

**NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES**

The Meeting of the Town Council at the Town Hall, Nailsworth
on Tuesday 17 October 2006

Present	Cllr Mrs S M Reed (Town Mayor) Cllr W S Affleck * Cllr J Byrne Cllr J Eddyshaw Cllr E A McLean Cllr Mrs L J Williams-Allen
Present for part of the meeting	District Cllr J T Jeffreys Mr Ashley Nicholson, Neighbourhood Warden
Apologies accepted	Cllr N I Kay Cllr J R Nicholson Cllr Mrs A J Smith County Cllr W S Waddington
Non attendance	* denotes absence from part of the meeting Cllr M K Akhtar Cllr J D Bratby

2006/116 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

District Cllr Jeffreys promised to look into Mrs Makemson's complaint that green sacks of garden waste were being thrown in with the general household rubbish instead of being recycled. The Clerk advised that the purchase of a green sack at 60p covered the collection of garden waste by the bin men, which was not part of the general household refuse collection contract.

2006/117 PRESENTATION BY Mr Ashley Nicholson SDC NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN

Mr Nicholson had been attending Nailsworth for two half days since 1st August, and presented a report of the contacts he had made with various members and groups in the Nailsworth community. He circulated two written reports to those present. In discussion with Mr Carlos Novoth SDC, he was recommending the installation of a CCTV camera at Lawnside and was keen to arrange further meetings with Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators. It was noted that incidences of antisocial behaviour for the period 1st August to 1st October 2005 were 74, and dropped to 55 for the same period in 2006, although Mr Nicholson was not sure he could claim full responsibility for the improvement.

In response to a comment from Cllr Eddyshaw, Mr Nicholson advised that it was classic behaviour for antisocial perpetrators to migrate into less well policed areas, as it was rumoured had been happening in Nailsworth. In the absence of a community police officer, Mr Nicholson recommended Nailsworth would benefit from the presence of a Neighbourhood Warden for three or five days per week at a cost of £1000 and £2000 respectively.

The Mayor thanked Mr Nicholson for his report and for his valuable presence in the town which would continue until April 2007. The Mayor advised the meeting that a decision on whether to formalise the appointment thereafter would need to be made during the 07/08 budgeting process so that an appropriate amount could be precepted.

Contact details for Mr Nicholson, with a photo, would be repeated in the December Fountain to help in the process of familiarising residents with his presence.

2006/118 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 19 September were approved and signed.

2006/119 ROADWORKS ON THE A46 (minute 2006/80)

The Clerk had followed up County Cllr Waddington's concerns that roadworks were planned for the A46 in the run up to Christmas, and had received written confirmation from GCC Highways that no works were planned for November. The current re-surfacing works on the A46 between Rooksmoor and Inchbrook would be completed by 18 October.

2006/120 PERCEIVED LITTER PROBLEM (minute 2006/83)

The Clerk advised that Rodborough PC was taking part in an environmental group's national campaign with an organised litter pick. The Clerk would circulate SDC's reply to Mr Carter which gave a good explanation of the Council's responsibilities. There was a strong feeling that councils should be responsible for town centre cleanliness but that residents in outlying areas should be more proactive in keeping their streets tidy.

2006/121 ADDITIONAL LENGTH OF FOOTPATH AT FOREST GREEN (minute 2006/100)

The Clerk had received confirmation that the land belonged to FGR-FC other than a small strip which was still under ownership of GCC. The Environment Committee was asked to consider how best to organise maintenance of the footpath.

Two objections had been received from Lawnside residents to the Modification Order; one had been withdrawn and the other was being submitted to the Secretary of State for adjudication. Cllr Mrs Williams-Allen thought the problem might be where the fencing against adjoining properties was too low for privacy and security, and had referred the tenants to the appropriate department to see if the fencing could be brought up to the same level as further along the path.

2006/122 REPORT OF COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

District Cllr Jeffreys commented that SDC spent £550,000 a year on litter collection in the District. He felt civic duty and education was the way forward.

At the Cabinet meeting on 5 October, approval had been given to the change of boundaries involving five properties on Scar Hill moving to Minchinhampton, and part of Crystal Fountain Village being incorporated into Nailsworth.

SDC had commissioned a report from the Kings Fund at a cost of £40,000 on local health and social care, in the form of a feasibility study giving advice on how best to deal with the government's drive to cut hospital and health care.

Allocation of social housing in the District, which currently operated on a points system, would be gradually changed to choice-based letting as part of a cross-county scheme, thus giving tenants greater control.

Cllr Jeffreys advised that SDC undertook weekly safety inspections of play areas under its remit, along with an annual health & safety check. He reminded the meeting that dangerously vandalised items of play equipment had been removed in Forest Green, but now that the Miles Marling field had been adapted to accommodate older children, SDC would be refurbishing the toddler facility. Cllr Jeffreys felt Nailsworth was well served with play areas, but the Mayor pointed out that the good ones were funded by NTC, and the SDC provision had been unsatisfactory for a number of years.

* Cllr Byrne joined the meeting

2006/123 TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

22 September	Attended FG Residents Association AGM with Cllrs Bratby and Mrs Williams-Allen
25 September	Attended the AGM of Nailsworth Primary School Governors with new chairman Mr Jonathan Smith

28 September	Met with Ms Tiina Emsley SDC, Mr Dan Judges GMTF, Cllr Kay to progress the consultation/planning initiatives with Ms Helen Bojaniwska. Ms Bojaniwska had submitted a design statement, for which the £5000 cost would be shared equally with GMTF. A steering committee would shortly be formed. It was agreed that 300 copies of the Action Plan leaflet would be printed at a cost of £198.
4 October	Attended a meeting of Nailsworth Primary School Governors.
5 October	Attended a meeting at Ebley Mill to consider the Shopping Survey
	Met with Roger Evans Associates to work on the second draft for the FG Community Centre, to be presented on 2 November.
	Attended a meeting for the Forest Green Community Centre
11 October	Attended the Review Meeting and Staff Party for TIC volunteers.
12 October	Attended a meeting of Nailsworth Primary School Governors.
13 October	Attended a meeting of Nailsworth Festival Committee & NW Film Society
16 October	Attended a meeting of Nailsworth Primary School Governors.

2006/124 FOREST GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Redrow Homes were keen to organise underground utilities on the plot as part of their building programme and Buchanan Partnership was applying for planning permission. Property Management Committee was asked to take this forward until such time as a steering committee could be formed.

SDC had advised that Redrow Homes were willing to cover their costs in the amendment to the 106 Agreement, but that, since NTC had requested the easement, it would be expected to cover SDC's costs and also perhaps those of GCC. The Clerk thought costs might be in the order of £500/£600 per council, but Cllrs felt this expenditure worthwhile to obtain a piece of land for the community, which could be used as a play/kick about area until such time as the Community Centre could be built.

2006/125 OPENING OF OPTICAL SHOP, GEORGE STREET, 26 October

The Mayor was unable to attend and Cllr Affleck agreed to represent NTC at the opening and cut the cake on the Mayor's behalf.

2006/126 REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

The Clerk had received Inforeggio Panorama.

Mrs Maureen Embrey, former Library Manager, had written requesting display of the signed **tablecloth** presented to her on leaving the Library. The signatures had been embroidered and Mrs Embrey suggested it could be displayed in the TIC on Christkindl Evening with a 'guess how many signatures' competition at 50p a guess, in aid of Christkindl funds. Cllrs were happy to approve the novel idea and it was hoped there was still time to include an advertisement in the programme.

Mr Mark Webb had requested passage over the Mortimer Gardens for delivery of 4-5 tonnes of cement for **16 Fountain Street**. Cllrs were most concerned about the weight, mess and damage to the Gardens of such an operation, and the Clerk was asked to refuse the request.

GCC Highways had looked at the old **signs by William's Fish & Food Hall**; a couple could be affixed to the existing pole by the shop wall, and those for 'toilets' and 'free parking' were duplicated on the finger post, so would not need to be replaced. Approval had been obtained to repair the bridge, but there was no news on removal of the old flower bed.

The Clerk drew Cllrs' attention to the forthcoming **Finance Committee meeting dates** on Monday 13 and Monday 27 November, at 7.30pm, as well as the **Special Budget Approval meeting** to be held on 11 December. Since **Property Management Committee** did not have a scheduled meeting in the meantime, members were asked to get together to agree budget proposals in time for the 13 November meeting.

SDC had asked for suggestions for a **name for the development on the former Norton Court** and the matter was referred to the Planning Committee.

2006/127 REPORT OF PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 September were approved and signed with the following amendment:

Page 2 - Hazelwood Bungalow, penultimate line to read

“. . . it might be preferable to remove it (the chimney) ABOVE roof level now, . . .”

Cllrs were asked to notify the chairman if they had any views on use of the Clock Tower Gardens **banner posts** and the Clerk was asked to notify absent Cllrs to this effect.

The **men's toilet in the TH** had been repainted, but consequently the lobby area looked very tatty and should perhaps also be painted.

Coping stones had been removed from the wall by the steps up to the **Mortimer Room/Library**. GCC, which was responsible for 4/5ths of any repair cost, had obtained a quote for £148 to provide a concrete capping which was deemed the safest solution, though perhaps not the most attractive. Cllrs approved the 1/5th share of £29.60 + vat payable by NTC.

The Mayor had discussed with Mrs Jacqui Rogers, terms for helping with **grant applications**. Mrs Rogers had advised that a fee per hour was built into the application as professional fees.

2006/128 REPORT OF RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE

In the absence of the chairman, Cllr McLean presented the report of the meeting of the committee held on 10 October and the minutes were approved.

The Clerk confirmed that a planning application would be required for the **Market Street Triangle**.

The Clerk was asked to arrange the meeting with Mr Tim Barnard to discuss the **KGV extension field**.

2006/129 REPORT OF PLANNING COMMITTEE

There were insufficient members present to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 21 September and 3 October.

RESOLVED that the comments of the Planning Committee made at its meetings held on 21 September and 3 October 2006 be approved.

2006/130 ACCOUNTS

The Clerk advised that the unqualified opinion audit report had been generally approving and she was dealing with the various comments made. A copy would be circulated to members of the Finance Committee.

RESOLVED that the list of accounts at 17 October 2006 amounting to £10301.10 be approved for payment.

2006/131 PROPOSED REVISION OF STANDING ORDER 58(a) to increase the threshold from £5000 to £10000 before works had to be put out to tender.

PROPOSED Cllr Mrs Williams-Allen proposed, seconded by Cllr Affleck to unanimous approval, that the threshold for Standing Order 58(a) be increased to £10,000.

2006/132 Royal British Legion – Remembrance Sunday 2006

The Mayor would lead the procession at the ceremony to be held on Sunday 12 November and Cllrs were encouraged to attend. Mrs de Lacroix advised that Mr and Mrs Allan Beale and Mr and Mrs Bruce Fenn would be attending the ceremonies in Lèves on Saturday 11 November, where they would lay a wreath on behalf of Nailsworth.

2006/133 Stroud & District Motor Club – Mechanics Trial

The non timed, non speed reliability event would take place on 13 November and noise would be kept to a minimum.

2006/134 Mr David Drew MP – statement about Stroud Maternity Hospital

Mr Drew expressed his pleasure at the saving of Stroud Maternity Hospital and continued to fight for local health services.

2006/135 GRCC – workshops about managing projects

A series of four workshops would be held on Wednesdays in November, each from 5.30 to 8.30pm at King Stanley Village Hall. Cllrs were unable to attend.

2006/136 GCC – consultation over proposals for homes for older people

The document was available in the office.

2006/137 SDC – Stonehouse Parish Cluster meeting

The next meeting would be held at Ebley Mill on 21 November at 7pm, and the Clerk had a copy of the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September.

2006/138 GCC – managing mineral resources in Gloucestershire

The report was also available on line and comments were invited by 17 November.

2006/139 Charity Commission Returns for KGV field and Hazelwood Bungalow

An annual financial return was required, which this year would report £112 expenditure on Hazelwood Bungalow; £6115 income and £16776 expenditure on KGV field. The Returns were approved and signed by the Mayor.

2006/140 GCC – road closure Wallow Green

The road between the Fooks and Homefield would be closed between 27 November and 2 December for Severn Trent works. Also Ragnall Lane and Hollingham Lane.

2006/141 British Gas – new mains bottom of Spring Hill

The Clerk had been notified that a new gas main would be installed on the grass patch at the bottom of Spring Hill, which land was owned by SDC.

2006/142 Christkindl Evening – Friday 24 November

Cllrs were reminded of this annual event. It was suggested that town groundsman Mr Mansell might like to take part in the parade in his new vehicle.

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Chairman

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Date