

**NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES**

The Meeting of the Town Council at the Town Hall, Nailsworth
on **Tuesday 20 March 2007**

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

2007/257 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 16 January 2007 were confirmed and signed.

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2007 would be confirmed at the next meeting of the Council following amendment to minute 2007/236 and inclusion of District Cllr Jeffrey's report.

2007/258 COMMUNITIES 7 LOCAL GOVERNMENT – REVISED MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT (minute 2007/252)

Cllr Nicholson had considered the document and advised that it included positive suggestions and helpful clarifications for councillors.

2007/259 REPORT OF COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

District Cllr Jeffreys reported that Cabinet had met last Thursday; an agreement had been reached between the partners to decriminalise car parking enforcement and make it a civil matter. The distribution of second homes' income had been agreed for the year. SDC had agreed to take part in consultation on the draft Glos Urban Economic Strategy. Discussion continued on the level of aid for farmers' markets in Dursley, Wotton and Nailsworth.

Cllr Jeffreys had looked into the 106 Agreement process as requested, adding that these were designed to reflect the additional pressures on communities when new developments were built. SDC was in the process of creating a database of these agreements so that they could be tracked.

Cllr Eddyshaw asked District Cllr Jeffreys to provide a list of funding Nailsworth had received from SDC in recent years. Cllr Jeffreys agreed to provide the information

District Cllr Binns had nothing further to report.

* Cllrs Byrne and McLean joined the meeting during the above report

2007/260 TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

26 February	Attended a meeting of NCP Steering Committee ref the Design Statement
27 February	Attended the Stonehouse Cluster Group meeting at Ebley Mill and reported on Nailsworth activities
28 February	Attended meeting of Nailsworth Primary School Governing Body
2 March	Attended the AGM and social evening of the Twinning Association
7 March	Attended a meeting of the Glos Wildlife Trust at Egypt Mill
8 March	Participated in the fixing of a commemorative plaque to the Clock Tower inner door, in tribute to Cecil and Brian Hetterley who maintained the clock from 1936-1978
9 March	Watched the Nailsworth Film Society film

In response to a request from the **Centre for Non Violent Living in Pennsylvania USA**, the Mayor had written an appropriate letter to encourage peace and arms reduction amongst young people.

County Cllr Waddington had provided the number for a **Pothole Hotline** at GCC Highways on 08000 514 514. This information would be provided to the town's newsletters for dissemination.

The Mayor had received a letter from **residents in Colliers Wood**, whose car had been towed away and crushed by SDC whilst they were away on holiday, despite the vehicle being correctly taxed and insured. The letter was passed to Cllr Jeffreys for action.

The **new Emmaus shop** would be opening on 29 March at the old video shop, Market Street, and Cllrs were invited to join the official opening by the Bishop of Gloucester at 11.30am.

The Mayor drew Cllrs' attention to the **forthcoming council meetings, Town Meeting and Mayor's Reception** and reminded them that the **deadline for election applications** was noon on 4 April.

The Mayor wished to record her thanks to Mrs de Lacroix for the **TIC window displays** which always looked nice and attracted complimentary comments from residents.

Two sets of minutes from recent **NCP working group meetings** were circulated to the meeting and a press release would be published shortly.

It was agreed to arrange for a photographer to take a photograph of the outgoing council at 6.30pm prior to the meeting on 17 April.

2007/261 REPORT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Cllr Kay reminded Cllrs that the council had agreed to take a **stall at the Farmers' Market** on Saturday 24 March, to inform members of the public about council activities and encourage new Cllrs to come forward. Mrs de Lacroix would provide flyers, and badges for attendant Cllrs, and Cllr Kay would collect other useful paperwork from the TIC.

Cllr Kay reminded the meeting of the proposed **Summer Fair for the town's social groups** and organisations and advised that his survey amongst these had provided 12 (out of 13) positive responses to the idea. He would continue his preparations, having ensured a large enough participation from said groups.

GMTF had emailed an invitation to attend a **trip to Ledbury** tomorrow, which Cllr Kay would be attending. He hoped to get some ideas on improving services.

Cllr Kay had met with Mr Phil Sullivan SDC who had been enthusiastic and full of ideas for improving and co-ordinating **services for older people**. Mr Sullivan was also to become car parking officer.

2007/262 REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

The Clerk reported receipt of EEC Inforeggio News, and minutes of the Stonehouse Parish Cluster Meeting in February, whose next meeting would be held on 27 May at 7pm.

2007/263 NAILSWORTH TOWN WEBSITE

Ms Shirley Anderson, SDC Tourism Officer had asked if NTC website could have a link to SDC tourism site which was approved. She advised there was now a facility for uploading dates of events onto a District-wide list; Mrs de Lacroix advised she had already added the Festival and Christingle Evening to this site. It was agreed that three month's worth of council minutes on the website was sufficient, rather than the six months currently posted up. Mrs de Lacroix would pass on the appropriate instructions to Mr Burn and ask him to put an appeal for new Cllrs on the front page of the site.

2007/264 GMTF MEETING and AGM IN NAILSWORTH, 21 SEPTEMBER

GMTF meetings were held in rotation around the County and it was Nailsworth's turn to accommodate the afternoon to evening meeting in September. As the Town Hall was already booked and the Mortimer Room too small, it had been suggested that Nailsworth could host this event at Egypt Mill. Cllr Affleck had obtained a quotation of approx £160, which included £90 for hire of the room + tea and coffee for 50 people. It was important to be near the town centre so that Cllrs could show groups around the town, and the ease of car parking at Egypt Mill was an important bonus.

Cllr Affleck would revert to GMTF with the proposal to hold the meeting at Egypt Mill and Cllrs agreed to cover the cost. The organisers' plan to bring in an informal supper would not be possible if the meeting was held at Egypt Mill. Places of particular interest to show the group were discussed, including the Boys Club and TIC and perhaps it could be arranged for Dunkirk Mill Museum to be open that afternoon.

2007/265 APPROVAL OF MINUTES RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE (minute 2007/240)

The minutes of the meeting of the Recreation & Amenities Committee held on 13 February were confirmed and signed.

The Clerk clarified that the grass cutting contract for the KGV field extension had not been included in the original quotation and would eventually cost an extra £600, which was approved. (It cost £1030 for the rest of the KGV area and £500 for Miles Marling.)

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (minute 2007/239)

The minutes of the meeting of the Property Management Committee held on 23 January were confirmed and signed.

2007/266 REPORT OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr Nicholson presented the report of the meeting of the committee held on 5 March and the minutes were approved.

Cllr Nicholson had met with Mr Moony GCC regarding the **water problems in Shortwood Churchyard** and Mr Moony felt it might be possible to divert the spring before it entered the Churchyard, which scheme would need further investigation.

Discussion followed about likely **access to the newly restored Dunkirk Mill Ponds**, which it was felt was likely to be from the cycle trail, although the Trust also owned a strip of land by the petrol station which might provide another access point. Mr Nigel Brown from Dunkirk Mills Management Company would be attending the next meeting of the Recreation & Amenities Committee to update Cllrs on progress.

Cllrs Kay and Mrs Williams-Allen were exploring options for **street maps**, along with alternative sources of funding to Rural Renaissance. A basic wall panel cost about £750, similar to that on the Bus Station toilet wall, and a free standing map £1500. These could however be obtained through organisations similar to those producing town guides, where the panel was paid for by advertisements surrounding the map which was then free to the town. Investigations would continue. The Clerk thought the SDC map on the toilet wall was due to be replaced.

Cllr Affleck alerted the meeting to the Gannet Foundation which gave grants to registered charities for community projects in Tewkesbury and Cotswold district. Cllr Affleck had been unable to contact the organisation to discover if Nailsworth was within the distribution area and applications had to be submitted by 23 March.

2007/267 REPORT OF PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Affleck presented the reports of the meetings of the committee held on 22 February and 6 March.

RESOLVED that the comments of the Planning Committee made at its meetings held on 22 February and 6 March 2007 be approved.

Cllr Nicholson urged the committee to support the applications which would come before its meeting on 22 March, from Dunkirk Mill Museum for the erection of **Mill Walks information boards**. The Clerk advised that currently the boards were classed as advertising and as such incurred a £160 fee (as opposed to the usual £70) per planning application – of which there were eight. Cllrs were horrified to hear this and the Clerk advised that SDC planning office was looking to see if this anomaly could be overcome. Cllr Jeffreys was asked to see if he could help and Cllr Nicholson suggested NTC could make the applications on behalf of SWTT in which case they would be half price.

Cllrs felt strongly that planning permission for information boards of this type should be at a greatly reduced price although it was accepted there was undoubtedly a minimum statutory fee.

2007/268 ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED that the list of accounts at 20 March 2007 amounting to £12738.50 be approved for payment.

Item 370 GAPTC subscription

In response to Cllr Kay's query as to the value of this expensive subscription, it was explained that The organisation provided valuable help and legal advice to local councils. A useful newsletter was circulated. The fee was based on size of population, but longer standing Cllrs who had experienced the benefits, felt it was well worthwhile.

In response to the suggestion from Cllr Eddyshaw to have a monthly record of income as well as expenditure, it was explained that this information could be seen on the bank account records and it would not be time-effective to produce a separate monthly schedule.

2007/269 Nailstock Committee – results of survey Park Road residents

The committee had had a positive response from residents but the overall wish was not to completely close the road but enforce parking restrictions. The Clerk was asked to direct the Nailstock Committee to negotiate the best solution with the police.

Permission for the committee to have access from 26-29 April to include setting up and clearing was granted and Mr Mansell would rearrange football bookings.

2007/270 Nailsworth Twinning Association – anniversary stone plaque

The Association had written to thank NTC for organising installation of the plaque in the MR wall and Cllrs were invited to the official unveiling on Friday 18 May when the French visitors arrived in the early evening for their biennial visit.

2007/271 GRCC – Community Plans Forum – 26 March

Cllrs were asked to notify the Clerk if they wished to attend this meeting from 6-8pm in Rodborough. Cllr Nicholson suggested Ms Kearns (who had proposed setting up a Friends of Norton Wood group) might be interested in attending to hear about Bisley's community composting scheme.

2007/272 SDC – District Spring Clean 2007

The annual initiative would take place in April and May, with litter picking equipment provided by SDC and a shield awarded to the cleanest area. The Clerk was asked to pass on the information to Mr Paul Carter of Windsoredge who had previously complained to NTC about litter in outlying hamlets. Nailsworth News would be asked to publicise the event.

2007/273 Local Works – Sustainable Communities Bill

There was concern about the way the bill had been handled and a national rally would take place on 26 March. Councils were urged to write to their MP, but since Mr David Drew MP was a leading light in the campaign, it was felt that no further action was needed.

2007/274 Glos Constabulary – appointment new PCSO for Nailsworth

A letter of introduction from new PCSO Lance Tremain-Hancock had been received, although it was not clear whether he was instead of, or in addition to the current PCSOs. The Clerk was asked to investigate his relevance to Nailsworth and invite him to attend a meeting if appropriate.

2007/275 GMTF – Strategy and Operating Plan

A plan for 2007-10 was being prepared and Mr Peter Street wished to make a presentation to Cllrs (approx 30 minutes plus time for discussion). It was agreed to invite Mr Street to the June meeting of the new council, unless this was too late for his consultation purposes, in which case a special training session would be arranged sooner.

2007/276 SDC – Neighbourhood Warden

Mr Phil Sullivan had written to confirm the appointment for Mr Ashley Nicholson to continue as Nailsworth's neighbourhood warden for 2 ½ days a week at a cost to NTC of £1000 p.a. Cllr Kay felt the council should have regular contact with Mr Nicholson and it was suggested he call on the Clerk once a week and make a report to the Recreation & Amenities Committee twice a year, commencing next September.

2007/277 National Star College - Spring Time Special

A meeting would be held on 22 March, 6.30-9pm to canvas views on activities and courses to be run at the Ullenwood-based college.

2007/278 Mrs Ann Makemson – change of leadership at Nailsworth Archive Office

Mrs Makemson was moving away at the end of the month and advised that Mr Allan Beale had been put forward to replace her as head of the Archive Office, continuing with the same band of dedicated volunteers. Cllrs were very sorry that Mrs Makemson would be moving away and felt extremely grateful to her for devoting much of her time over several years to setting up the Archive Office and creating such a valuable facility for the town. The Mayor undertook to organise flowers and commission a special gift to recognise Mrs Makemson's years of dedication and effort. A feature on Ms Makemson would be included in the June edition of the Fountain. The Clerk was asked to drop a line to Mr Beale to thank him for taking over at the Archive Office.