

## Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024

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

Present: Cllr C Blackmore (Temporary Chair) Cllr J Beadle  
Cllr G Fancourt Cllr P Godwin  
Cllr P Mackenzie Cllr E MacTiernan

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

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that Cllr Blackmore be elected as temporary Chair. Cllr Mackenzie SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

### C/01/24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Barnes, Phennah, Roberts, Shelton and Terry

### C/02/24 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

### C/03/24 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made, as required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023 (Minute Ref C/85/23).

### C/04/24 Minutes of Previous Council Meeting

Cllr Godwin PROPOSED that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023 should be approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr MacTiernan SECONDED.

FOR: Cllr Godwin Cllr MacTiernan  
Cllr Beadle Cllr Blackmore  
Cllr Fancourt

ABSTENTIONS: Cllr Mackenzie

### C/05/24 Notes of Meeting with Newland Homes

Members received the Notes of the meeting that took place on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

### C/06/24 Matters Arising from Council Minutes/Clerks Report

*C/290/23 IT Working Party – Notification of changes to the webpage have been given to the current provider and proposed provider.*

*C/294/23 Coronation Trail Artwork – The Council was awaiting the digital version of the Coronation artwork from Sam Morris to enable printing of postcard copies.*

*C/295/23 Christmas Event – A letter of thanks had been sent to the Ricketts family.*

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

### C/07/24 Roads & Road Safety

- a. **Issues of Concern** – Cllr Mackenzie mentioned that he had been measuring car speeds with his radar gun following installation of the VAS, it was worth noting that speeding had dramatically reduced since before the VAS was in place.
- b. **Road Closures** – Details of road closure at Grange Road Level Crossing from 25/02/24 to 26/02/24.
- c. **Community Speedwatch** – December 2023.

### C/08/24 County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Smith had forwarded an email report to the Parish Office, this had since been circulated to Members.

County Cllr Smith reported on flooding which had been a big issue locally. He mentioned that he was pleased to hear that the drainage system in Northway had worked efficiently.

Cllr MacTiernan asked why the system at Morrisons had not been so effective. County Cllr Smith explained that, although the pipework had been in place, the pumps were not able to be used due to unknown environmental concerns.

County Cllr Smith had been made aware of the fact that some residents were upset to learn that Tewkesbury Borough Council only provided empty sandbags. Cllr MacTiernan explained that this was now the policy at the Borough. Cllr Beadle felt that it would be useful if, in future, there was a central place that could be used to fill the sandbags.

County Cllr Smith mentioned that the flood waters had reached 4.9m along the Mythe Road, which was the highest measurement since 2007.

The Council was asked to put together a list of priorities that County Cllr Smith could fund with his Highways Local fund.

7.12pm – County Cllr Smith left the meeting.

### C/09/24 County Councillor Funding

Members considered projects towards which the Council could request funding from County Cllr Smith (Min Ref: C/270/23 refers). Suggestions included - extending the compacted stone path in Joan's Field, installation of a drinking fountain at the Playing Field and installation of lighting at the Playing Field.

It was AGREED that Members should email any further suggestions to the Clerk and consideration deferred until February's Full Council meeting.

### C/10/24 Planning Committee

Members received the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

### C/10/24 General Purposes Committee

Members received the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

### C/11/24 Borough Councillor's Report

Cllr MacTiernan reported that she had recently attended three meetings – all presentations from the 'Consortium' which was made up of developers for North of the M.O.D. (Bellway, Overbury Estates, Bromford and Homes England). What was being said at the meetings had sounded impressive, however, she had raised a question about viability.

The 'Bridge to Nowhere' was still being talked about as if it would be going ahead – she had mentioned numerous times about the traffic effects this would have on Northway.

Richard Stanley had asked Cllr MacTiernan for a tour of her 'patch', so she had shown him the routes that would be taken if the bridge was in place.

Ultimately the situation was the same as it had been for years – with delays on public information and not giving much away. It was worth noting that Newland Homes who were proposing development in Northway were not a part of the 'Consortium'.

Cllr MacTiernan added that the Borough Council would be interviewing for three parish councillors to sit on the Standards Committee on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

### C/12/24 Council Accounts

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that the accounts for payment, totalling £12,953.24, should be approved. Cllr Godwin SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

### C/13/24 Tewkesbury Garden Communities

Cllr Barnes was not present to update on any Tewkesbury Garden Communities meetings he had attended.

### C/14/24 Northway Community Hub

- i. **Hiring** – The Clerk explained that Christmas day Hub hirers had met with the Caretaker prior to the booking so that everything could be explained properly. Despite this, the heating and lights had been left on for what ended up being three days due to the office being closed. It was also reported that a dog had been in the building during the hire.

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that, due to the heating and lighting being left on, £50.00 of the £100.00 deposit should be retained. Cllr Mackenzie SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- ii. **Christmas Bookings** – Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that the Council should no longer allow the Hub to be hired out over the Christmas period. Cllr Godwin SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

### C/15/24 Donation

A donation of £50.00 had been received from the Maritime Volunteer Service and Members AGREED that this should be put towards the Skatepark project.

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

### C/16/24 Crime & Disorder

- a. **Crime Figures** – Crime figures for the month had not been received.
- b. **Vandalism** – The Clerk reminded Members of the damage caused to the camera at the Village Hall by a youth (Min Ref: C/298/23 refers). The Police had passed on a request that the cost of this damage (£60.00) be covered by the youth/his family, therefore, the Council had been asked to contact them again if this was not forthcoming.

### C/17/24 Budget Setting and Precept

It was noted that the Accountant from DCK Accounting Solutions was scheduled to visit before Christmas to review the budgets the Council had set but, due to personal circumstances, this had to be cancelled. It was rescheduled for the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024 meaning a delay to the budget and precept setting.

### C/18/24 Co-Option

Members received an application for co-option from Kelly Poole.

Cllr Mackenzie PROPOSED that Kelly Poole was elected on to Northway Parish Council. Cllr Beadle SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

### C/19/24 Correspondence for Action

- a. **Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils** – Training courses - The Clerk highlighted Being A Better Councillor courses that were upcoming and offered to send the details of these to Cllrs Fancourt and Poole.

### C/20/24 Correspondence for Information

- a. **Know Your Patch** – News Bulletin including dates of meetings.
- b. **Tewkesbury Borough Council:** Press Releases:
  - ‘Cheltenham Borough, Gloucester City and Tewkesbury Borough Council’s give Strategic and Local Plan consultation green light.’
  - ‘Tewkesbury Borough Council awarded over £40,000 to plant new micro wood and launch community orchard grant scheme to commemorate King’s coronation.’
- c. **Society of Local Council Clerks:**
  - The Clerk Magazine January 2024.
  - News Bulletin – 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

### C/21/24 Correspondence received after 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024

- a. **Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust** – The Outreach Vaccination Team – Query as to whether the Council would be interesting in holding vaccination sessions from Northway Community Hub in February/March 2024. It was AGREED that the Council should agree to this if it could be accommodated.

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

C/21/24 **Correspondence received after 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024** (continued)

- b. **Meon** – Pothole repair offer.
- c. **Clerk's and Councils Direct** – Magazine – January 2024.
- d. **Youth Work** – The Clerk reminded Members that Young Gloucestershire had requested use of the Village Hall for HAF drop off/collections on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The Council had asked the Trustees of Northway Youth Club if it could hire the hall for this purpose (Min Ref: FIN/79/23 refers) which was agreed at a lower cost of £10 per day. Unfortunately, whilst waiting outside the building to pick up some of the children going on day trips, the Young Gloucestershire youth workers were approached by an 'elderly man' who was very rude to them, saying they should not be allowed there and should not have keys to the building and when they responded that Northway Parish Council had agreed it the man laughed.

CCTV footage showed the man to be the cleaner of the Village Hall (employed by the Trustees of Northway Youth Club). Members agreed that this behaviour was out of order and a response was necessary. The Clerk mentioned that she had discussed the matter with the Chairman, who was currently away with work, who had suggested that, if Council agreed, a letter should be written.

As Cllr Godwin was one of the Trustees it was AGREED that she should talk to the Village Hall Cleaner, in no uncertain terms, about this unprofessional behaviour.

Cllr Mackenzie gave his apologies for the February Full Council Meeting and advised that he would be unable to help run the Warm Space on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

As there was no further business the meeting concluded at 8.00pm.