

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 10th April 2024

In the Ray Shill Room, Northway Community Hub, Northway, commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Cllr J Roberts (Chairman) Cllr M Barnes
Cllr J Beadle Cllr G Fancourt
Cllr P Godwin Cllr P Mackenzie
Cllr E MacTiernan Cllr K Poole
Cllr G Shelton Cllr S Terry

In Attendance: Mrs C Woodward, Clerk of the Council
Mrs L Stewart, Clerk's Assistant

C/79/24 Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence had been received.

C/80/24 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

C/81/24 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Godwin declared an interest in discussions relating to the Northway Pantry. No further declarations of interest were made, as required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 12th April 2023 (Minute Ref C/85/23).

C/82/24 Minutes of Previous Council Meeting

Cllr Fancourt pointed out an error in the Minutes (date of proposed Christmas event). It was confirmed that the original copy of the Minutes had already been amended. Cllr Shelton PROPOSED that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 13th March 2024 were approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr Godwin SECONDED.

FOR: Cllr Godwin Cllr Barnes
Cllr Fancourt Cllr MacTiernan
Cllr Poole Cllr Shelton

ABSTENTIONS: Cllr Beadle Cllr Mackenzie
Cllr Roberts Cllr Terry

C/83/24 Matters Arising from Council Minutes/Clerks Report

C/75/24 Zero Hour – Northway Parish Council had registered its support for the Climate and Ecology Bill.

C/21/24 Gloucestershire Health & Care Vaccination Clinic – Following the success of this drop in clinic, another event had been booked for 29th May 2024.

C/70/24 Youth Work In Northway – The Clerk passed on a complaint from the Youth Club Trustees following use of the Village Hall by Young Gloucestershire who had, allegedly, left the fire door open and the lights on. The Clerk had spoken to the youth worker who had been in the building, she apologised if they had left the door open, but felt certain that they did not leave the lights on. She did point out that someone had been in the

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C/83/24 Matters Arising from Council Minutes/Clerks Report (continued)

building after them as when they returned in the morning their things had been moved and there were bloody tissues lying about. It appeared that Boxing Clever must have been in the building after Young Gloucestershire and so this was reported back to the Youth Club Trustees.

C/84/24 Roads & Road Safety

- a. **Issues of Concern** – Cllr Mackenzie pointed out that only two brackets had been provided with the VAS, although these could be removed and moved about with the VAS, it was not very easy to do this. Ideally, a further bracket and two jubilee clips. Cllr Terry PROPOSED that the Council should request these from Gloucestershire County Council. Cllr Beadle SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Cllr Roberts mentioned drainage issues along Northway Lane (opposite Apple Tree Court). The Clerk referred to correspondence which had been received at the previous Full Council meeting (Min Ref: C/59/24 refers) advising that 'a community maintenance job would be raised in the new financial year and the drains would be dug out and rodded when and if resources allowed'. Members did not feel that this was an acceptable answer, therefore, it was AGREED that the Clerk should email County Cllr Smith and the Local Highways Manager (Cllr Roberts offered to forward photographs which could be included).

Cllr Fancourt mentioned that the hedge on the humpback bridge was overgrown. The Clerk was asked to report this.

- b. **Disabled Bay, The Northway Centre** – Following on from the previous meeting (Min Ref: GP/59/24 refers), there had been a lot of communication on Facebook regarding ticketing of vehicles parked outside Northway Chemist, at the Northway Centre. A technician from the Parking Team at Gloucestershire County Council had forwarded a map which confirmed that only one of the parking bays was for disabled drivers and so the Clerk had asked that they inform all ticket enforcers of this. The map was shown to Members, and it was noted that the disabled bay on the other side of the chicanes was not showing on the map even though faint line markings were still present there.

The Clerk reminded Members of County Cllr Smith's verbal offer to fund repainting of the disabled bay but he had, he now had to run this past the Area Traffic Manager so the Clerk was waiting to hear more.

C/85/24 County Councillor's Report

No report had been received.

C/86/24 Planning Committee

Members received the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 20th March 2024.

C/87/24 General Purposes Committee

Members received the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 20th March 2024.

C/88/24 Borough Councillor's Report

Cllr Godwin had nothing to report.

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C/89/24 Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils (GAPTC)

Cllr Godwin PROPOSED approval of the Council's subscription to GAPTC for 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025 at a cost of £1,279.13. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/90/24 Council Accounts

Cllr Shelton PROPOSED that the accounts for payment, totalling £17,478.24, should be approved. Cllr Barnes SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/91/24 Parish Assembly

The Clerk passed on thanks from Cathy Blackmore, Di Paton and Sue Haines. Cllr Roberts confirmed that he had written to Chris Ashman (Director of Place at Tewkesbury Borough Council) to thank him for attending.

It was noted that an 'Anonymous participant' had posted negatively on Facebook about Chris Ashman's presentation, inaccurately stating that he was a councillor. The Clerk had pointed out via a comment on the post that this was not the case.

Cllr Fancourt suggested that, in future, reports should be circulated but not read out as it caused the meeting to go on quite late although it was noted that this was already the case for invitees who could not attend in person. Cllr MacTiernan pointed out that, in other areas, Parish Assemblies lasted less than twenty minutes. It was positive that so many people turned up at and were interested.

C/92/24 Tewkesbury Garden Communities

- a. **Parish Liaison Group** - Cllr Barnes gave a short report following his attendance at meetings of the Parish Liaison Group. He mentioned that the Borough Council had paid for a number of classes at Tewkesbury Academy to study the Garden Project and advise what they would like (ideas included a McDonalds and a chicken house).
- b. **Marrons / The Consortium** – An informal meeting had taken place between the Parish Council and representatives of The Consortium, who had shared a presentation. Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that the Council did not make any comments. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

It was pointed out that Members could comment individually, as residents, during the public event being held by Marrons at Northway Community Hub on 13th April.

Cllr Fancourt felt it would be beneficial to ask the community what it would like to see provided in line with upcoming development. Cllr MacTiernan felt that this would be untoward as it would imply that the Parish Council supported the development. The Clerk pointed out that the consultation event on 13th April was for the purpose of allowing the community to have a say.

C/93/24 Northway Pantry

The Clerk advised that she was still awaiting information from Johnsons regarding possible installation of a canopy (or similar) for the garden room. It was AGREED that this should, again, be deferred until the relevant information was available.

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C/94/24 Warm Space

The Clerk confirmed that the last Warm Space session had taken place the day before (9th April 2024). During the period for which it ran (8th January – 9th April) the Warm Space had received 280 visits. Members considered whether it would be beneficial to run Warm Space again during winter 2024/25.

Cllr Fancourt felt that there were not enough people attending to warrant Warm Space running again – unless it was advertised in a different way or modified to be more self-serve (with cup a soups). Cllr Poole pointed out that the cost-of-living crisis was not improving which meant things like Warm Space were essential.

Cllr Terry PROPOSED that the Council should run Warm Space during the upcoming winter, subject to provision of funding from Tewkesbury Borough Council again. Cllr Barnes SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

It was further AGREED that the format of the sessions should be considered in more detail closer to the time (once funding details had been announced).

C/95/24 Youth Work

- a. **Play Gloucestershire** – A report had not yet been received following the Play Ranger session that took place at Northway Playing Field during the April school holidays, however, the youth workers had mentioned that the turn out had been good considering the bad weather. The Clerk reminded Members that Play Rangers had also been booked for Northway during May, October and February school holidays.
- b. **Boxing Clever** – The Clerk read three emails of support for Boxing Clever from parents whose children attended the sessions.

The Clerk confirmed that the Youth Club Trustees were agreeable to continuing to part fund the boxing sessions alongside the Parish Council (this worked out at £45 each per night during term time). Cllr Terry PROPOSED that the Council continued to part fund the boxing on the same terms as before. Cllr Barnes SECONDED.

FOR:

Cllr Terry	Cllr Barnes
Cllr Beadle	Cllr Fancourt
Cllr Mackenzie	Cllr Poole
Cllr Shelton	Cllr Roberts

ABSTENSTIONS: Cllr Godwin Cllr MacTiernan

Cllr MacTiernan felt that, although the boxing sessions were wonderful, the Youth Club Trustees should be paying more than they were towards the cost of them. They were in possession of a large amount of money and it was questionable why they were only paying half when it was their job to fund these things in Northway. Cllr MacTiernan asked Cllr Godwin how much money the Youth Club Trustees had in their bank account, Cllr Godwin confirmed that she would find out and bring details to the next meeting.

C/96/24 Crime & Disorder

- a. **Crime Figures** – No crime figures were available.
- b. **Crime & Disorder** – Members were notified that offensive graffiti had been sprayed in the tunnel under the railway line at the back of Sinderberry Drive. This had been reported to the Police as well as The Consortium (who were believed to be responsible for the land) and the graffiti had since been painted over.

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C/97/24 Correspondence for Action

- a. **Tewkesbury Borough Council** – Invitation for the Chairman to attend Annual Meeting and Mayor Making event. As it was unknown who would be voted Chairman of Northway Parish Council, it was AGREED that the invitation be declined.
- b. **Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils (GAPTC)** – The Clerk passed on details of upcoming training courses. Cllr Fancourt mentioned that he had seen details online of a session on how to encourage people to apply to be councillors.

C/98/24 Correspondence for Information

- a. **Tewkesbury Borough Council** – Press Releases:
'New on-line planning permission checking service goes live'
'Private hire licensing prosecution'
'Over £300k funding available to boost borough's cultural, historical, heritage and energy efficiency for community facilities'.
- b. **Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils (GAPTC)** – Newsletter from GAPTC (forwarded to Members by email)
- c. **National Association of Local Councils:** Chief Executive's Bulletin 21/03/24 & 28.03.24

C/99/24 Correspondence Available in the Clerk's Office

- a. **Carer Aware** – Monthly update.

C/100/24 Correspondence Received After 4th April 2024

- a. **Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils**
 - i. Call for Resolutions.
 - ii. Details of Public Rights of Way Training.
- b. **Tewkesbury Borough Council** – Tewkesbury Borough News and chance for Parish Councils to feature in '60 seconds in'. Cllr MacTiernan offered to write a feature on Northway for the Borough Council to consider including. AGREED.
- c. **Tewkesbury Town Council** – Invitation to Mayor Making Ceremony. Due to uncertainty regarding who the next Parish Council Chairman would be, it was AGREED that no representative attend.
- d. **Young Gloucestershire** – Details of staff changes.
- e. **National Association of Local Councils (NALC)** – Chief Executive's Bulletin (4th April 2024).
- f. **Gloucestershire County Council** – Notice that Community Speedwatch Project Officer would no longer be working on the Community Speedwatch initiative.
- g. **Land South of Fiddington Lane** – Leaflet.

As there was no further business the meeting concluded at 7.45pm.