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# PUXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Puxton & Hewish

**Clerk: Donald Hill**

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## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 7th March 2019

*All meetings are held at 7.30pm in the Village Hall unless stated otherwise*

**Present:** Cllrs Sue Popperwell (Chair) Jim Corbett, Jim Howard, Clayton Penfold, Lynda Redding

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

**Public Attendance:** 0

**027/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr Peter Penfold

**028/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS** - none

**029/19 PUBLIC SESSION** - no public in attendance

**030/19 WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** - Cllr Leimdorfer

**1. Weston Hospital:** proposals out for consultation include daytime A&E with nights being covered by the out-of-hours GP service. Night time acute cases will go to Taunton or Bristol. Direct night time admittances can be via direct GP request. Intensive Critical care is downgraded from level 3 to level 2; this reduces the number of intensive care beds but will release capacity for routine operations. Mental Health services will be enhanced and the hospital will aim to be a centre of excellence for 'frailty'. NSC have objected to these proposals because the loss of 24hr A&E, and the downgrading of critical care facilities is counter intuitive to the real and pressing demands of an increasing population that is due to become really significant in the immediately surrounding area of the hospital during the next plan period.

**2. NSC Recognition of Climate Emergency:** the motion to recognise a Climate emergency and to consider actions needed to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 was passed by unanimous vote. Officers will prepare a report for Council over the next few months to consider what resources would be needed from government and what steps the local authority can take. Around 30 other Councils have passed similar resolutions.

**3. Council Tax:** any rise hurts, especially for the least well off; despite this reality, North Somerset remains one of the lowest CT areas in the South West.

**4. Social Care Funding:** There is a growing national crisis in funding of social care and still no government Green Paper to indicate how this will be made sustainable. The result is continuing cuts in all local government services.

**031/19 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING** - 7th February 2019 were agreed, and signed by the Chair.

**032/19 MATTERS ARISING NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE** - none

**033/19 NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL MATTERS**

**Burial Grounds:** confirmed by Yatton Parish Council that only cremations will be possible at the planned new Yatton burial ground: Environment Agency drainage requirements cannot be met for less than £250,000 - a sum not currently affordable.

**034/19 OTHER MATTERS**

**Annual Governance Document Review:** documents had been pre-circulated, and were agreed per the attached schedule. The Chair and Clerk signed a copy of the Risk Assessment form.

**035/19 FINANCE**

**2018-19 Accounts:** pre-circulated with meeting papers, reviewed and noted.

**Cheques:** **100234** HMRC re PAYE £151.40. **100235** Vision ICT website upgrade re new access regulations £42. **100236** D Hill costs re production of the Spring Puxton & Hewish Community News £43.20.

**036/19 PLANNING** (*Latest Enforcement Report December 2018*)

**Granted:** **18/P/4721/FUL** Heathfield pitches. **18/P/5131/FUL** Weston College Centre

**037/19 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**Cllr Corbett:** **Maysgreen Lane 1:** curb edge at cheese farm - Clerk confirmed that repair work is in hand. **Maysgreen Lane 2:** Romany style (occupied?) caravans at Maysgreen Farm. **Clerk to notify NSC Enforcement.** **Maysgreen Lane 3:** Sign at Puxton Road junction has been demolished. **Clerk to report to Area Officer.**

**Cllr Howard:** Continues to be worried by traffic speed along Puxton Road - particularly noticeable on Sundays, during rush hours and in its role as a rat-run. Could sleeping policemen help? They would require a speed limit - researched, with an official NSC speed check - that was not pursued on the basis of an £8,000 implementation cost that would fall to the Parish Council. A cheaper option of chicanes or some other visual impediment to speed was suggested, but was feared to invite its own dangers. The meeting agreed that long term persistence should be applied to find a way forward as a practical compromise between restricted Parish/NSC budgets and realistic highway dangers. **Clerk to pursue with NSC.**

**038/19 ONGOING ITEMS BEING MONITORED BY CLERK**

**Puxton Road Drainage at Wyndham Grange:** on job list : **Puxton Lane Grip** Area Officer to do : **Puxton Rd sign by Puxton Lane junction:** Area Officer organising : **A370 Footpath:** 1st section start date due. **A370 Central Refuge:** Confirmation & timetable due : **Oldbridge River Bridge:** Timetable for new bridge due : **Maysgreen Lane** - disintegrating highway edge by cheese factory repair date awaited.

**Completions:** **Puxton Lane:** Appletree Wall.

**039/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING** Thursday 4th April 2019

**The meeting closed at 8.15pm**