

NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES of the Meeting of Nailsworth Town Council
held at the Town Hall, Nailsworth
on Tuesday 18 January 2011

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 Cllr Mrs J M Way
Present for part of the meeting	District Cllr Blackwell
Apologies	County Cllr J S Waddington District Cllr J T Jeffreys District Cllr Miss F Macmillan

2011/195 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from the floor.

2011/196 MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETINGS

The minutes of the **Meeting held on 21 December 2010** were approved and signed with the addition of a new first paragraph to minute 2010/185, as follows :

"The minutes of the Special Committee meeting held on 30 November 2010 were approved with the addition of Cllr Mrs Thorpe to the list of attendees. It was agreed to defer discussion until the January council meeting as some members had not had sufficient time to consider the implications of the recommendations."

The minutes of the **Special Meeting held on 11 January 2011** were approved and signed with the title corrected to the following : 2011/194 – Budget Estimates for Financial Year 2011/12

2011/197 GCC CUTS (minute 2010/178)

As recorded under his report for 20 December, the Mayor had asked Cllr Waddington to arrange a meeting with Mark Hawthorne, which had been declined, as it was no longer policy for cabinet members to attend external meetings.

2011/198 REQUESTS for GRIT BINS (minute 2010/182)

Julian Wilson GCC had telephoned the Clerk and appeared not to have received her email detailing all grit bin requests. The email had been resent and the Clerk awaited an opportunity to meet with Mr Wilson. The Clerk had given Mr Wilson contact details for the Nailsworth Mills Estate for delivery of the bags of salt for use with the new manual gritter.

2011/199 NAILSTOCK (minute 2010/185)

Cllr Kay offered to act as council liaison with the Nailstock Committee in order to monitor that the organisers comply with all requirements. The Mayor offered to join him.

2011/200 MUGA at FOREST GREEN
Recreation & Amenities Committee special meeting 30 November 2010

Cllr Crawley summarised his report of the meeting on 30 November, including discussions over the location of the MUGA and funding arrangements to build it. He asked Cllrs to approve the recommendations put forward in the report.

A formal view from the Diocese and GCC was awaited to explain why they favoured site C. NTC preferred site B as being nearest to the public highway. It would be important that NTC secure ownership of the MUGA and the plot on which it sat, to protect it in the event of development of surrounding land. With a view to the eventual planning application, Cllr Crawley would have an informal chat with SDC planning department to get a view on the acceptability of each of the three proposed sites.

PROPOSED Cllr Kay proposed, seconded by Cllr Nicholson that the following recommendations be approved, and this was unanimously agreed

That the Town Council seek agreement with all other parties, directly and indirectly through third parties as appropriate, to proceed with the following:

- a) Construction of a floodlit single court (37m x 22.5m) porous macadam multi-use games area, sited on the Primary School playground to provide for football, netball, basketball, cricket and organised training.
- b) Adjacent vehicle parking is provided within the School grounds with open access from Nympsfield Road when the MUGA and/or Recreation Centre is/are in use.
- c) Constructed through an agent, overseen by the School or NTC.
- d) Funded solely through the Section 106 funds held by SDC.
- e) Maintained by the Primary School and managed by it during extended school hours.
- f) Owned by the Town Council and managed by it, or a third party, outside extended school hours.
- g) Available through booking only by clubs and businesses, with the Youth Club and other organisations providing open sessions for young people.
- h) That the Section 106 funds be used as matching funding to exhaust the prospect of bringing grant funding into the Nailsworth Recreation Centre to upgrade the changing rooms and the football pitch, prior to a contractual commitment being entered into for the MUGA.
- i) That the site in FGR's ownership no longer required for the MUGA be added to the School lands as an extension of the garden area.

2011/201 REPORT of COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County Cllr Waddington had provided some notes for District Cllr Blackwell to pass on. Due to extensive lobbying, Cllr Waddington was now confident that GCC would fund staffing for three days a week at Nailsworth Library. He was very conscious of the continuing pothole problem and three additional gangs had been sent out to try and deal with these. 08000 514 514 was the number to call to report potholes.

£50k had been given to Stroud area for youth clubs and running costs and Cllr Blackwell was asked to seek clarification on the criteria for applying to this fund. The Mayor, as chairman of Nailsworth Youth Club, had written to Mr David Hagg to suggest a member of a voluntary youth organisation should participate in the distribution process.

District Cllr Blackwell reported that he had been trying to get the wall repaired in the Co-op car park, and Cllrs had noticed that there seemed to be some work going on there today. The SDC budget would be set on February 10th and SDC was trying to re-jig the finances in order to make the necessary cuts; Cllr Blackwell listed some of the savings to be made. With regards to the MUGA, Cllr Blackwell advised that Pippa Moore was the person to contact.

Cllr Kay queried his understanding that Nailsworth Library would be provided with “up to three days library support staff”; Cllr Blackwell thought the Library would be open for three days, but knew no more. The Mayor had emailed Sue Lawrence, Assistant County Librarian, to seek clarification.

Cllr Mrs Thorpe queried SDC’s projected staff savings of £232k and asked where members of staff were to be cut. Cllr Blackwell believed savings would be through natural wastage and by not replacing staff that leave; he would try and find out more.

2011/202 TOWN MAYORs COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor had attended an INA (inspector neighbourhood area) meeting last Thursday in Stonehouse, where he had learned that burglaries were up, but generally from farms and industrial premises rather than private homes. ASB (antisocial behaviour) was down, particularly in Nailsworth where it was much lower than in Stonehouse. Nailsworth’s new neighbourhood warden Peter Wilson had advised that the painting of the MM youth shelter was almost finished. The Mayor had again raised concern over continued parking on Cossack Square pavements, and Sgt Kirk Harrison had promised to follow this up; the Mayor would also ring Ashley Nicholson. The Mayor had asked again about having an open/closed sign on the door of Nailsworth police station and had been promised that this request would be acted on immediately.

2011/203 REPORT of DEPUTY MAYOR

Cllr Mrs Thorpe had attended the AGM of Nailsworth News and was very impressed by the great number of volunteers involved in producing and delivering the paper.

2011/204 REPORT of TOWN CLERK

The Clerk had nothing to report.

2011/205 REPORTS from REPRESENTATIVES on OUTSIDE BODIES

National Trust Minichinhampton & Rodborough Advisory Committee – Cllr Mrs Way advised that there was no news yet on clearance work to be undertaken on the W.

Nailsworth Health Partnership – Cllr Kay had attended a recent meeting, where discussion included the increasing resources and powers to be devolved to GPs; the possibility of an NHS dentist in the town; possible use of the library in a broader community health perspective; the district nurses’ interest in using the Arkell Centre. The Partnership met every three months or so and Cllr Kay suggested NTC appoint an official representative at the annual meeting in May.

2011/206 REPORT of ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr Mrs Way presented the report of the committee meeting held on 10 Jan and the minutes were approved with the following amendments:

Norton Wood Orchard – Cllr Mrs Way thought that Charlton Abbots was to undertake its part of the work “by” rather than “in” February, so it was agreed to remove the end of that sentence. (The Mayor commented that he had observed today that some tree felling had been done and wondered if this was Charlton Abbots’ activity.)

Bunting Hill Regeneration – the penultimate sentence was changed to read “it was not clear whether this money could be paid to the town council”.

Sign Boards - Cllr Nicholson reported that Imagemakers had advised that the material supplied would allow them to make a start on the design of the map. A street map and general photos would also be sent on to them. Cllr Kay expressed disappointment that it was taking so long to complete this project; Cllr Nicholson advised that it had taken Stroud three years to do theirs with the help of full time paid staff.

In response to Cllr Mrs Smith’s comment that the committee seemed to be devoting a lot of time to the request for Church Street residents parking, Cllr Mrs Way responded that the committee felt it had a duty to investigate the matter more fully, considering the strong representation from

residents, but full council would be consulted, should the committee eventually decide to recommend NTC change its policy with regards to residents parking schemes. SDC was being consulted for its view on enforcement and the additional cost thereof.

Christmas lights – a new scheme would need to be started from scratch at a much reduced cost, and perhaps residents should be consulted.

2011/207 REPORT of PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Carter presented the reports of the meetings held on 16 December 2010 and 4 January 2011.

RESOLVED	that the comments made by the Planning Committee at its meetings held on 16 December 2010 and 4 January 2011 be approved.
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2011/208 ACCOUNTS

PROPOSED	that the list of accounts for 18 January 2011 amounting to £23,539.17 be approved for payment.
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2011/298 ARRANGEMENTS for FUTURE MANAGEMENT of YOUTH SERVICE in NAILSWORTH

Following the town meeting held in January, Cllr Kay said it was clear that residents wanted a youth service to continue and were prepared to pay additional council tax towards it. Funds were being put aside in the 2011/12 budget to cover the full cost of a youth worker, but the recruitment process should be started now, before the current youth worker was made redundant by GCC in March.

The Mayor advised that, in his role as chairman of the Youth Club, he had asked for a copy of GCC's current application form, along with the one from Young Gloucestershire, so these could be adapted to suit. A job description was being prepared by the management committee and a sub committee would be set up to manage the appointments. The Mayor had met in December with Young Gloucestershire to discuss the hiring of full and part time youth workers. He had been informed that although the workers would be managed through Young Gloucestershire, NTC as the actual employer would be responsible for any potential redundancy payments.

Currently six individuals shared 10 sessions a week at Nailsworth Youth Club, which level of cover Young Gloucestershire was being asked to continue.

Discussion ensued about whether to extend the employment of the current incumbents or whether the posts should be re-advertised, which option was favoured by the Mayor who thought it likely that the new contracts would involve different terms and conditions. There was likely to be a pool of candidates following county-wide redundancies.

Cllr Carter wondered if the TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment)) arrangements covering new management taking over existing staff applied here, and would existing job holders expect to be retained? The Mayor advised that everyone in the county was obliged to re-apply for all jobs.

It was evident that there were many issues that required fuller investigation and a working party reporting to the FE&GP committee, consisting of the Mayor, Cllrs Carter, Mrs Binns and Nicholson would meet to follow this through, with the option of seeking professional advice if required.

2011/210 PWLB – confirmation of authorisation of loan

The Loan of £150k, at a rate of 1.7% for the first six months should have been received, and the Clerk advised that these monies would be held in a separate bank account.

2011/211 GCC –Road closure

Shortwood Road would be closed between 19 and 24 January for electrical works. (Work subsequently cancelled)

2011/212 cessation of the Fountain

Cutbacks in the 2011/12 budget meant that the Fountain Magazine would no longer be published, and Mrs de Lacroix would write formally to notify the editor Mrs Sharon Wells.

On behalf of the council Cllr Crawley presented Mrs de Lacroix with a bouquet of flowers with grateful thanks for so efficiently managing the publication of the magazine since its inception in Spring 1996.

2011/213 change to date of the Recreation & Amenities meeting

It was agreed to change the date of the next meeting to Tuesday 22 February and Cllrs Byrne and Nicholson gave their apologies.

..... Chairman

..... Date