
PUXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Puxton & Hewish

Clerk: Donald Hill

18 Mitford Slade Court, Mendip Road, Yatton, Somerset BS49 4JG
Tel: 01934 835578 Mobile: 07774 125578 e-mail: clerk@puxtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, 4th May 2017 at 7pm in the Village Hall

Present

Cllrs S Popperwell (Chair), Peter Penfold, Jim Sulley (*arrived at 7.05, at minute 60/17*), Jim Corbett

In Attendance

Cllr Tom Leimdorfer (NSC), Don Hill (Clerk)

Public Attendance

13

57/17 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Katy Wilson and Amanda Edwards

58/17 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

The Clerk reported that Cllr Popperwell was prepared to seek re-election as Chair and asked if there were any other nominations. As there were none, and no objections to the nomination of **Cllr Popperwell, she was deemed unanimously elected as Chair of the Council**, completed the necessary Declaration of Acceptance of Office, and took the Chair. Cllr Popperwell noted that Cllr Wilson was prepared to seek re-election as Vice Chair and asked if there were any other nominations for the post. As there were none, and no objections to the nomination of **Cllr Wilson, she was deemed unanimously elected as Vice-Chair of the Council**. There is no requirement for an on-going holder of this post to complete a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

59/17 Appointment of Representative to Outside Bodies

No appointments were made.

60/17 Chairman's Report

To be delivered at the immediately following Annual Parish meeting.

61/17 Declarations of Interest

None

62/17 Public Session

- 1. Stonebridge Farm:** Heavy lorries, associated with work here, continue to be of particular concern to the most immediately adjacent property, Heathgate Paddock. It appears that wording of the planning grant of permission is loose enough to render NSC powerless to enforce the conditions of that grant. There may be grounds for a maladministration complaint to NSC and for financial compensation; Cllr Leimdorfer undertook to advise the occupants on these possibilities.
- 2. A370 Blocked Gullies:** They are blocked from J21 to SJH machinery at least. **Clerk to report, as there is a history of flooding relating to these blockages.**
- 3. A370 Paths:** Are in dire need of clearance beyond what can be afforded by either the Parish Maintenance budget or that of NEC's area engineer. As the problem extends into Congresbury, Cllr Leimdorfer suggested that the **Clerk contact Congresbury Clerk, Liz Grieves to liaise between our area engineers Nick Raymond & Jack Shipway, cc their boss, John Carson.**
- 4. Hewish & Puxton Community Fund:** Jane Woolmington enquired about the mooted Committee to run this fund; Cllr Popperwell explained that the fund has been invested for now pending future decisions on how best it should be managed.
- 5. Verges Outside Palmer's Elm Farm:** Debris has been forced into the ditch by lorries associated with the 3 key developments using Wick Lane over the past two years. Promises of reparation have not been met. Enforcement powers may be available via NSC and North Somerset Levels Internal Drainage Board if blame can be allocated. **Clerk to investigate and progress via NSC in first instance.**
- 6. A370 Thursday Evening Bikers:** Are 'roaring' through the village in excess of 70mph. **Clerk to report this danger to Police and press for monitoring.**

63/17 REPORTS - Ward Cllrs Report - Cllr Leimdorfer -

To be delivered at the Annual Parish meeting. Cllr Leimdorfer reminded everyone that there were new bus routes available in the area and that they should check their timetables to see what is on offer.

64/17 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING - 6th April 2017 were agreed and signed.

65/17 MATTERS ARISING NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE - None

66/17 POLICING AND TRAFFIC

A370 Traffic & Crime: police.uk February: Puxton Road - between Maysgreen Lane & the houses - Two violence and sexual offences. Caffle Lay-by One violence and sexual offences. Near St Anne's School - one burglary, currently insufficient evidence to proceed. One public order offence.

67/17 NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL MATTERS

Maysgreen Lane: Re-set of 30mph signs due. Edge infill is more robust than it looks - it is mastic rather than simply loose stone (*some eye brows quivered in doubt*) - and is the best that can be done for the time being.

A370 Street Light: at the J21 side of the Wick Lane junction - Area Engineer has reported the post number to NSC Highways for their contractors - SSE - to deal with.

A370 Loose Cover: This turned out not to be at Heathgate Paddock so could not be progressed.

St Annes Graveyard Hedges: NSC officer for closed churchyards, Andrew Ballentine, will have a site meeting with Clerk and residents; date TBA. Hedge work cannot be done until the Autumn due to bird nesting. **Clerk to follow-up earlier report, re damage to the graves, which also needs attention.**

Stonebridge Farm: See Minute 62/17 1 above for update.

A370 surface problem on the to-Weston side past Heathfield Park: There is a surface or sub-strata fault that the Area Engineer has photographed and reported on for NSC Highways to rectify.

A370: Junction 21 traffic lights being out of synch; and possible introduction of yellow boxes on the roundabout; are with with NSC's Frank Cox - **Clerk to chase.**

Gullies from J21 to Puxton Park: Area Engineer agrees these are seriously blocked and may need to be hand-dug to clear them. **See 62/17 2 above.**

A370 speeding: Clerk contacted PCSO Broomfield re programme of speed checking. **See also 16/17 6 above.**

68/17 OTHER ISSUES

Broadband Speeds: CDS 2nd phase roll-out workshop update indicates decision date imminent.

Free Flowers from NSC: Due May or early June.

Hewish & Puxton Village Hall: Fund raising meeting being held in the Hall at 8pm on May 9th.

Village Map: Clerk to purchase missing section; and is in touch with Cat Lodge, NSC County Archaeologist for help.

Cooption of Councillors: Clayton Penfold filed paperwork at meeting and was welcomed as a Councillor.

69/17 FINANCE

2017-18 Accounts: pre-circulated with meeting papers, reviewed and noted.

2016-17 Audit: Internal Audit completed with a note that the Hewish & Puxton Community Fund should be treated as a short term, rather than as a long term investment (as it has been posted on the external audit Annual Return). The Annual return was signed at Section 2, as was the Bank Reconciliation, in preparation for dispatch to the External Auditors.

Bank Mandate: completed.

Cheques for Signature: **100109** D Hill re Community News printing £31.20. **100110** P Smith re Internal Audit £59.50

70/17 PLANNING (*Latest enforcement Case Report - Feb 2017*)

Appeal: No 17/3167087: Puxton Park re planned nursery school.

Traveller's Rest: Mobile home permission as amended per 13/P/0138/F is in order.

71/17 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Sulley: Reported that he is moving outside the 3 mile radius of the Parish and will therefore need to resign as a Councillor, effective as of May 5th. Cllr Popperwell voiced the feelings of all Members in thanking Jim for his contribution and assuring him that he will certainly be missed.

72/17 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

In the Village Hall - 1st June 2017 at 7.30pm.