

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NORLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019 AT NORLEY NCK CENTRE

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Deryn O'Connor (Chair), Ian Stockton, Ann Crawford, Dennis Ford,  
Mont Sturt and Jon Wild

There were three members of the public present.

Before the meeting commenced, the chairman welcomed the members of public to the meeting.

Some confidential issues were anticipated to be discussed during the meeting; the first part of the meeting was open to the public (Part A). A second part of the meeting (Part B) would take place once the members of the public had left.

### 1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor Fayle and Clerk Gaynor Hawthornthwaite

### 2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no interests declared.

### 3. **PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN FORUM**

Two members of the public were in attendance to speak, one in an agenda item about Breech Moss and the other in items under AOB.

### 4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019**

Item 12 needed to be corrected to indicate that the Defibrillator Cabinet was expected to be bought by the Methodist Church, and that Councillor Crawford would coordinate with them. Otherwise, the minutes were agreed as a correct record and are to be signed by the Chair.

### 5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2019**

- An on-site meeting had been held with Ian Lovatt of CW&C Highways regarding speed control within the village. He acknowledged the safety issues around the Store, and promised to have "No Footpath" warning signs installed. The issues with siting of speed and repeater signs on the Ashton Rd exit from the forest, and on Hatchmere Rd (N and S of the junction with Ashton Rd) would be reported to relevant colleagues for consideration and will be reported back to the NPC.
- The Norley Steel Sign had been well received around the village, both the design and the supplier were the result of positive feedback on the internet.
- The Community Right to Buy form had been partially filled in and would be fully discussed in Part B.
- Norley resident Paul Holden and Councillor O'Connor had met with Jim Gibbins and Dave Reeves of CW&C Highways regarding the dissatisfaction with the refusal to designate 20mph speed limits around the Stores etc. Dave explained that the speed data collected along School Bank showed that traffic travels too fast to be considered for a 20mph area. The monitoring showed vehicles travelling over 35 and 40 mph. If speed monitoring showed vehicles were travelling close to 20mph, then 20mph speed limits would be considered to be installed. Apparently, the rules dictate this if the collected speed data is of the form collected in Norley. Dave Reeves said he would arrange for a second collection of the speed data so the issues can be reviewed.
- Partner Construction continues to ignore requests by NPC for the promised funding for a Speed Indicator Device for the village.  
**Action – Councillor O'Connor to continue to follow up**
- We await the assessment of a further speed reduction to 30mph on School Lane.  
**Action – Clerk to await contact from CW&C**
- A Defibrillator Kit had been bought and discussions held with the Methodist Church regarding a cabinet; they have agreed to purchase it and arrangements are to be made to install it. It is also hoped that storage for the Training Kits could be made available.  
**Action – Councillor Crawford to continue discussions**

**6. BREECH MOSS – Martin Bell**

Martin reported back to the Parish Council on progress on the project to restore the Moss (as much as possible) to its former condition:

**Phase 1** had been to clean up the site, to remove rubbish and clear the Moss of invasive species including Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam and Rhododendron. This was now mostly completed.

**Phase 2** will be to restore water levels in the Moss to allow stabilisation to a sustainable moss – the idea being to get water back into the centre of the Moss instead of around its edges. Initially it had been assumed that a Hydrological Assessment costing ~£6000 would be required, but further discussions with representatives of Mersey Forest and the Team Leader at CW&C (Alan Evans) revealed that a Topological Survey would provide information on the way forward. This could be provided and paid for by CW&C if the Parish Council gave its permission to allow the work to be done before April 5<sup>th</sup> 2019. The NPC authorised this and supported Martin Bell to progress. Martin will arrange for a note informing all residents at Breech Moss of the Topological Survey to be delivered. The PC gave its thanks to Martin for the work being carried out at Breech Moss.

**Action: Martin Bell to inform CW&C and report back**

**7. LETTER FROM AN EX-RESIDENT: a 1953 memorial tree**

The cherry tree on Norley Road, just past Post Office Lane going out of Norley, had been planted in 1953 to commemorate the coronation. It has a protective steel railing installed to protect it, and this is now strangling the tree. Following discussion, it was agreed that the railing should be removed and renovated if possible. Subsequently the tree assessed if it would survive, or whether a replacement tree should be planted with the railing used to protect it.

**Action: Councillor Ford to speak to Alan Duncalf about the work required.**

**8. PLANNING MATTERS**

19/00435/FUL- Garravogue, School Bank, Norley, WA6 8NP. The information made available on the CW&C website was considered to be insufficient to assess properly and the NPC's stance was to object to the application unless sufficient information was provided to warrant approval.

**9. MANAGEMENT OF THE MEMORIAL GARDEN**

The Memorial Garden looks to be in good condition and is particularly attractive this spring with its display of daffodils, as is much of the village. Thanks were expressed to the NWG for their hard work keeping the village looking so good.

**10. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

- The May 2<sup>nd</sup> elections require that Nomination Packs be submitted by prospective Councillors before 4.00pm on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The hard copies are to be made available for collection and the Candidate Nominations are to be presented in person at the relevant CW&C office once an appointment is made.

**Action – Parish Clerk to arrange for packs to be obtained and distributed.**

- The Code of Conduct document is to be made available via the NPC website.

**Action – Parish Clerk to add document.**

- PCSO Update: Weekly surgeries were now being held by PCSO David Hayes at the Village Hall. Dates are shown on the back page of Norley News. Fingerpost Lane was on his regular speed monitoring schedule. There had been reports of Hawkers being seen around the village, and caution needed to be exercised as they require a 'Peddlars Licence' to sell in this way.

- Phil Gifford had reported NWG plans in conjunction with CW&C for grass verge maintenance / cutting, taking due regard for road safety etc. Phil asked the PC to support NWG view that not all verges were cut which will encourage wild flowers and insect life. CW&C require the PC's agreement which they gave.

**Action: Phil Gifford to be informed of the PC's agreement.**

**11. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- The Clerk had purchased A4 paper and Postage stamps to the value of £16.02. Reimbursement was approved.
- Councillor Crawford had obtained a large copy of Norley street map and had it laminated. This will be very useful when discussing village matters particularly the location of planning applications. Reimbursement of £24 to Councillor Crawford was approved.

**12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- A Norley resident wished to make several comments:  
She considered the Norley News to be a very good and welcome offering for the village, but would like to see she more information about NPC meetings. There is usually a summary of each PC meeting in each edition but this appears to have been missing from the latest edition. Options were considered and a suggestion made to include a summary in the NN together with links to full / draft NPC Minutes and an Agenda for the next meeting being made available on the Parish Website.

**Action – Councillor Wild to examine further with Parish Clerk.**

- The Notice Board at Hatchmere was not up to date and she felt it could be tidied up – see later
- The hedge of “Windy Ridge” bordering School Bank continues to obstruct the road, further endangering pedestrians cyclists and traffic and a new letter reminding the owner to cut it is to be sent

**Action – Clerk to send a follow up letter.**

- The Parish Council Website is not yet at a satisfactory standard and needs to be properly populated with current and historical information. No actions were agreed, but the subject warrants further discussion and actions at a future NPC meeting.
- **Action – Clerk to add as agenda item for next meeting.**
- Parish Notice Boards require refreshing and updating. There appear to be some out-of-date notices etc and some business advertisements in them. As with the Website, procedures etc need to be agreed and enacted.

**Action: Clerk to add as agenda item for next meeting.**

- The Annual Norley Village Litter Pick will take place on Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup>, all will be welcomed.

**13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is to be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 7pm at Norley Primary School.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm