

Nunthorpe Parish Council
Minutes of Parish Meeting Held Wednesday 3rd June 2020

Parish Councillors Present: Ros Davey, Morgan McClintock (Chair), Mieka Smiles, Stephen Thomason, Wade Tovey, Adrian Walker.

In attendance: Angela Livingstone (NPC Clerk), Stewart Williams (Public Rights of Way Officer-Middlesbrough Council), James Hayton (NMPFA), Keith Parry and David Leyland (NCC), 1 resident.

1. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1.1 To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence - There were no apologies, all Councillors were present at the meeting.

1.2 Declaration of interest – The Chair stated that the Clerk had provided a new form and he would enter updated information and return to the Clerk. There were no additional declarations regarding items on the agenda. **ACTION: Chair**

1.3 Procedure for Electronic meetings – The Chair stated that it had been acknowledged that there was no requirement for changes to the Standing Orders to facilitate the electronic meetings, because the orders remained applicable. To facilitate any connectivity issues a Councillor would be deemed present if they were heard, even if visual connection was not possible. As with normal practice hands would be raised to attract attention to speak, Parish Councillors would be given precedence. If the Chair did not see anyone raising a hand Councillors were asked to raise two hands and draw attention to this. **Resolved:** Councillors approved the electronic meeting procedure.

The Order of the agenda was amended to allow Mr Williams, MC to present information.

3 DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT OF NUNTHORPE-CURRENT ISSUES

3.0 The Chair stated that with more people exploring the countryside during the lockdown there had been friction with residents and it had been resolved at the May meeting that a group of Councillors help look at a resolution. There had been contact through social media, but the hoped-for joint meeting had not been held. The resident group had met and Cllr Smiles had received notes. Mr Williams had been contacted for the official position. Cllr Tovey had been in contact with members of the Grey Towers Management group including Paul Austin and Cathy Fidgeon.

3.2 Bridleway and Pedestrian rights of way

3.2.1 Mr Williams advised that the issue of the Public Right of Way (PRoW) and the Green link had been his first task when he commenced the position 15 years earlier. This was still ongoing due to differing views and legal positions. He informed of two PRoW across Poole Hospital estate. One down the cycle route and the other (known as the Green link) through the woods past the hall and out onto Stokesley Road. He added that the Green link was not recorded on the map, but acknowledged this existed as did a number of other unrecorded routes across Middlesbrough, along with 40 kilometres of new rights of way to be added. Both Grey Towers routes were marked to some degree, and marking furniture was inspected during summer months. He added that there was giant hogweed on the way down the bridleway and onto the estate.

3.2.2 Mr Williams explained the need for a legal order to introduce changes to the Definitive map and that the last update in 2011 included some anomalies, with one issue being the Green link. Cllr Smiles questioned how long this had been in question as a PRoW. Mr Williams advised that the Green link was shown on the planning application in 2004 as part of the S106 obligations. It was agreed that the route had been in place since at least the early 1980s but this had not been recorded. It had been agreed to be added as a S106 route for public access.

3.2.3 Mr Williams explained the need for a legal event to make a change to the definitive map. He was informed that there was currently no dispute to stop this being added if a legal event was brought forward. He explained the type of legal event needed to be either a DMMO where an application

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- was made to state that the definitive map was incorrect. Another method was to apply to add a new route, this would require evidence of 20 years continuous use. The Management Committee could carry out a Section 31-6 declaration. The final option would be to carry out a minor diversion to the route. He stated the need for him to decide which was the best option to ensure this was added to the map at the lowest cost to tax payers.
- 3.2.4 Cllr Smiles enquired regarding other PRoWs which had been used for many years. Mr Williams informed that if people felt that other routes had been used for 20 years ~~without force~~ this could be claimed as land that public had access to. He would investigate if there was evidence to support or dispute claims, then make recommendations on his findings. If rejected by residents this could go to the Secretary of State and then go to public enquiry.
- 3.2.5 The Chair stated that most disputes seemed to arise from the uncertainty if the route was a PRoW. He stated that appropriate signage would address this matter. All agreed the need for clarity. The Chair questioned who was responsible for signage. Mr Williams informed that any signage to state private woodland was the task of the landowner, signs on the PRoW were his responsibility. He would interject if anything was unsuitable and informed of the intention by the landowner to add an unsuitable stile, which he had agreed to a change and an agreement made of a kissing gate.
- 3.2.6 Mr Williams was made aware of signposts lying on ground along the cycleway and additional posts on Wyke Lane which he agreed to investigate.
- 3.2.7 The Chair enquired if there was any public right of way at the end of Collingwood Drive, Mr Williams informed that the area in question was private land only.
- 3.2.8 Mr Williams informed of previous issues of flooding at Cornwall Close and the intention of Middlesbrough Council to introduce an earth mound later in the year from funding for protection from flood risk. Information had been sent to Ward Councillors.
- 3.2.9 Mr Williams informed that the Rights of Way improvement plan was over ten years old and was to be reviewed, the Parish Council would be contacted for a view. This involved removing old routes and adding new routes.
- 3.2.10 The Chair thanked Mr Williams and asked him to maintain regular contact with the Parish Council. Mr Williams left the meeting.

2 NUNTHORPE VISION/NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

2.1 Nunthorpe Vision – Outcome of meetings

- 2.1.1 The Chair stated that the outcomes of the second big meeting had been circulated. There had been long discussions regarding a commitment to the GP surgery and the Community Centre, with suggestions of a joint site to share the parking area. Parish Councillors were reminded about their objections regarding additional executive homes as had been approved at previous meetings. Middlesbrough Council were re-assessing the type of housing needs, it could be some time until developers were appointed and the monies become available for a full community centre. Both big meetings had been attended by the Mayor and the MP.
- 2.1.2 Mr Leyland stated that he had sent details to Cllr Tovey on costings of £2 million for a full build and around £750,000 for a smaller start, and a footprint for a Community Centre with rooms to a similar size as the original size in the Institute. He requested that all members of the Parish Council be given the information. The Chair agreed that these would be circulated. Mr Leyland stated disappointment with Middlesbrough Council passing the space from the Institute and the school to the Academy. He felt there was the need for a contribution from Middlesbrough Council to right that wrong. Cllr Tovey stated that there would not be the funds for a full build until developers' contributions were available, therefore there was the intention to push for funding from s106 contributions for a smaller build to be added to at a later date. **ACTION: Cllr Tovey**

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- 2.1.3 Cllr Smiles stated that as S106 monies currently held by Middlesbrough Council would be used on the project, she felt that it was reasonable to ask their architects to work on plans.
- 2.1.4 The Chair stated that Nunthorpe Surgery had been wanting to move forward with a new facility for a number of years and had needed to close the surgery during the current pandemic as the space was inadequate. This was therefore seen to be urgent alongside the need for a community centre.
- 2.1.5 Cllr Walker reminded of the necessity of a link road or park and ride before Nunthorpe Grange development could commence. He asked that the urgency of the new facilities be communicated and that Mr Horniman be thanked for organising the recent meetings.
- 2.1.6 **Resolved:** Note to be sent to Mr Horniman thanking him for the meetings and that the Parish Council was comfortable with the outcome, drawing attention to the planning conditions, and welcomed continuing negotiations on the new facilities. **ACTION: Clerk**
- 2.1.7 Cllr Tovey advised of a discussion with the Mayor, where he had agreed that the meeting had gone well. The Mayor had agreed to a follow up meeting with himself and the Chair, and had offered an online appointment for 8th June, from which he would compile a report to the Parish Council. He stated that he hoped the Parish Council were happy with this approach. In response to a question on the objective, Cllr Tovey informed this was to discuss financial opportunities and the size of the commitment available. It was questioned if residents' views would be sought. Cllr Tovey stated that he wished to gain further progress on a commitment before this went to residents. Concerns were voiced on making decisions before consulting residents views and ensuring transparency and openness as had been shown with the full meetings, not closed meetings. Cllr Tovey stated big meetings would be continued to move the project forward. The Chair assured that the views of the community would be looked at when the financial commitment was secure, the meeting was to gain facts. Cllr Thomason advised that previous closed meetings with the Mayor and CEO had been used to get projects off the ground, and was uncomfortable with the meeting. The Chair assured that notes of the meeting would be circulated, firstly to the Parish Council then to other attendees.
- 2.1.8 **Resolved** by majority: The Chair and Cllr Tovey to meet Mayor and circulate notes.

2.2 Nunthorpe Vision– Consultation

- 2.2.1 The Chair informed there had been discussion at the big meeting to have an independent Facebook page and Nunthorpe Vision had been introduced. This was to inform residents and give greater transparency. All attendees confirmed they had seen this page.
- 2.2.2 **Resolved:** Nunthorpe Parish Council confirmed that they approved this action.

2.3 Neighbourhood Plan – boundary

- 2.3.1 The Chair informed of contact with MC Paul Clarke who was investigating a map.

3. DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT OF NUNTHORPE-CURRENT ISSUES

3.1 Brass Castle Housing Development proposals

It was noted that an objection statement had been endorsed by Councillors and submitted by the clerk. There were no discussions on this item.

3.2 Bridleway and Pedestrian rights of way - The discussion was recorded above.

3.3 Response to Nunthorpe Parish Council from Middlesbrough Council

- 3.3.1 The Chair advised that a note had been sent to Middlesbrough Council dealing with comments on three issues from the May meeting. A response had been received.
1. The lack of consultation about the Ford Close development was noted and explained.
 2. The Chair had questioned the triangle of land in Collingham Drive with Mr Williams, who had confirmed this was private land. Mr Leyland stated that 10-15 years prior there had been agreement from Middlesbrough Council to the Parish Council that they would inform of all

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land sales. The Chair clarified that the Parish Council had been informed and consulted and had objected twice.

3. Public Rights of Way had been discussed with Mr Williams earlier in the meeting.

4. PROJECTS

4.1 Community Support by volunteers for individuals

4.1.1 Cllr Smiles informed that around 100 jobs had been completed by Cllr Tovey, herself and the volunteers. This was still going well, but the number of jobs had lessened. The Chair gave thanks for the work completed for the community.

4.2 Nunthorpe History Society

4.2.1 The Chair informed this project was being revived after originally being worked on in 2010 by Mr Bob Mullen. Mr Leyland had the log in details to find the information stored and he proposed that the Parish Council support this project. Mr Leyland stated the need for a Historian and felt that this could be progressed from a social media request.

4.2.2 **Resolved:** Financial support approved in principle towards Nunthorpe History Society.

5. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6TH MAY 2020 AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD AND RECEIVE INFORMATION ON MATTERS ARISING

5.1 **Resolved:** to approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 4th May 2020. The Chair to sign the minutes. Clerk to add to the Parish Council website. **ACTION: Clerk**

5.2 Matters arising from the minutes, not arising elsewhere on the agenda.

5.2.1 Presentation to former Chair – The Chair advised that Cllr Tovey had taken the gift to Mr & Mrs Tomlinson who were very grateful. He stated his thanks to Cllr Tovey for actioning this.

5.2.2 VE Celebration – The Parish Council had supported the competition with a donation of £100 which was being donated to charity via the Community Council. Thanks were given to Cllr Smiles and the Community Council for the work.

5.2.3 Fireworks – Mr Hayton advised that the sub-committee had not sanctioned moving forward with notes or a further meeting. The Chair offered that he and the Vice-Chair would be happy to meet to talk through the long-standing issues and try to come to an agreement. Mr Hayton stated that he was happy to try to move forward and would request a meeting.

5.2.4 Scrutiny work programme – The Clerk forwarded a proposal to Middlesbrough Council about the potential improvement of the planning portal.

6. UPDATE ON PROJECTS / ACTIVITIES

6.1. Traffic issues

6.1.1 Following the Parish Council letter stating urgency, Mr Farnham had forwarded a response and gave an estimated timescale for the speed reduction on Dixons Bank of Autumn 2020 and information on design work on the Brass Castle Lane/Stokesley Road junction. The recent increase in speed was commented on and Cllr Walker felt that this should be completed before Autumn. A resident agreed that she had noted the speed increase and asked for speed enforcement on the stretch. Cllr Walker to compose a reply. **ACTION: Cllr Walker**

6.2 Ourgreenways Project (including sponsorship)

6.2.1 Cllr Tovey advised that as requested he had spoken with Robin Evershed and discussed ideas for a grant. An idea had been for talking benches to encourage to sit and chat. This had been confirmed as a worthwhile idea for the £2,500 grant. The Chair stated that the offer of the grant had been passed to Ourgreenways to progress. He reminded of an outstanding matter of a bench in memory of John

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Harrison and that John Harrisons family were delighted to accept the offer of the bench. He proposed that the Parish Council suggest a location and discuss what was wanted.

6.2.2 Cllr Tovey informed of an environmental idea to support residents with green waste of having a wood chipper where branches could be taken and wood chippings taken away. The Chair suggested that a group was formed by Cllr Walker to progress and to find residents views.

ACTION: Cllr Walker

6.2.3 Concerns were raised regarding Middlesbrough Council not reintroducing two weekly green waste collections. It was commented that Redcar & Cleveland Council had reinstated this practice and that residents were prohibited from taking excess waste in a trailer to the Haverton Hill facility. Cllr Smiles informed this was due to staffing levels and health and safety. Cllr Thomason stated that the recycled waste was still being collected, therefore why could the collection of two bins not be completed weekly. Cllr Smiles advised that additional waste could be put out in hessian bags.

6.2.4 **Resolved:** Clerk to inform Middlesbrough Council of concern of residents. **ACTION: Clerk**

6.3 Nunthorpe in Bloom

Following comments sent by the Parish Council, both Mrs Thompson and Mrs McGloin had responded and informed they were happy to meet but not virtually and invited all to their next meeting, of which they were unsure of a date. The Clerk was asked to forward the response emails to Mr Parry.

ACTION: Clerk

6.4 Village Green No update

7. REPORTS

7.1 Clerk's report

The Chair commented on ref 1507 email from Innogy re consultation Sofia & Dogger Bank planning application, Mr Leyland informed that this was an offshore application. The Clerk enquired if Councillors would like to respond to ref 1511 CTP training course expression of interest request, Cllr Walker stated an interest in the Foundation training session, *this was also requested after the meeting by Cllr Davey.*

ACTION: Clerk

7.2 Ward Councillors' Reports

The Chair thanked Cllr Smiles for the work on the Welcome to Nunthorpe packs which were easily accessible. He asked that this be added to the Parish Council website and printouts from Cllr Smiles added to the noticeboards. Cllr Smiles advised of a fund launched by Middlesbrough Council for grants up to £1,500, Ourgreenways were to progress this.

ACTION: Cllr Tovey

7.3. Community Council Report - nothing to report

7.4 Other Reports – no other reports.

8. PLANNING / LICENSING APPLICATIONS – discussion on applications received, there were no objection.

8.1 [Part two storey/part first floor extension to side and first floor extension to rear](#) 4 Harter Close TS7 OQR Ref. No: 20/0277/FUL

8.2 [Discharge of condition 2 \(Scheme for storage & removal of refuse\) and condition 4 \(Parking plan\) on planning application 17/0419/COU](#) Ryehill House East Brass Castle Lane TS8 9ED Ref. No: 20/0259/DIS

8.3 [Residential development 102 dwellings](#) 19/0458/FUL Grey Towers Farm – An object had been sent in 2019.

9. PARISH COUNCIL CONSTITUTION AND ORGANISATION

9.1 Review of Standing Orders

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9.1.1 The Chairman had provided a review of the standing orders and proposed 1. To ask the Clerk to reformulate all Standing Orders using terminology which was not gender-specific. 2. To ask the Clerk to divide Standing Order 3.a.x into two sections, with the addition of a sentence in the new Standing Order 3.a.xi., in the wording proposed to the Council. 3. To ask the Clerk to amend Standing Order 3.a.xii in the wording proposed to the Council.

9.1.2 **Resolved:** Approved.

9.1.3 The Chair stated that the Clerk had sent a number of emails regarding decision making and all agreed that small matters could be discussed between meetings to allow progress. Cllr Thomason stated that there was a process in place to have agreement of a majority of councillors, if a major decision was required an additional meeting could be called. The Chair stated concerns that this stopped progress at external meetings and would write up a paper to summarise a way forward.

ACTION: Chair

9.2 Co-option – The Chair informed that the Clerk had published a notice regarding the resignation of Mr Tomlinson. The Clerk confirmed the process for co-option.

9.3 Financial Report – The Clerk advised expenditure paid/planned for June - Parish Clerk salary May and June, contribution towards gift for ex-chair £35. These were approved, the Clerk informed that this left a balance of £15988.22. Full details of the expenditure until the end of June had been circulated. The Clerk informed that all paperwork had been completed for the internal audit and was with the auditor

9.4 Bank account – The Chair stated that the Clerk had highlighted the need for new signatories, he stated that the Clerk would contact Councillors regarding this matter. **ACTION: Clerk**

9.5 Communications- nothing discussed.

9.6 NMPFA representative – The Chair agreed to take on the position which the previous Chair held. It was confirmed that a substitute could attend if the Chair was unavailable.

9.7 Insurance – Following information received the insurance had been confirmed to be adequate and payment had been sent.

9.8 Clerks contract – The Chair informed that he would speak with the Clerk to ensure compliance.

9.9 Date and Time of Next meeting 1st July 2020 at 7pm.

9.10 Matters for next agenda – nothing discussed.

Signed Date