum, and visits to Concord sheltered housing development. The Mayor had also met with Ringfield tenants and would be attending their meetings with SDC over the next few months. Together with fellow cllrs and the Clerk, he had attended an informal meeting with Ecotricity regarding its potential proposals for the New Lawn if Forest Green Rovers FC was to vacate the site.

2016/117 REPORT FROM DEPUTY MAYOR

Cllr Sue Reed reported on the recent activities of Nailsworth Climate Awareness Group and her attendance at a Community Energy conference in Oxford. She had also attended a fundraising concert for the Nailsworth Vumilia project supporting villagers in Tanzania.

2016/118 REPORT FROM TOWN CLERK

The Clerk updated members on preparations for the arrival of the new Deputy Town Clerk who would be commencing work on 3 October. The Deputy Clerk had been booked on the GAPTC 'Clerk's Knowledge' part 1 training course and a training session of the legal responsibilities of a Town Council, which the Clerk and Cllr Sue Reed would also attend. In response to a question, the Clerk confirmed that the Deputy Clerk would work 20 hours per week on a flexitime basis to allow for attendance at evening Council meetings and that there were currently no plans to alter the existing office opening hours (Monday-Thursday, 09.00-12.30). This and the Deputy Clerk's hours could be reviewed in due course once she was in post. The Clerk reminded members that the Council's recent Staffing Review, which had led to the decision to appoint a Deputy Clerk, had indicated that the office would still be 32 person-hours short when compared to similar councils.

The Clerk was pleased to report that the Temporary Project Assistant had collated NTC's various maps and deeds to produce a map of the whole parish delineating land maintained by the Council. This was available for viewing in her office and would be invaluable in creating a digital record of NTC's responsibilities. The map had already helped to identify an area of encroachment onto NTC land by a resident.

2016/119 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from outside bodies.

2016/120 RECOMMENDATIONS OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6 SEPTEMBER 2016

The recommendations of the Environment Committee were proposed by Cllr Angela Norman, seconded by Cllr Paul Francis and approved unanimously.

- RESOLVED** That requests from groups wishing to 'yarnbomb' areas of the town be granted under the following conditions:
- a) Yarnbombing must not obstruct the highway, pavement, signs or lighting nor cause a nuisance or offence.
 - b) It must be removed within a timescale of up to 4 weeks, at the discretion of NTC officers. Removal is the responsibility of the yarnbombers.
 - c) NTC reserves the right to remove any yarnbombing that is causing a nuisance, obstruction or offence without prior notice.
 - d) NTC accepts no responsibility for yarnbombing installed on other people's land.

The Clerk was asked to submit a press release on the policy to local media. **ACTION: CLERK**

2016/121 ACCOUNTS

The accounts from 19.07.18 to 07.09.16 totalling £43,769.87 were proposed by Cllr Myles Robinson, seconded by Cllr Robert Maitland and approved unanimously. In response to a question, the Clerk confirmed that the Council had an annual repair contract with EESI for Town Hall boiler maintenance. Cllr Ron Kerby undertook to liaise with the Clerk with a view to examining all NTC contracts for value for money.

2016/122 FIRE SERVICE PRESENTATION BY MR KEV ADCOCK

The Clerk reported that Mr Kev Adcock had been unable to attend the meeting and had therefore been invited to attend a subsequent meeting.

2016/123 NOMINATIONS FOR PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Following the resignation of Cllr Norman Kay from the Personnel Committee, Cllr Ron Kerby had expressed a willingness to replace him. This was agreed, proposed by Cllr Anne Elliott and seconded by Cllr Norman Kay.

2016/124 MAYOR'S AWARDS

The Mayor had requested suggestions from members for nominations for the various awards given at the annual Mayor's Reception to be held in May 2017. He undertook to have the same request published in Nailsworth News. **ACTION: MAYOR**

2016/125 UPDATE ON COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)

Cllr Steve Robinson reported, on behalf of the S106 Working Party, that the Clerk had sent in NTC's suggestions for the modification of SDC's draft CIL policy to the relevant SDC officer in response to the current consultation. He explained that new CIL arrangements,

which would replace the previous S106 agreements system, were due to be implemented early in 2017.

2016/126 REPORT ON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING PARTY

The Mayor reported on the deliberations of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party at its meeting on 6 September. The Working Party remained unconvinced of the necessity for a Neighbourhood Plan for Nailsworth but would continue to keep a watching brief and seek guidance from SDC as appropriate. It was noted that Nailsworth did have an updated Town Plan and the Mayor suggested that the best starting point was for NTC to decide what it wished to achieve for Nailsworth and consider the possibilities of a Neighbourhood or Community Plan in the light of this.

2016/127 PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGES

The Mayor reported on the Boundary Commission's recommendation that Nailsworth be moved from Stroud Parliamentary Constituency to Cotswold, whilst remaining in Stroud District for local government purposes. There would be a 12-week consultation period. He had placed information on the proposals in the Council website and read out a statement he had prepared for the local press, indicating that the Council had yet to discuss the matter and form an official view, but that he felt that the proposed changes would not be positive for the representation of Nailsworth residents.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Council would seek to organise a public meeting to gauge local opinion on the proposed changes and the Mayor undertook to liaise with his fellow councillors to find a suitable date and to mention the matter in his Nailsworth News report for the October edition and to have a full article in the November paper. **ACTION: MAYOR**

2016/128 CELEBRATING PETE REED'S OLYMPIC GOLD SUCCESS

The Mayor informed members of the arrangements for an informal community event organised by NTC to celebrate local Olympic rower Pete Reed's gold medal in the Men's Eight at the Rio Olympics, to take place in the KGV Field on 25th September at 3pm. Pete would officially open the refurbished tennis courts and the new play and fitness equipment at the KGV Field, following which local people would have the opportunity to meet Pete and see his medals. A representative from Fields in Trust, the organisation which had grant-funded the KGV improvement, would be in attendance. The Clerk had obtained chocolate medals to distribute at the event. Members were asked to volunteer their services to help set up tables, chairs and bunting etc before the event.

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Town Mayor

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Date