



NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of Nailsworth Town Council
held at the Town Hall, Old Bristol Road, Nailsworth GL6 0JF
on Tuesday 18th October 2022

Present:

Cllr Mike Kelly (Chair)
Cllr Shelley Rider
Cllr Steve Robinson
Cllr Jonathan Duckworth
Cllr Patsy Freeman
Cllr Angela Norman
Cllr Paul Francis
Cllr Ros Mulhall

Minutes:

Clerk

Apologies:

Cllr Colleen Rothwell
Cllr Natalie Bennett
Cllr Robert Maitland

2022/100

Verbal Introductions and safety briefing

Those present identified themselves. The fire evacuation routes were described for all those present.

2022/101

Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensations

There were none

2022/101

Election of Deputy Mayor

Following a year in post, to assist the Mayor, Cllr Jonathan Duckworth stood down as Deputy Mayor. There being no other nominations, Cllr Shelley Rider was elected unopposed as Deputy Mayor.

2022/102

Consideration of Planning Applications received as follows:

CONSULTATION –

- a) S.22/2044/LBC. Laburnum Cottage, Watledge Road, Nailsworth, Stroud.
Application: Listed Building Application. Erection of single storey timber garden office to the rear
Comments: NTC is concerned that this is an additional structure visible from the road.
- b) S.22/2043/HHOLD. Laburnum Cottage, Watledge Road, Nailsworth, Stroud.
Application: Householder. Erection of single storey timber garden office to the rear.
Comments: NTC is concerned that this is an additional structure visible from the road.
- c) S.22/2141/HHOLD Hillside, Pike Lane, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: Householder Construction of new loft conversion and renovation works.
Comments: No observations



- d) S.22/2073/HHOLD The Coach House, Spring Hill, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: Householder Insertion of dormer window & re-roofing

Comments: Object. NTC feels this flat roof extension is not in keeping with the surrounding buildings.

PREVIOUSLY TRACKED APPLICATIONS

- e) S.22/1599/HHOLD. Guyscliffe, Box, Stroud, Gloucestershire. Application: Householder Extension to Dwelling and Demolition of Existing Garage Application permitted. NTC no comment
- f) S.22/1750/FUL. Ruggers Green Barn, Tetbury Lane, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: Full Timber glamping pod for use as holiday accommodation (retrospective) Application refused. Comment: NTC object to this retrospective application. As it is within the AONB this application is outside the settlement boundary in open countryside. It is clearly contrary to Policy CP15 and the applicant's assertion that it is 'essential to promote public enjoyment of the countryside' is unfounded and wrong. Granting permission would open the way for extensive further development in the open countryside and AONB. Any proposal to add to the existing holiday accommodation should be more carefully considered and should be in close proximity to the existing accommodation in the former barns and not on a green field site.
- g) S.22/1818/LBC 1 Old Bristol Road, Nailsworth, Stroud, Gloucestershire. Application: Listed Building Application. Internal alterations, to form a ground floor WC shower room, comprising the completion of substantively started works approved in 1976. Application: permitted. NTC support this application
- h) S.22/1565/HHOLD. Dairy Farm, Whips Lane, Watledge, Nailsworth. Application: Householder. Construction of small porch extension. Application permitted. NTC No observations.
- i) S.21/2414/FUL. Land At, The Maltings, Tetbury Lane, Nailsworth. Application: Full New single dwelling Application: permitted. NTC finds this a very confusing application with many documents. The site plan is misleading, including land which does not belong to the applicant. The application includes documents from a previous application. NTC request an extension to comment on this application to give time to comprehend the confusing documents supplied. The Clerk undertook to contact the Planning Officer as well as submitting this comment on the Planning Portal.
- j) S.22/1771/HHOLD 24 Millbrook Walk, Inchbrook, Stroud, Gloucestershire. Application: Householder. New window to match existing in first floor bedroom. Application permitted. NTC No observations

2022/103

To confirm minutes of the Full Council meeting held 4th October 2022

All agreed

and Recreation & Amenities Committee held 4th October 2022

All agreed

2022/104

To consider Recreation & Amenities committee (4th October meeting) recommendations:

After a short discussion;

It was **agreed** to change hire charges as outlined in the four reports, and

It was **agreed** for the Mortimer Garden to be charged for markets at a rate of £50 per hire (equivalent to two sessions at £25 per session), plus a £20 for electricity use.

All agreed.

**2022/105**

Matters of Urgency: *important items that have arisen since the meeting summons (agenda) and cannot wait to be addressed with a written report at a future meeting, due to inflexible deadlines*

There was a brief update on progress on the Nailsworth Noel event, including a new resident volunteering to help (Cllrs Ros Mulhall and Patsy Freeman are involved with this work).

2022/106**Accounts**

To agree payments in accordance with the budget as listed in the attached reports and to agree two cllrs to authorise payments before the end of the week.

Cllr Angela Norman and Cllr Steve Robinson volunteered.

2022/107

To confirm the council's Strategic Plan priorities.

These were confirmed. The council agreed to work on deadlines, milestones and timescales for the Strategic Plan priorities, so that the work can be planned in an achievable manner.

The priorities were agreed as follows:

High Priority**1) Town Centre Improvements:**

- Making town a safer place to walk;
- Cycle path as been resurfaced but improvements are needed with signage, the appearance of the entrance and the connection between the end of the path and the town centre.
- Market Street improvements
- Civic Centre Complex. Consult town on feasibility study to rebuild Civic centre and Library complex.
- Ensure adequate parking for town centre. Including cycle parking and EV charging points.
- Better signage for businesses in town (free parking spaces)
- Pedestrian priority town
- Pavement parking
- Car alternatives; electric car club, Uber/Lyft/Bolt, electric bikes
- Crime and anti-social behaviour prevention

2) Tourism provision and visitor attraction:

- Christmas Lights. Updating Christmas decorations.
- Town Branding/Maps; walking maps and other material provided by TIC to be reviewed.
- Town Information Centre development, promotion, improvements.
- Festivals and events

3) Raising the Town Council's profile and communications:

- New NTC website
- Partnership development (SDC and town groups)
- Public communication about NTC activities

4) Developing the land at Carters Way for allotments/garden**5) Community support and development**

- Cost of living crisis
- Improve community use of Arkell Community Centre



- Arkell Centre drop in café
(NB some of these projects are actions for the Arkell Community Centre Trust).

Medium Priority

- 1) NTC land identification. All NTC land to be registered with Land Registry.
- 2) War Memorial refurbishment. Replacing surrounding slabs.
- 3) Tree planting strategy
- 4) Town Hall heating (green energy and boiler replacement)

Low Priority

- 1) Twinning and Friendship; expanding connections internationally.
- 2) Definitive Footpath Map; footpaths not formally registered as Public Rights of Way by 2026 will not be included in the Definitive Footpath Map.
- 3) Landscape Management Plan for Bunting Hill Nature Reserve
- 4) KGV Buildings; a new Groundsman's store and removing the wooden pavilion.
- 5) Flood alleviation and emergency plan
- 6) Shortwood Green improvements
- 7) Forest Green wildflower display and roundabout enhanced
- 8) All Saints Churchyard improvements

2022/108

To restart the Town Centre Regeneration working party

This working party is currently chaired by Cllr Mike Kelly, set up a few years ago and paused due to covid.

The new membership was **agreed** as

Cllr Angela Norman

Cllr Steve Robinson

Cllr Mike Kelly

Cllr Jonathan Duckworth.

Cllr Mike Kelly undertook to invite Cllr Robert Maitland to join and to set up a meeting of the working party very soon.

There is already an Earmarked Reserve for this work and an additional UKSPF grant of £15,000 expected in the New Year.

2022/109

To approve projects to be put forward for the Rural SPF grant.

The following projects were approved;

1) Civic Centre complex regeneration

This is a high priority in NTC's Strategic Plan.

Funding towards an initial consultation, feasibility study and project coordinator to progress this key town centre regeneration project.

This is an ambitious project which could boost services and regenerate the centre of town. NTC would like to commission a feasibility study on the pros and cons of rebuilding the Civic Centre complex (NTC offices, Mortimer Room and GCC Library) as a purpose-built community/information hub. There is space to make the building much bigger and to include a second floor which has residential and business potential. NTC have already spoken to GCC about the advantages of this project for the Library service as a way to reduce annual building maintenance, increase energy efficiency and increasing all of our services.

Suggested bid: £15,000

**2) Town branding:**

Including town maps (new illustrations, panels and Perspex for the four Town Signs; digital downloadable versions); new branding for our TIC print and digital content

Suggested bid: c. £8,000

3) Christmas lights:

Boosting the current town centre display with a focus on one area (Mortimer Garden) to have a more energy efficient, attractive display, attracting visitors and for the benefit of residents.

Suggested bid: £20,000

4) Mortimer Room; new chairs and tables:

This very popular accessible community hall had a refurbishment during lockdown. We just need now to replace tables and chairs to bring it up to scratch with light weight, stackable, flexible furniture for the many community groups that meet here.

Suggested bid: £7,000

2022/110**To consider a response to SDC's consultation on the draft Town and Parish Charter.**

It was **agreed** that the following comments be submitted to the consultation;

- How will SDC roll out the Charter across their organisation to ensure all staff and district cllrs understand the commitments?
- Communications: suggest to include "SDC will recognise the contribution of town and parish councils when working together, and to acknowledge partnership working in all publicity" and "Town and parish council will recognise the contribution of SDC when working together, and to acknowledge partnership working in all publicity"
- Communications: "SDC will collaborate with town and parish councils on matters of national importance (e.g. recently Operation London Bridge) and acknowledge that confidentiality will be maintained by town and parish councils as needed" and "Town and parish will collaborate with SDC on matters of national importance (e.g. recently Operation London Bridge) and acknowledge that confidentiality will be maintained by other councils as needed"
- Communications: "SDC will ensure that emergency plans and responses are clearly and quickly communicated to town and parish councils, and will work with town and parish councils to ensure that emergency plans are joined up".
- Consultations: suggest a change to; "SDC will endeavour to provide both daytime and evening times for consultations, presentations and meetings so that working cllrs and clerks can attend, to offer an alternative method of responding i.e. physical/face-to-face meeting, online survey to allow maximum participation. SDC will communicate this timeframe to consultants working on behalf of SDC" and "To endeavour to avoid April/May and August for town and parish consultations and training"
- Engagement: suggest a change to; "the Monitoring Officer will promote **the Civility and Respect Pledge** to maintain high standards of conduct, and provide Code of Conduct training **for cllrs**" and "**Cllrs** will attend Code of Conduct training and engage with the Monitoring Officer to promote and maintain high standards of conduct".

All agreed.

**2022/111****To consider how NTC can support the town through the cost of living crisis.**

There was a discussion about how great the need is across the country and how this is being felt in Nailsworth. The report showed the large amount of community activities across the town and where these might be considered 'Warm Hubs', however there needs to be coordination and conversations with all of these groups to check their capacity and ability to open up their activities to others.

Some funding from SDC has just been announced and NTC could offer grants for Warm Hub groups.

The Arkell Centre may be available however as the building is a charity, hire charges need to be made. Bookings changes all the time and enquiries can be made via the office. A resident has offered to run coffee and cake sessions and they will be referred to the existing group operating at the Arkell Centre to help with their capacity.

Cllr Jonathan Duckworth undertook to ask Nailsworth News if space can be made available for a Warm Hub/What's On listing.

Cllr Mike Kelly undertook to speak to Cllr Natalie Bennett about how to coordinate Warm Hub work.

2022/112**To consider contributing to costs for a Community Development Worker.**

This item has been under discussion for quite some time and previously a list of questions was given to the report authors to be answered before the council felt they could commit to funding. The questions were based on the council's need for transparency and accountability, specifically how the funds will be used, what the checks and controls are for the role and how it fits in with NTC's strategy.

There was considerable discussion during which the following points were raised:

- There were concerns about the details of the role and not the principle
- There were concerns that it was not clear in the paper what the actual cost of the role will be. What is the salary and employment cost of the position? Have on costs and expenses been factored in?
- It was reported that the post (already advertised at 30hrs per week) is dependent on funding and that the hours will be reduced or increased according to the funding level achieved.
- It was noted the person will work out of an office in FGR initially. Laptop, mobile and other equipment will come out of the funding.
- The post has been advertised and shortlisting will happen on Thursday 20th October. This will be carried out by representatives from FGR Community, The Junction Youth Club and District Cllr Natalie Bennett
- The person in post will be responsible for fund raising for years 2 and 3, where there is currently a funding shortfall.
- After three years the post is intended to be self funding.
- There were concerns that a focus purely in Forest Green won't serve other Nailsworth residents in need in other parts of the town.
- It was noted that according to MaIden data, there is an area of deprivation in Forest Green however there was no reason why the post could not work for residents in other parts of the town.
- There was a concern that with such unspecific aims, it may be more transparent for NTC to allocate funding to a specific project. There are no specific projects, just indications on which the post will build.
- There were questions about how success will be reported.



A proposal was put forward that NTC grant one year's funding (£5,000), to be reviewed after the first year so as not to discount funding for year's 2 and 3, and that quarterly reporting to NTC is a requirement of this funding.

A recorded vote was requested.

Those for the motion: Cllrs Jonathan Duckworth, Mike Kelly and Patsy Freeman.

The motion was not carried.

A second proposal was put forward that NTC grant two year's funding (£10,000 over two years), and that quarterly reporting to NTC is a requirement of this funding.

Those for the motion: Cllrs Steve Robinson, Ros Mulhall, Shelley Rider, Angela Norman and Paul Francis.

The motion was carried;

It was **agreed** that NTC grant two year's funding (£10,000 over two years), and that quarterly reporting to NTC is a requirement of this funding.

It was further **agreed** to form a working party to establish the feedback and monitoring required by NTC and the members of the working party to be Cllrs Jonathan Duckworth, Patsy Freeman and Angela Norman.

All agreed

2022/113

To consider appointing a councillor as Internal Checker in accordance with audit requirements.

Cllr Angela Norman was nominated as Internal Checker with effect from Monday 24th October.

2022/114

To consider grant requests from La Leche League GB for £566, Nailsworth Men's Group for £494 and Nailsworth Film Club for £471

There was some discussion about where people came from to access La Leche League Breastfeeding Support Group.

It was **agreed** to award La Leche League Breastfeeding Support Group a grant of £566 for their Nailsworth group.

All agreed.

It was noted that a grant to Nailsworth Men's Talk must be made into a group account and not to an individual.

It was **agreed** to grant £494 to the Men's Talk group.

All agreed

The Clerk undertook to clarify with Nailsworth Film Club that the screen (to be installed into the Arkell Centre) will be donated to the centre and available for use by others.

It was **agreed** to grant £471 to Nailsworth Film Club for a new screen.

All agreed

2022/115

Financial summary, budget comparison and bank reconciliations a) b) c) d)

All agreed



2022/116
To review NTC’s Risk Assessment

It was approved.

2022/117
Report from Town Mayor
Noted.

2022/118
Report from Deputy Mayor
Noted.

2022/119
Report from County Councillors.

It was noted that there has been no consultation on new investment zones by the Council Council.

2022/120
Report from District Councillors

It was noted that a comment alleging that funds set aside for revitalising Nailsworth were diverted to the canal restoration project, had been added to the joint district cllrs report without the knowledge of two of the three cllrs.

The district cllrs were asked to clarify this as the report is presented to NTC as the view of all three cllrs.

It was noted that the new 20mph signs now require lighting and this will delay the project.

2022/121

To receive an update on NTC office activities
The recent short project to complete tourist trails for the new Calvium app was highlighted. This way of working – buying in resources for a short project to move work forward – was a success and it could lead to future short-term placements perhaps for graduates.

2022/122

Reports from Members who are representatives on outside bodies

The report from the NTC rep for Minchinhampton & Rodborough Common Advisory Committee was noted.

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Town Mayor
Nailsworth Town Council
Civic Centre, Old Market,
Nailsworth, GL6 0DU

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Date