

**NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES of the MEETING of Nailsworth Town Council**  
held at the Town Hall, Nailsworth  
**on Tuesday 19 July 2011**

Present	Cllr S Robinson (Town Mayor) Cllr P Carter Cllr N Dart Cllr Mrs A Elliott Cllr NI Kay Cllr MJ Kelly Cllr MM Rahman Cllr Mrs SM Reed Cllr MP Robinson
Present for part of the meeting	County Cllr WS Waddington District Cllr RT Blackwell District Cllr Mrs CS Farrell
Apologies	Cllr Mrs SE Thorpe

**2011/55 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no residents present.

**2011/56 MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2011 were approved and signed.

**2011/57 CUTS to BUS SERVICES (minute 2011/30)**

Cllrs Mrs Elliott and M Robinson had formed a letter to GCC, stating that Nailsworth residents relied heavily on their bus services and hoping these would be maintained.

**2011/58 ABUSIVE DRINKERS in MORTIMER GARDENS (minute 2011/30)**

The Mayor and Cllr Kay had met with Mrs Kenzie to discuss her complaint further, and had themselves received abuse from the two main culprits who sit on the back steps in MG, blocking access to the bridge. The Mayor was attempting to contact Acting Inspector Kirk Harrison, but had meanwhile made Neighbourhood Warden Peter Wilson aware of the problem and he would visit MG more often. Cllrs thought ASBOs might be the way forward, rather than banning alcohol in MG which would merely move the problem elsewhere in the town.

**2011/59 CHANGES to POLICE SERVICE (minute 2011/36)**

The Mayor read out Acting Inspector Kirk Harrison's response addressing NTC's concerns about maintaining police presence in Nailsworth. Inspector Harrison confirmed the Library would be the new police point but reassured the Mayor that the local team would remain, commuting from Stroud, but would retain a vehicle for the purpose. Inspector Harrison advised that the force was targeting identified crime hot spots, supported by a large team of backup personnel for deployment as and where needed, so the overall efficiency of the service would be preserved.

**2011/60 SDC £50k YOUTH GRANT (minute 2011/41)**

Cllr Carter had been assured that Nailsworth would get some contribution from this fund.

**2011/61 REPORT of RECREATION & AMENITIES (minute 2011/49)**

A statement from former Cllr Ian Crawley was circulated to the meeting. He felt he had been misquoted in the minutes of the R&A meeting of 14 June, in that the report referred to had been

written in conjunction with Cllr Kay, and refuting the suggestion that he was in favour of using some of the MUGA funding to support the Astro-turf scheme.

The Clerk was asked to notify Mr Crawley that his comments would be addressed at the next meeting of the R&A committee, which he was invited to attend. If deemed appropriate, an addendum would be appended to the minutes of the committee's meeting of 14 June.

#### **2011/62 APPROVAL of COUNCIL MINUTES**

For the benefit of new Cllrs, the Clerk explained that once council minutes had been formally approved, they became legally binding and could not be subsequently altered or amended.

#### **2011/63 REPLACEMENT of COUNCIL CHAMBER WINDOWS** (minute 2011/48)

Cllr M Robinson advised that SDC planning department continued to be awkward about the thickness of the proposed framework and he awaited a further letter from SDC. It was agreed that the window replacement should be completed before the winter if possible.

#### **2011/64 REPORT of COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

**County Cllr Waddington** reported that

- the failure of the **"slow down" sign at Inchbrook** was due to faulty parts rather than power failure. Cllrs were pleased to note that the sign was finally working again.
- The **revised bus contracts** were due to start in September and it was Cllr Waddington's understanding that the new timetables would be published shortly.
- The **Library judicial review** hearing would take place on 27/28 September.
- The **reduced street lighting scheme** now covered 87 parish & town councils and was moving onto the urban areas of Cheltenham and Gloucester. 20-30% of residential lights would be switched off between midnight and 5am.
- The now closed **Southern Cross Company** included six care homes in the county, caring for 330 residents, a third of whom were council funded. Discussions continued about the future of these homes ensuring the quality of care was maintained with regular inspections. GCC was keeping a watchful eye.
- No date had yet been set for the **speed survey on Nymphsfield Road**.

**District Cllr Mrs Farrell** reported that

- the last full council meeting had only one item on the agenda, the appointment of an officer, which had not impressed Cllrs who had all been summoned to attend.
- Cllrs had discussed the **relocation of the offices of the SNJ, Gazette, Wilts & Glos Standard**, to be centralised in an industrial unit outside Tetbury and were concerned over the possible loss of local coverage and likely eventual merger of the papers. However journalists tended to work from home, and this was a business decision over which SDC had no influence.
- Cllr Mrs Farrell had handed out **bus survey forms** to parents at Nailsworth Primary School and hoped some of these would be completed and sent in.

**District Cllr Blackwell**

- had attended the **Arkeil Centre** open day and was very impressed with the wonderful new facility, potentially of great benefit to the community.
- Further **changes to the planning system** meant the cost of application fees was likely to double and no longer be subsidised. Objectors/commentators to applications before the Development Control Committee would each be allowed 3 minutes only to make their case, which system Cllr Waddington had observed in Cirencester where the time limit was ruthlessly adhered to. He preferred the way things were done in Stroud.
- Cllr Blackwell had passed on to Julian Wilson GCC complaints about the trip hazard of the **uneven pavement outside the Library**. (GCC was responsible for all pavements)
- Cllr Blackwell offered to have a word with the planning department over the **town hall windows** and Cllr M Robinson would get back to him, following receipt of the awaited letter.

District Cllr Carter had nothing further to add to the comments of his colleagues.

## 2011/65 TOWN MAYORs COMMUNICATIONS

25 June	held a surgery at the Farmers Market
pm	attended the Open Day at the Arkell Centre which was very well attended. The Mayor wished to record his thanks to all who had worked tirelessly before the event to make it such a great success. There had been in excess of 230 visitors.
11 July	attended a meeting to consider the distribution of the SDC £50k youth grant. There would be two rounds of applications in September and December with the Stroud Youth Council deciding on the distribution of funds. Cllr Robinson expressed his reservations whether this body had the breadth of knowledge and expertise to take on the task.
12 July	with Cllr Kay, met with Mrs Kenzie to discuss abusive drinkers in Mortimer Gardens.
15 July	attended the end of term Open Day and Awards at Ruskin Mill, which had been most enjoyable. The Mayor continued to be impressed by the work and relationship between students and tutors.

Following his conversation yesterday with Sue Lawrence, the Mayor reported that **Link Libraries** could continue negotiating with communities, pending the judicial review, but no decision was likely before October. A new area team would be appointed shortly, which would then contact each community to arrange training days for volunteers in early September. Over 20 volunteers had now come forward to help in Nailsworth. The offer from Ruskin Mill was still under consideration, with the added bonus that the tutor concerned had previous librarian training.

The Mayor was disappointed to have to announce that **Cllr Robert Windsor** had resigned from the council following his relocation to Gloucester. Notices had been put up giving the opportunity for residents to call for an election; if no response was received by 25 July, NTC could proceed with co-option.

### 2011/66 REPORT of DEPUTY MAYOR

The deputy mayor was not present.

### 2011/67 REPORT of TOWN CLERK

The Clerk had nothing to report.

### 2011/68 REPORT from REPRESENTATIVES on OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from representatives.

### 2011/69 REPORT of ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr Mrs Reed presented a report of the meeting held on 12 July and the minutes were approved with the following corrections

Town Information Centre

"The lease of the unit at the Old George expired on *11 August* 2012."

Access for Disabled second line

". . . be the town's representative on the Stroud & District *Access* Group."

It was appreciated that consideration of the purchase of the old Police Station was under the remit of Property Management Committee; Environment Committee was merely passing the comment that the premises could be suitable for use by the TIC.

Snow warden Peter Starkiss had reported to Cllr Mrs Reed his conversations with Julian Wilson GCC Highways about use of the snow plough at Barton End Stables, which vehicle was being inspected for approval. Mr Wilson had offered a further 25 bags of grit which Cllr Blackwell advised could be stored at Barton End with the plough, which he thought it might be possible to fit with a grit spreader. A supply of grit would need to be retained in the town centre for use with the manual grit spreader purchased by NTC last winter.

Cllr Mr Robinson pointed out that the proliferation of **A boards** had been addressed by both Planning and Environment Committees, only one of which should be dealing with the matter. It was not intended to hinder the town's businesses, but equally important to consider obstruction to pedestrians. It was agreed **Planning Committee** would deal with this.

**2 The Green, Nympsfield Road** was also being discussed by the same two committees and it was agreed that **Environment** would carry this forward.

**2011/70 REPORT of FINANCE, ECONOMIC & GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE**

The Mayor presented the report of the meeting held on 6 July and the minutes were approved.

**2011/71 REPORT of PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Mayor, acting chairman, presented the report of the meetings held on 23 June and 5 July.

**RESOLVED** that the comments made by the Planning Committee at its meetings held on 23 June and 5 July 2011 be approved.

Cllr Kay suggested the Planning Committee could meet on different evenings if the chairman had a problem in attending on the current days, but Cllr Carter expected fewer clashes in the future and would see how it went.

**2011/72 ACCOUNTS**

Item 61 (list of accounts at 21 June)

The Clerk advised that there had been an amendment to the Zurich Insurance renewal charge before the cheque was sent last month, so that it had been altered to £11,199.96 (from £11,226.19)

Item 86

Cllr Carter queried that the interest payments on the Public Works Loan for the Arkell Centre were paid by NTC, and the Clerk confirmed that the payments came from NTC's £20k budgeted contribution to the project.

**PROPOSED** that the list of accounts for 19 July 2011 amounting to £12908.72 be approved for payment.

**2011/73 GCC – closure Nympsfield Road 24-28 October**

The road would be closed for essential carriageway repairs, presumably the Moffat Road to Barnfield Close section. No further detail on exact location or times of closures had been provided.

**2011/74 GCC – Glos Waste Core Strategy – proposed focused changes**

The document could be viewed on the GCC website or at the SDC offices. Comments were invited during the consultation period until late August.

**2011/75 GCC - Transport Management Plan**

The Plan to manage the County's roads in the future and keep the network in good condition was also available on the GCC website.

**2011/76 Tim Godden, RBL – new memorial plaque**

Without any indication that the war in Afghanistan would end any time soon, Mr Godden asked NTC to reconsider erection of a plaque in memory of Mark Chandler now, rather than await the end of hostilities. Cllrs still felt this was normal policy but the process for applying to the Diocese for a Faculty could go ahead meanwhile, and Mr Godden was invited to agree the design and wording with NTC for making such application through the PCC, which was likely to take some time. The material should be cast bronze to match the other plaques, which could not be altered or added to at a later date so that the inscription(s) could only be done once.

**2011/78                    AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING**

It was proposed that no council meeting be held during August and that delegated power be approved for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, consulting with other Cllrs as appropriate, to take decisions on matters which could not be deferred until the next meeting in September. The proposal was approved.

..... Chairman

..... Date