

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 10th November 2021
at Northway Community Hub, Northway, commencing at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Cllr S Ward (Vice-Chairman) Cllr C Blackmore
Cllr P Godwin (until Min Ref: C/ /21) Cllr E MacTiernan (until Min Ref: C/ /21)
Cllr E Phennah Cllr G Shelton
Cllr S Terry Cllr T Treacy

In Attendance: County Cllr Smith, Gloucestershire County Council (until Min Ref: C/281/21)
Mrs C Woodward, Clerk of the Council
Mrs L Stewart, Clerk's Assistant

C/275/21 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Roberts, Mackenzie and Barnes

C/276/21 **Public Participation**

- i. **Invitation for Members of the Public to Address the Council** – Cllr Ward PROPOSED that the meeting should adjourn to allow for any public participation.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Cllr Godwin reported that sock tape and other litter was being left on the field after football matches, she asked the Clerk to contact the football club about this.

Cllr Shelton asked about the Northway Lane roundabout (by MOOG and the entrance to the Railway Station) which the Council had agreed could be sponsored, and tidied up, by a local contractor (Min Ref: C/06/20 refers). The Clerk confirmed that she would contact the contractor for an update.

- ii. **Reconvening of Meeting** – Cllr Shelton PROPOSED re-convening of meeting. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/277/21 **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made as required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 11th July 2012 (Minute Ref C/159/12), including paragraph 12(2).

C/278/21 **Previous Minutes**

Cllr Terry highlighted an error on page 5 of the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting that took place on 13th October 2021, where it listed her name instead of Cllr Treacy's. Cllr Terry PROPOSED that, following this amendment, the Minutes should be approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr Treacy SECONDED.

FOR: Cllr Terry Cllr Treacy
Cllr Blackmore Cllr Godwin
Cllr MacTiernan Cllr Phennah
Cllr Shelton

ABSTENTIONS: Cllr Ward

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C/279/21 Matters Arising from Council Minutes/Clerks Report

C/261/21 School Bulb Planting – The planting took place on the October school inset day and Cllr Shelton purchased bulbs on behalf of the Council as well as marking out and photographing the bulb locations.

C/264/21 Northway Community Hub – Following agreement for a free hire of the Hub for a community event, the local resident/caterer had booked the Hall for a tea dance (free) and a children's party.

C/265/21 Grant Applications – Gloucestershire County Council – Build Back Better Market Town Scheme – The Council's application to this fund had been successful and it had been awarded £1,000 towards the Community Christmas Event.

C/269/21 Gloucestershire Constabulary – Cllr MacTiernan would be attending the Community Building Workshop on 18th November 2021.

C/280/21 Roads & Road Safety

Cllr Terry reported that there was an excessive amount of vehicles parking on pavements in Northway. There was a particular corner in The Sandfields that was regularly parked on and caused a danger to other road users and pedestrians. Cllr Ward felt that this was a national problem. Cllr MacTiernan offered to raise the issue at the upcoming Community Building Workshop, hosted by the Police, which she was due to attend.

The Clerk provided an update from Craig Freeman, Local Highways Manager, regarding issues that had been raised during his walkabout with Member's in April (Min Ref: C/84/21 refers):

Replacement of Kingston Road speed humps – Costs were still being awaited, this would likely take place next year and probably be incorporated with patching works.

Remarking of road coming into Northway past Joan's Field and possible gateway entrances and signage – Full relining had been ordered including junction markings onto The Park with additional SLOW's approaching the Spine. Additional warning signs had also been ordered for the approach to the Spine.

Additional 30's along The Park and recommendation for humps to cover whole width of the road – Mr Freeman advised that adjusting the speed humps to full width would require consultation, any objections could result in it being thrown out. He asked whether the Parish Council could consult the part of the estate fronting The Park and roads onto it to gauge whether locals would be supportive of the humps being extended in width to give more confidence to push the scheme forward. Cllr Ward suggested that the Council could use SurveyMonkey to consult with residents.

Review of the prioritisation of traffic over the motorway bridge and concern over height of barriers – Mr Freeman said that he would remind the improvements team about review of prioritisation. It was hoped that the bridge would be in an upcoming programme for resurfacing.

Resurfacing of the Spine and Hardwick Bank Road footpaths – Both paths were in scheduled for slurry seal, no dates were available yet but it would likely be in the spring.

County Cllr Smith advised that he would support resurfacing works and improvements to the motorway bridge.

C/281/21 County Councillor Report

County Cllr Smith thanked the Council for applying to the Build Back Better Market Towns Fund (specifically Cllrs MacTiernan and Blackmore who put together the application), which he had been happy to support. He also advised that a second tranche of the Build Back Better Market Towns Fund was due to be released and he urged the Council to consider other projects that it might wish to apply towards.

County Cllr Smith had circulated a report via email and this had been forwarded to all Members of the Council.

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C/281/21 County Councillor Report (continued)

Adding onto this, he mentioned that the County Council was looking at improving disabled access by installing more dropped kerbs. He had a meeting with a local resident and the Highways Manager to discuss this further - if the Council wished to attend, he would forward dates.

County Cllr Smith mentioned that Mr Freeman had contacted him about installing white gates at the Hardwick Bank Road entrance into Northway, he explained that he would be happy to support this out of the following year's budget.

Cllr MacTiernan queried whether the gates could be installed at any of the other entrances into Northway as well, however, it was noted that it would not be very easy to do this in Grange Road and ownership of the verge by Joedan was unknown. The Clerk was asked to put the matter on a future agenda for formal approval.

County Cllr Smith announced that, although the parish had been unable to progress installation of a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) in Northway previously (Min Ref: C/163/21 refers), the full 20mph policy was being reviewed, which could mean that the Council would be able to have a VAS after all. Hopefully, the new policy would be in place for the next financial year, after which he would happily offer financial support towards a VAS where the Council had wanted one previously.

Roadworks by Morrisons were ongoing and, although linked to the County Council, the work was being contracted out. County Cllr Smith explained that they were looking at the galleys' non-return valves for when flood alleviation works were in place, and this was being funded by Section 106. He believed that the works were due to be completed before the 26th November 2021.

7:25pm – County Cllr Smith left the meeting.

C/282/21 Planning Committee

Members received the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting that took place on 20th October 2021.

C/283/21 General Purposes Committee

Members received the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 20th October 2021.

C/284/21 Finance Committee

Members received the Minutes of the Staffing Committee Meeting held on 27th October 2021.

C/285/21 Carbon Neutral Working Party

- a. Members received the Notes of the Carbon Neutral Working Party Meeting that took place on 3rd November 2021.
- b. Cllr MacTiernan advised that she had started filling out application forms for funding that was available to help communities tackle climate change. She hoped to apply towards purchase and planting of more trees in Northway and improving the heating and lighting (if not LED) at the Village Hall and Changing Rooms.

Further suggestions were made of:

1. Installation of double glazed windows at front of Village Hall.
2. Loft insulation at both buildings.
3. Solar panels (if suitable), it was noted that these would need to be antivandal.

Cllr MacTiernan hoped to be able to submit these applications before the deadline of 18th November 2021.

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C/286/21 Borough Councillor Report

Cllr MacTiernan reported that the Borough Council's Planning Revenue report was now in, although its contents were confidential.

She had also recently attended the Borough's Executive Committee CLT Away Day at Tewkesbury Park Hotel which had been interesting. There had been three topics on the agenda which had caused some debate, however, these were also confidential.

Cllr MacTiernan said that she had spoken to Sara Freckleton about the Judicial Review and, although they had not yet heard anything, it had been noted that the Judge had not been a Planning Judge as would normally have been the case.

Cllr Ward asked about the upcoming plans for the switching on of Tewkesbury Christmas lights which looked to have more going on than usual. Cllr MacTiernan believed things would be a bit more spread out due to Covid concerns.

C/287/21 Council Accounts

It was noted that a figure on the schedule of bills paid and cheques for payment was missing. The Clerk advised Members that, with the missing figure included, the schedule of bills and cheques for payment totalled £16,968.41. Cllr Phennah PROPOSED that the accounts for payment be approved, with the amendment. Cllr Godwin SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/288/21 Meeting Schedule

Members had been circulated a draft copy of the meeting schedule for January – June 2021. Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED approval of the schedule. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/289/21 Heritage Assets

Members had been circulated information compiled by the Heritage Assets Working Party relating to Northway areas that could be nominated for inclusion on the Heritage List (Min Ref: C/269/21 refers). Following advice received from a local historian, it was suggested that the monument opposite The Northway Centre was most likely in memory of a horse or dog, not relating to scarlet fever victim burials. Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that, with this minor amendment, the nominations should be submitted. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Cllrs Treacy and Blackmore were thanked for putting their hard work in putting the information together.

Members also expressed an interest in inviting the local historian to host a viewing of old photographs.

C/290/21 Christmas Events

- a. **4th December Events** – The Clerk asked whether Members wanted to acknowledge residents that had been awarded a Certificate of Appreciation at the Parish Assembly earlier that year. Members AGREED that this should be done and that flowers/chocolates should be presented to them on the night or after the event if they were unable to attend.

Cllr Ward provided a short update on plans for the Community Christmas event and mentioned that there had been some good prizes donated towards the raffle.

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C/290/21 **Christmas Events** (continued)

- b. **Playing Field** – The Clerk updated Members following Ms Fowler’s request to use the Playing Field Car Park for a Christmas Street Fayre on 11th December 2021. Ms Fowler had not yet decided whether this would be progressing but had enquired as to availability of the Community Hub in case she decided to hold the event there instead. It was noted, however, there was limited availability of the Hall on this date. Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that Ms Fowler should be advised that it would not be possible to hold the event at the Community Hub. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/291/21 **Queen’s Platinum Jubilee**

Members considered whether the Council should host an event in the community to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that those interesting in organising an event should form a Working Party. Cllr Ward SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Cllrs Shelton, Terry, Blackmore, Godwin and Treacy expressed an interest in standing on this Working Party.

Cllr MacTiernan advised that the results of the Council’s funding application towards trees was still being awaited, however, she thought that (if successful) it would be a nice ideas to involve school children in the planting process. She also wondered whether it might be nice to have the option for people to adopt a tree and have a memorial plaque.

Members also wondered whether The Park should be renamed in honour of the Queen’s Jubilee (suggestion of Elizabeth II Park) was suggested. Cllr Ward PROPOSED that the Working Party should further consider this option and consult with the community, if necessary.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/292/21 **Correspondence for Action**

- a. **Tewkesbury Borough Council – Tewkesbury Borough Plan Main Modifications Consultation** – Cllr MacTiernan explained a little about this consultation. It was AGREED that the Council should not respond.

C/293/21 **Crime & Disorder**

The Clerk reported that there had been a lot of blue graffiti sprayed in the Playing Field and around the parish on Halloween night - the Police had been informed.

Also, for information, a foreclosure notice had been applied to a house in Saxon Park.

C/294/21 **Correspondence for Information**

- a. **National Association of Local Councils** –
- i) Chief Executive’s Bulletin 15th October 2021, 22nd October 2021, 29th October 2021.
 - ii) Report on Climate Change and what local councils can do.
- b. **Worcestershire County Council** – Consultation on Statement of Community Involvement 2021.
- c. **Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Council’s (GAPTC)** – Newsletter.

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C/294/21 Correspondence for Information (continued)

- d. **Tewkesbury Borough Council** – Advice relating to Neighbourhood Plans.

C/295/21 Property Matters

- a. **Exclusion of the Public and Press** – Cllr Ward PROPOSED that, in view of the special/confidential nature of the business about to be transacted i.e. relating to a current lease and associated matters, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press were temporarily excluded, and they were instructed to withdraw.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

8:10pm – Cllr Godwin left the meeting.

- b. **EXCLUSION ITEMS** – Members received an update following a meeting between lease holders and councillors. Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that any further discussions/decisions were deferred until a report relating to the meeting had been circulated to Members. Cllr Treacy SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/296/21 Judicial Review Relating to Ashchurch Bridge Over Rail (ABoR)

- a. **Exclusion of the Public and Press** – Cllr Ward PROPOSED that, in view of the special/confidential nature of the business about to be transacted i.e. relating to legal procedures and funding, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press were temporarily excluded, and they were instructed to withdraw.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

8:27pm – Cllr MacTiernan left the meeting.

- b. **EXCLUSION ITEMS** – Members received an update relating to the Judicial Review on the Ashchurch Bridge Over Rail Planning Application. The hearing had now taken place and a verdict awaiting (2 weeks-2 months).

C/297/21 Correspondence received after 4th November 2021

- a. **National Association of Local Councils** – Bulletin.
- b. **20's Plenty Scheme** – Further correspondence relating to 20's Plenty scheme.

As there was no other business the meeting concluded at 8.30 p.m.