

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 Meeting Held on 7th September 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Sue Popperwell (Chair), Peter Penfold, Jim Corbett, Jim Howard, Clayton Penfold

In Attendance: Cllr Tom Leimdorfer (NSC), Don Hill (Clerk)

Public Attendance: 7

104/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - none

105/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS - Cllr C Penfold re planning appeal at 114/17 below. In connection with Hewish and Puxton Village Hall fund raising, and ongoing discussions re funding support via the Council-managed Hewish & Puxton Community Fund, dispensations were discussed, granted and forms completed, relating to Cllr Popperwell (Village Hall Committee) and Cllrs P & C Penfold (Village Hall fundraising committee). This ensures that quorate discussions can be conducted on this matter of vital community concern.

106/17 PUBLIC SESSION (*to be read in conjunction with relevant minutes, below*)

Proposed Speed Limits on Puxton Road/Puxton Road: This will take time to achieve. There are locations - including Maysgreen Lane - that seem to defy standard reasons for not putting speed limits in place. A petition was suggested, but numbers directly affected may not make it a particularly powerful document. Cllrs Corbett and Howard, together with Andy Butterfield, will gather data on traffic speeds using the SpeedWatch kit. While the Council press for statutory ones, **Clerk will investigate the process, costs and effectiveness of advisory limits.**

The A370 Footpath: The Clerk travelled this with NSC Area Engineer, who hopes to clear some 400 metres. A stretch between Bow Cottage and Wick Lane was identified as being the most in need, and this was agreed, here, as an appropriate choice. Hedge flailing will be done as needed down the whole length of the path, as usual.

107/17 REPORTS - Ward Cllrs Report - Cllr Leimdorfer

The NSC July meeting made three significant decisions:

- *Changes in Constitution to revise Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders*
- *Setting up a Limited Company wholly owned by the Council*
- *Creating a Property Investment Board with delegated powers to make commercial investments*

These decisions will enable NSC to invest in housing and commercial properties, within and outside the district, for financial returns to help the revenue budget via unsecured borrowing of an additional £50m.

Site Allocation Plan: Government Inspectors wants more sites, against possible fallout from the plan. NSC have approved sites for 821 dwellings for inclusion, but this is not predetermination of planning applications.

Avon Fire Authority has had a highly critical statutory inspection, resulting in Cllr Don Davies (Leader of NSC's Independent Group) was elected the Chair in June. The whole structure is under review, with suggestions that the service should come under the auspices of the Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner.

Weston A&E department: Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset Clinical Commissioning Groups need to save £83m in the next two years. Visit: <https://www.northsomersetccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/nhs-service-proposals/> to comment. Ideas include phasing out prescription for drugs bought more cheaply over the counter (paracetamol, aspirin etc.) and further restriction on availability of IVF treatment. There are other proposals, including some not in the public domain. The three CCGs are moving towards full merger under CEO Julia Ross. The Area Manager for North Somerset is designated to be Colin Bradbury.

108/17 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the 6 July 2017 were agreed, and signed by the Chair.

109/17 MATTERS ARISING NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE - none

110/17 POLICING AND TRAFFIC

A370: Thursday Bikers - Weston Bike Night to ask attendees to be more considerate.

111/17 NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL MATTERS

Maysgreen Lane: New 30mph signs and posts in place.

Wick Lane Ditch: Lorries made potholes in the 1st left gateway off A370 (now filled by NSC), and pushed mud into ditch. Ditch condition to be reviewed by Nick Raymond when it is clear to view.

A370 Spring Cottage Gullies: Pressing NSC/NS Levels IDB for solutions re levels as gullies drain into IDB ditch which runs too high to take road surface water during heavy rains.

A370 Path: See public session at 106/17 above.

J21 Traffic Lights: Highways England signal experts will further investigate the synching issues.

Highway Signage: Information now to hand - a 2013 Order and map, indicating a 7.5 ton limit (except for access) for environmental reasons. New sign up at Wick Lane/A370 junction.

112/17 OTHER ISSUES

NSC Future Planning: "Houses-for-Puxton?" is listed for the Autumn Newsletter. A Community Land Trust was suggested as a route to getting affordable housing into the community.

Heathfield Park: Clerk and Colin Cleese met on site with Clayton Penfold re re-profiling of site.

Pilhay Farm: Import of materials is with NSC Enforcement. No PROW along the private drive.

Stonebridge Farm: No link to Churngold found.

SpeedWatch: SpeedWatch kit and operating instructions now with Cllr Corbett. See 106/17 above.

Broadband Speeds: CDS workshop due post appointment of contractor for the area.

Hewish & Puxton Community Fund and The Village Hall: The meeting discussed the availability of Community funds for the village hall fund-raising campaign - not previously discussed because there is still no firm hall purchase price from the Landlord's agents. With strands of inter-dependant funding being pursued, it was felt an agreement, in principle, to make money available for hall purchase would provide needed fund raising impetus, would show other funding sources a serious local commitment, and would not tie the hands of the Council in terms of how (grant, loan etc), and when the money was provided. At the conclusion of the discussion:

*Cllr Corbett proposed that the Parish Council confirm their willingness **in principal**, to provide £40,000 to the hall purchase fund, with the details of how and when that funding will be made available to be decided at a later date. Cllr Popperwell seconded this proposal and it was carried unanimously.*

Village Map: Delivered to Cllr Corbett for safekeeping.

Western Power lines: WP Pole 2004-3 surveyed by Hi-Line and deemed not to present a problem.

Parish E-Mail Register: Listed for inclusion in the Autumn Newsletter.

A possible 30mph speed limit for Puxton Road: See 106/17 above.

Quiet Lanes: Yatton PC are promoting these and asked for reactions from neighbours. Based on a summary of the CPRE document, **Clerk to inform Yatton that Puxton Lane, Puxton Road and East Hewish Lane are candidates.**

Waiting Restrictions: Pill&EiGPC consultation response ignored by NSC; they seek support from other parishes as, with no posted restrictions, traffic wardens have few places to enforce parking controls. Not really relevant to Puxton. **Clerk to so inform Pill & EIG PC.**

Councillors: No response to NSC vacancy notices, Therefore there are now 2 vacancies for co-option.

113/17 FINANCE

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

2016-17 Accounts: External audit completed. An un-budgeted fee of £225 applies (£200 because the Community Fund took the Council's funds above £25,000 and £25 for advice re financial treatment of the Community Fund).

Cheques: **100201** HMRC PAYE Jul-Sep £147.80. **100202** D Hill Parish Computer £399.00 **100203** Adrian Leonard re Parish Maintenance June/July £320.00 (*New chequebook with new branch details after closure of HSBC Worle*).

114/17 PLANNING (*Latest enforcement Case Report - August 2017*)

Granted: **17/P/1230/LDE** Oakacre use without agricultural occupancy. Continuous for 10 years+ so no breach. **17/P/1028/** New field entrance opposite Full Quart (old entrance to be stopped, but PROW to be maintained).

Public Rights of Way: 2 historical applications responded to and file opened as clerical record.

Myrtle Farm, Puxton Lane: Planning details re extension shared with Cllr Corbett.

Appeal: **16/P/2843/F** Penfold Trade & Co - Storage containers at Heathfield Park Appeal ref: APP/D0121/W/17/3179037. Item noted - no additional representations to make.

115/17 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Corbett: Flooding in Puxton Road occurs on the patch of road between Wyndham Grange and Briarwood Farm. It is suspected that this is exacerbated by the filling in of ditches over time. Apparently the same problem exists at the junction with Puxton Lane. **Clerk to report the problem to Nick Raymond for a response.**

116/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: In the Village Hall on the 5th October 2017 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm