

NORTHLEACH WITH EASTINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 27TH September 2012

PRESENT: Cllr N Fletcher (Chairman), Cllr Wellman, Cllr N Blades, Cllr Mrs V Hewer, Cllr Carol Davies, Cllr Nick Fisher, Cllr Mrs P Rigby, Cllr G Stock, Cllr Mrs L. Roberts, Cllr Chris Hancock, Mrs C Crompton (Clerk), 3 members of the public.

111/12		<p>Public Question Time (2) - Standing Order 22 refers</p> <p>The Chairman shall have discretion to limit to twenty minutes the time set aside to receive statements from the public, and to limit to three minutes the time available for any one member of the public to deliver their statement.</p>	
	<p>111.1/12 111.2/12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Fletcher welcomed Lucy Roberts, the new councillor. • Keith Messenger and Stuart Asquith - The Fosse Lions are delighted to have obtained trees for the town and the Big Tree Plant will take place 10th November. The Lions are investigating having a defibrillator in Northleach and have taken advice on obtaining this life saving machine. The machine they have been advised on is very easy to use and instructs the user on a step by step basis. The Ambulance Service has advised where the defibrillator could be located. The local fire station is prepared to have it based at the front of its building and people calling 999 would be directed to it and given a code. The unit costs £1700. British Heart Foundation can give a grant but that is for a different type which is not as easy for members of the public to use. The Ambulance Service could service the unit it weekly. The Lions could provide the defibrillator but it would mean that other charities would suffer. 	
	<p>111.3/12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Hewer asked what figure would the Lions be looking for from the Town Council. The Lions have written to the Town Trustees and other local groups to see if the funds can be raised from a variety of sources. 	
	<p>111.4/12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The unit would be kept in a box and operational with a code. • Chedworth have got 2 but not sure what types and one is in an old phone box. • The Lions initially thought the Market Place was a better location but it is easier to park outside the Fire Station. 	
	<p>Action 111.5/12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Councillors thanked Lions Keith Messenger and Stuart Asquith for bringing the idea to the Town Council and agreed to consider the request at the next Finance meeting in November. • Clerk to add donation request to November Finance meeting • Gerald Green voiced grave concern about the current practise of the bus drivers to stop at unauthorised bus stops. He and Cllr Chris Hancock met the bus people, the police liaison officer and the traffic officer from GCC and it took 14 months to get the bus stops and notices in the right places. The buses are stopping at Doctors Lane and unloading the school children and they also stop at the East End bend. These are not authorised stops and it is dangerous. The bus stops are in the right places but the drivers are not stopping in the right places. 	
	<p>Action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Council agreed that this is dangerous and the Clerk is to write to the Traffic manager and Pulhams to say that the stopping at Doctors Lane and the corner of East End is very dangerous and must stop. 	
	<p>111.6/12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic lights are still causing issues. At some points only a few cars are being allowed through but we have been assured that the 	

NORTHLEACH WITH EASTINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

		actual sequence is not out and the lights will not change whilst the other lights are on green. Highways are working on this.	
112/12		Apologies and Reasons for Absence Cllr Fiona McKenzie, Cllr Hulcup, Cllr Turner,	Verbal
113/12	Resolved	Acceptance and signing of Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25th July 2012 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was Resolved to accept that the minutes were a true and accurate reflection of the meeting 	Attached
114/12		Declaration of Interests Cllr Nick Fisher declared an interest in relation to the tree felling	Verbal
115/12	115.1/12 115.2/12	To Discuss any Matters Arising from the above Minutes not included on the Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action List update – updates on the previous meeting's action points Deregistration Update. Clerk is awaiting the transcripts and we will know the next steps after hearing them 	Attached Verbal
116/12	116.1/12 116.2/12	County and District Councillors' Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Fiona McKenzie was absent Cllr Chris Hancock was present and had nothing new to report but will speak later on the core housing strategy 	Verbal
117/12	117.1/12 117.2/12 Action	Police Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The police were unable to attend and had sent a report which the Clerk read out. For the crime reporting year starting April 1st compared year on year: Violence is down 66%; Criminal Damage is down 40%; Overall crime is down 35% year on year. A very pleasing set of figures meaning a reduction in the number of victims of crime. Overall the summer this year has been peaceful with few long term concerns emerging. This is due to the communities working in partnership with the police and our partner agencies. I would ask all members of the community, to enable us to maintain this steady reduction in crime, to report any suspicious activity and crime promptly to police on 101 for non-emergencies and 999 for urgent assistance. The Police thanked the community for their continued support for helping to keep the residents of Northleach safe from harm. Members discussed the continuing issue of parking at West End. Cars at peak times have to reverse great lengths to let cars pass, the larger vehicles are often blocked by cars parked on the double yellows and the keep clear spaces which act as passing places are usually full of cars. PCSO Stagg has power to issue tickets if there is an imminent danger to the public- i.e. car parked blocking a pavement but does not have much more power at this precise moment. He can do something about obstruction and get it towed away but otherwise he needs to call and ask an enforcement officer to come and ticket. GCC are proposing to have a unified support across the County to sort parking issues. We are not allowed to be in charge of our own parking. Cllr Hancock has asked for a part time parking inspector but it can't be done as too costly. It was resolved to contact GCC again and ask for an update. Clerk to make contact with Jim Daniels, Parking Manager at GCC 	Verbal
118/12		Finance	
	118.1/12	To Receive a Report from the Chairman of the Finance, Funding and Grants Committee or receive draft minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-op money matures on 5th October. We are going to take out £5k to support the next precept amount of £13k which will see us through the next 3 months. 	Verbal

NORTHLEACH WITH EASTINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

	<p>118.2/12</p> <p>118.3/12</p> <p>Action</p> <p>118.4/12</p> <p>118.5/12.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>Action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Club funds have been moved back to Trust and into a Co-op account, • A Christmas bonus to Westwoods Supervisor in recognition of extra work will be determined at next Finance meeting • Clerk to add to next finance meeting • Cllr Hewer stated that it would be good to have some money in hand at the end of this financial year the end of March 2013. Cllr Rigby agreed as previously the Town Council had money in reserve and this is not the case now. The reason being due to increased costs and the fact that the Precept increases have been kept to a minimum in recent years so reserves have got lower. The Town Council were previously financially solvent and recently there has been no safety net due to the reasons stated above. • Precept. Cllr Fletcher explained that last year we agreed a 5% increase and really we should of for asked 50% which would equate to an extra £29 on a C band house. We need to communicate what we spend our income on and why we want to increase the precept request. It was resolved that the Clerk would publicise and ask for feedback from residents as the Precept definitely needs to be increased. There are lots of deserving cases and we need to see what the residents want. • Clerk to publicise what we spent last year's income on and what residents would like to see done with the Town Council income. 	
119/12	Resolved	To Approve Bills for Payment for September 2012 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was unanimously resolved to pay the bills presented 	Attached
	<p>119.1/12</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>To Receive Financial Statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement of receipts and payments for the last quarter were presented and it was resolved to accept the financial statement. In addition an up to date budget statement was discussed. Cllr Rigby asked if the Clerk could write a short statement against the figures presented to explain further detail i.e. utility bills are lower and why. • Clerk agreed to produce a written statement in addition to the reports for the next meeting so it could be reviewed. 	Attached
		Planning and Tree Works	
120/12	<p>120.1/12</p> <p>120.2/12</p> <p>Action</p> <p>Action</p> <p>120.3/12</p> <p>Action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To Receive a Report from the Chairman of the Planning Committee • Discuss the request from PCC to share the cost of felling the Thuja Plicata tree in the Churchyard. The Town Council do not believe it is a maintenance issue and have already contributed to the overall cost when we commissioned the arboriculture report. The overall maintenance of trees and grass in the Churchyard and Cemetery was discussed, what are the plans for those and the grass cutting contract. The tree maintenance is being dealt with by PPMC and the grass cutting contract needs to be reviewed by end of the year as up in April. • Clerk to inform PCC about decision • Clerk to add to next PPMC meeting and continue to compare CGS quote with actual costs as we have added to their workload over the year. • The new application for demolishing and rebuilding at Cat's Abbey is agreed to be a general improvement • Clerk to submit week commencing 8th October 	Verbal
121/12		Plus any other urgent items received since publication of the agenda	
		Property and Premises Maintenance Committee	
		To Receive a Report from the Chairman of the meeting held on 3 rd	Verbal

NORTHLEACH WITH EASTINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

<p>121.1/12</p> <p>Action 121.2/12</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>September 2012</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee discussed having a bus shelter at the road side as still waiting on the wrong side in the shelter and missing the bus. Cllr Fletcher has identified a bus shelter option and Cllr Blades suggested a cantilever roof instead. Cllr Hancock suggested that it gets moved back and so buses could pull in. A Perspex roof may not be seen by the truck. Would it be easier to place it on the side of the Gentlemen's toilets? Currently the buses grind if they go into the Market Place. A member reported seeing a Swanbrook driver actually getting out and checking the other side to see if there was anyone waiting. • Clerk is investigating this for next PPMC meeting • The surgery path. Cllr Hancock will liaise with Tim Barter who has been dealing with this on behalf of PPMC committee. Need to ensure the path does not become a right of way and a sign will need to go up. • Cllr Hancock to speak to Tim Barter 	
<p>122/12</p> <p>122.1/12</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>Westwoods Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Blades explained that the biggest issue is the de-registration which is on-going at the moment. The decision was made to de-register and now HMRC have contacted us to say they are reviewing our status. We are awaiting the transcripts and to see where we are. The key issue is that the timescales have changed from 10 years to 20 years and we are waiting to see when that happened, what advice were we given and when was this. • Clerk to update when the transcripts are in 	
<p>123/12</p> <p>123.1/12</p>	<p>To receive a report from the Chairman of the Meeting held on 11th September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Fletcher discussed parking at West End. We are getting lots of complaints but cannot seem to enforce anything. Too many people are trying to park in fewer places. Otherwise it has been fairly quiet. The real issue is the parking on double yellow lines which is very dangerous. 	Verbal
		Verbal
<p>124/12</p> <p>124.1/12</p> <p>124.2/12</p> <p>124.3/12</p> <p>124.4/12</p> <p>124.5/12</p>	<p>Working Groups, Projects and Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmington Trust Meeting. After last meeting Cllr Hancock said he would talk to CDC about a Neighbourhood Plan as they want to finalise their plans for next year. Three people from CDC are able to come and talk to us and see what our ideas are and how they match with their plans so far. We need to understand what their core strategy is and they can come at 6pm before the next town Council Meeting. The sooner we can filter our ideas and concerns into the core strategy the better. • Cllr Wellman - we have heard from Farmington Trust but we need to hear from CDC so we can work together. If we can suggest plots and plans to CDC then we will be in a stronger position. At the last meeting it was suggested that the East End would be developed first and then the rest at West End. Whether we agree or not the Farmington Trust has put a lot of work into this. • These are only ideas and suggestions at the moment but there has been some intelligent thought put into it. This is a 20 year timescale and 150 homes is the core strategy for Northleach. • We will need to consider having some real commercial opportunities for these new residents. For example if the Fire Station is to be sold then we can say we already have some ideas for this plot. The town Council would prefer to be suggesting schemes rather than having ideas thrown at us. • Cllr Blades thinks the best place for commercial is at the sewerage plant which is owned by CDC. Bob Houghton is 	Verbal Circulated Attached

NORTHLEACH WITH EASTINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

<p>124.6/12 Resolved</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>Action</p> <p>124.7/12</p> <p>Action</p> <p>124.8/12 Resolved</p> <p>124.9/12</p> <p>Action</p>		<p>bursting at the seams and would love to move to a purpose built site and this could encourage other businesses. It is also close to the A40.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Wellman proposed that we have CDC here to speak to us prior to October's meeting. It was resolved to have a closed meeting so all the Councillors could have plenty of opportunity to ask a variety of questions. However it was also resolved that if we do agree on a certain way forward, the town will need to be consulted as their support is necessary. • Clerk to confirm time of meeting with Cllr Hancock, CDC and councillors • Cllr Fisher had a suggestion relating to the Youth Club however it is no use having the youth club redone in the old site. There is a party who may be interested in Fortey House and this may give us the opportunity for affordable houses. Cllr Fisher is looking out the plans for them • Clerk to call GCC about Bassett Road field again as we want to draw up our plan with CDC • New Code of Conduct – Agreed unanimously to accept the new code of conduct which is based on CDC's • Clerk asked everyone to complete the new Register of Interests by Friday 19th October. These need to be sent to CDC by the end of October. • Clerk to collate, check and sent ROI forms. 	<p>Attached</p> <p>Attached</p>
125/12		Chairman's Report	Verbal
126/12		Plus Any Other Urgent items received since publication of the agenda	
127/12	<p>127.1/12</p> <p>127.2/12</p> <p>Action</p> <p>127.3/12</p>	<p>Any Other Business Any other matters that any Councillor wishes to bring to the attention of the Council or agenda items for future meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Bank update. The school have a parent advisor who can issue food vouchers. There is a growing problem in the Cotswolds and we need to recognise this. The community agent can also distribute these. Vouchers are only available at certain places including the Doctors surgery. • Tree planting will take place on 10th November and we are calling it The Big Tree Plant, people need to bring a watering can, and a trowel. The School, Fosse Lions and tree wardens are helping but need more volunteers. • Clerk to add to Parish magazine and Standard • Cllr Rigby gave a Broadband update. There is a big procurement going on and although the decision has not been announced, they have announced how many homes will benefit. <p>Please note that no Discussions or Decisions can be taken under this Item.</p>	
		Date and Time of Next Meeting – 25th October 2012 at 7pm (following a closed meeting at 6pm)	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.00 pm