

NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES

The THIRTY FIFTH ANNUAL Meeting of the Town Council at the Town Hall, Nailsworth
on Tuesday 20 May 2008

Present: Cllr N I Kay Town Mayor
 Cllr J D Bratby
 Cllr J A Byrne
 Cllr B H Jayes
 Cllr J R Nicholson
 Cllr S Robinson
 Cllr Mrs S E Thorpe

Apologies: Cllr Mrs J M Way
 Cllr A G Wheeler

Present for County Cllr J S Waddington
Part of meeting: District Cllr J T Jeffreys
 District Cllr Fiona Macmillan

2008/01 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR

Cllr Kay was nominated by Cllr Mrs Thorpe and seconded by Cllr Jayes and there being no other nominations was unanimously elected Mayor for the ensuing year and signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

2008/02 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Cllr Robinson was nominated by Cllr Kay and seconded by Cllr Mrs Thorpe and there being no other nominations was unanimously elected Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year and signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

2008/03 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES & ELECTION OF
CHAIRS

Membership of Committees and Working Parties was agreed as per attached list with chairmen marked with an asterisk.

2008/04 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Some amendments were made to the list of outside bodies and representatives elected as shown on the attached list.

2008/05 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

A schedule of meetings for the year was noted and is attached.

Membership of Committees 2008-09

ENVIRONMENT Cllr J A Byrne Cllr J R Nicholson * Cllr Mrs S E Thorpe Cllr Mrs J M Way Cllr A G Wheeler	PLANNING Cllr J D Bratby Cllr Mrs S E Thorpe Cllr A G Wheeler *	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT Cllr J D Bratby * Cllr B Jayes Cllr Mrs J M Way
RECREATION & AMENITIES Cllr J A Byrne * Cllr B Jayes Cllr J R Nicholson	FINANCE, ECONOMIC & GENERAL PURPOSES Cllr NI Kay* Chairmen of committees	TOWN NEWSLETTER Cllr J A Byrne Cllr B Jayes Cllr J R Nicholson *
* denotes chairmen of committees who were elected at the 35 th Annual Meeting on 20 May 2008 Cllr N I Kay, Mayor and Cllr S Robinson, Deputy Mayor ex officio on all committees and working party	Forest Green Community Centre Working Party Cllr J D Bratby Cllr J R Nicholson Cllr Mrs S E Thorpe* Cllr Mrs J M Way Mrs S Millett and Mrs M Marshall + two others, Forest Green Residents Association	Nailsworth Games Working Party Cllr N I Kay * Mrs G Smith, Chamber of Trade J Ellen and J Probert, FGR-FC Mrs D Binns District Cllr J T Jefferies A Nicholson, Neighbourhood Warden Ms T Young, Junction Youth Club
REPRESENTATIVES on OUTSIDE BODIES		
Nailsworth Youth Club Management Committee		Cllr Robinson
Citizens Advice Bureau		Cllr Bratby
League of Friends of Stroud Hospital		
National Trust Minchinhampton & Rodborough Commons Advisory Committee		Cllr Jayes
Nailsworth & District Twinning Association		Cllr Bratby
Nailsworth Youth & Community Enterprise (NYCE)		Cllr Bratby
GMTF and GRCC		Cllr Kay and Cllr Mrs Thorpe
Nailsworth Chamber of Trade		
Minchinhampton Educational Foundation – Trustee		Cllr Wheeler
Nailsworth Primary School, Board of Governors		Cllr Jayes
Nailsworth Community Partnership (NCP)		
Stroud District Market Town Forum		Cllr Kay and Cllr Mrs Thorpe
Police Consultative meetings		
SARA (Scanning Access Response Analyse)		Cllr Robinson
Fair Trade Steering Committee		

Schedule of meetings 2008/09

	FULL COUNCIL	Recreation & Amenities	Property Management	Environment	Planning	Town Newsletter
	3 rd Tuesday monthly	2 nd Tuesday alternate months	4 th Tuesday alternate months	1 st Monday alternate months	1 st Tuesday and 3 rd Thursday monthly	Copy review & next issue forward planning
meeting starts at:	7.00pm	7.30pm	7.30pm	7.30pm	7.30pm	6.00pm
2008 May	Tues 20		Tues 27	Mon 28 April	Tues 6 Thurs 15	
June	Tues 17	Tues 10			Tues 3 Thurs 19	
July	Tues 15		Tues 22	Mon 7	Tues 1 Thurs 17	
August	Tues 19	Tues 12			Tues 5 Thurs 21	Mon 18
Sept	Tues 16		Tues 23	Mon 1	Tues 2 Thurs 18	
Oct	Tues 21	Tues 14			Tues 7 Thurs 16	
Nov	Tues 18		Tues 25	Mon 3	Tues 4 Thurs 20	Mon 3
Dec	Tues 16	Tues 9			Tues 2 Thurs 18	
2009 Jan	Tues 20		Tues 27	Mon 5	Tues 6 Thurs 15	
Feb	Tues 17	Tues 10			Tues 3 Thurs 19	TBA
March	Tues 17		Tues 24	Mon 2	Tues 3 Thurs 19	
April	Tues 21	Tues 14			Tues 7 Thurs 16	TBA
May	Tues 19		Tues 26	Mon 4	Tues 5 Thurs 21	

The Finance, Economic & General Purposes Committee meets as required.

2008/05 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15 April 2008 were confirmed and signed.

2008/06 MULTI USE GAMES AREA (MUGA) AT BUNTING HILL (MINUTE 2008/307)

It was noted that the tarmac had been laid and the installation would open shortly.

2008/07 SAVE THE POST OFFICE CAMPAIGN (MINUTE 2008/308)

Cllr Mrs Thorpe regretted that the Burma Road PO would close in June and that it was highly unlikely that even limited services would be retained. She agreed to consider, time permitting, to send a further letter pressing the case for retention of limited services although she acknowledged that the PO was unlikely to take notice.

It was noted that there were no plans to increase the staffing level of the Old Market PO and that the closure of Burma Road and Horsley PO's would be likely to affect the standard of service and length of queues would worsen.

2008/08 TRAFFIC PROPOSALS FOR TOWN CENTRE (MINUTE 2008/314)

It was agreed that a training meeting should be arranged for July to study Mr Free's proposals.

2008/09 FOREST GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE WORKING PARTY (MINUTE 2008/313)

Cllr Mrs Thorpe reported that the business plan was progressing albeit not quite as quickly as had been hoped.

2008/10 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Waddington reported that the GCC outline business case for residual waste management had been submitted to DEFRA but it was just the beginning of a long process.

GCC had received an initial payment of £10.408m from the government for flood damage with a further £5.5m still to come.

GCC was still investigating Post Office support measures introduced by authorities in Essex and Cllr Waddington advised that NTC should register its interest as appropriate.

A useful meeting had been held with Paul McLain to initiate negotiations about funding for the Nailsworth youth worker.

The Gloucestershire Environmental Partnership was progressing and five consumer/business groups were discussing some wide ranging topics. Following a question from Cllr Mrs Thorpe Cllr Waddington undertook to bring a copy of the Group's programme to the next meeting.

Cllr Waddington was delighted to announce the appointment of a full time cycling officer for the county whose first task would be to revive the Cycling Forum. There had been publicity in the

local press of complaints about the condition of the cycle trail. He had ridden the trail – and welcomed an opportunity to do so again with Cllr Kay – and had found it in reasonable condition throughout. He pointed out that it was a mixed use track and that if the surface was tarmaced it might encourage cyclists to speed increasing the hazards for pedestrians, young families and dog walkers. Cllr Nicholson speaking from his experience of the cycle trail as a pedestrian agreed that it would not be economically viable or necessary to tarmac the whole surface. He suggested tarmacing a strip just for cyclists on the stretch of trail from the town centre to the Woodchester parish boundary where cyclists had already worn a small groove.

2008/11 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

The Mayor congratulated Cllr Fi Macmillan on her election and welcomed her to her first NTC meeting. Cllr Macmillan responded that she was looking forward to the challenge and confirmed that she would be sitting on the Development Control Committee and the Community Safety Panel.

Cllr Jefferies confirmed his appointment as cabinet member with the portfolio for Leisure & Culture. He was extremely pleased with the progress with the junior MUGA.

2008/12 TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor was pleased to announce that a local benefactor had gifted approx. £400,000 for the benefit of the citizens of Nailsworth. Following receipt of a letter he and the Clerk had met the trustees on 19 May for an initial discussion and whilst the benefactor had expressed a wish that housing for the elderly and indoor sporting provision for young people be considered for support disbursement of the funds was left entirely to the discretion of the trustees in consultation with the Town Council. The trustees would welcome a list of projects which the council considered to be worthy of financial support. Councillors expressed their delight at this good fortune for the town. The Mayor proposed and it was agreed that the Finance Committee should meet on 5 June to discuss how to move things forward to identify a list of suitable projects.

The Mayor referred to his recent email to councillors which rehearsed the current situation with regard to the cuts in the bus service 46 and the GCC proposals now on the table that some late night service could be resumed if parishes along the route were prepared to contribute towards the cost. Discussion was hampered by confusion over the service 46 scheduling although it was clear that the NTC contribution being requested would be in the order of £3,630 for a six month period. Councillors were unsure why such importance was being given to late night buses whilst the major issue of the last through bus to Nailsworth leaving Cheltenham at 16.35 making the service unviable for anyone working in the town was ignored. The point was made forcefully that subsidising bus routes that should be funded by GCC was not within the remit of NTC. Some discussion ensued about the Stroud night bus whose future was unclear and it was felt that there was a case for financially supporting this service if it could be routed to Nailsworth.

It was agreed that NTC should not financially support the service 46 but in principle would be prepared to financially support the Stroud night bus if it continued to run and came to Nailsworth.

The Mayor referred to the recent Nailstock event and reported that some letters had been received complaining about the size and management of the event. There had been disturbing reports in the local press too about the extent of underage drinking and instances of physical disturbance which had resulted in at least one young person being taken to Frenchay Hospital. As owner of the venue NTC had a duty to establish the facts and hear from all interested parties before taking a decision about the use of the KGV field for this event in the future. The Mayor understood that discussions were ongoing between the organisers, police and SDC Licensing and it had been suggested that NTC should also be included but as yet no invitation had been received. It was agreed to arrange an extraordinary council meeting and invite interested parties to attend.

The Mayor confirmed that a training session to discuss external communications had been held on 30 April. Some thoughts arising from the informal discussion had been circulated and the topic would be included on the June agenda.

2008/13 REPORT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Cllr Robinson filled in some detail of the meeting with Paul McLain who would be visiting Nailsworth on 10 June. There was a lot of ground work to be covered as there was a stunning lack of knowledge of the Nailsworth set up and situation and total unwillingness on the part of GCC to acknowledge its responsibilities. In some ways the situation was worse than four years ago as GCC was contemplating cuts to the current Nailsworth staffing. Nailsworth would be fortunate to retain the status quo as things stood and NTC should be aware that it might have to continue its level of subsidy. Cllr Robinson reported that SDC Crime & Disorder Partnership had made a commitment in principle to contribute funding to the Nailsworth youth worker.

2008/14 REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

Banner posts by clock tower

The Clerk reported that she had accepted a booking from Shortwood AFC for a banner advertising a beer festival for a week from 15 June. Subsequently she had misgivings as to whether this booking should have been accepted under the revised regulations and she asked the council to take a decision. After discussion it was felt that the Club was a commercial enterprise and should not be able to use the banner posts.

2008/15 REPORT OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2008 were confirmed and signed.

The Chairman confirmed that Malcolm Lane had been asked for a quotation for **sign boards** which had not arrived but which he understood was on its way.

The Chairman had investigated with GCC the **proposed BOAT status for Whip's Lane**. As the proposal would retain the status quo and the path would be maintained to bridleway standard only there was no reason to object.

The Mayor requested the Clerk to arrange for a copy of the **SDC Rural Community Investment Scheme** paperwork to be sent to the Dunkirk Management Company.

2008/16 REPORT OF TOWN NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2008 were confirmed and signed.

The Chairman urged councillors to **identify topics which were not time sensitive** (and hopefully provide articles) which could be held against a shortfall in copy for future issues.

2008/17 REPORT OF FOREST GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE WORKING PARTY

The Chairman said solicitors had been asked to **open negotiations with Redrow** with a view to the marketing suite being available for hire from July.

The **questionnaires** which had been sent to the new houses had been collected back and the Chairman requested that GRCC be asked to **analyse the response** for a cost of £53 + vat. This was approved.

Cllr Nicholson reported that SDC had confirmed that **planning permission** for change of use was **required**. He would complete the application form which would incur a fee to SDC of £167.50.

2008/18 REPORT OF PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2008 could not be signed due to lack of attendees present. The minutes would be formally adopted at the June meeting.

RESOLVED that the comments made by the Planning Committee at its meetings held on 17 April and 6 May 2008 be approved.

As a point of information Cllr Nicholson confirmed that as reported at the Environment Committee meeting he had been in touch with SDC Environmental Health Division about the motocross along Nympsfield Road and officers had contacted the organisers and were keeping a close eye on developments.

2008/19 REVIEW OF INSURANCE COVER

Members reviewed the insurance cover provided by Zurich Municipal and pronounced it satisfactory. It was agreed to renew the policy and accept the invitation to enter into a new 5 year long term agreement which would bring cost benefits. The Clerk recommended and it was agreed that the fidelity guarantee cover be raised to £280,000.

2008/20 ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED that the List of Accounts at 20 May 2008 totalling £27,899.26 be approved for payment.

2008/21 COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

It was agreed that if no request was received to hold an election the Clerk should advertise that the two vacancies would be filled by co-option and invite applications in writing by 13 June 2008.

2008/22 TOWN CENTRE PARKING ARRANGEMENTS

In view of the time it was agreed to defer discussion until the next meeting.

2008/23 AIR IN G – SUBSIDISED ART EVENT

The information was noted.

2008/24 SDC – CONSULTATION ON INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION AREA
MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS SPD & CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER
APPRAISAL

The Mayor undertook to review the papers and make a report to the Planning Committee.

2008/25 COTSWOLDS AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN 2008-2013

The papers were noted.

2008/26 GLOS MARKET TOWNS FORUM – ANNUAL REVIEW 2007

The document was noted and copies were on display for councillors to read.

2008/27 GCC – QUESTIONNAIRE ABOUT RE-DEVELOPING THE GLOS CHARTER

The Mayor volunteered to complete and return the questionnaire on behalf of NTC.

2008/28 SDC – COMMUNITY SAFETY PANEL MEETING

The half yearly meeting arranged for 11 June at Ebley Mill at 10.00am was noted.

2008/29 STONEHOUSE INA SSCP MEETING

The meeting at Nailsworth Town Hall arranged for 22 May at 2.00pm was noted. The Mayor encouraged councillors to attend.

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Town Mayor

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Date