

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 13th April 2022

at Northway Community Hub, Northway, commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Cllr J Roberts (Chairman) Cllr S Ward (Vice Chairman)
Cllr M Barnes Cllr J Beadle
Cllr P Godwin (until Min Ref: C/95/22) Cllr P Mackenzie
Cllr G Shelton Cllr S Terry

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

C/77/22 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs MacTiernan and Treacy. No further apologies for absence were received.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/78/22 Public Participation

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

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Cllr Mackenzie addressed the Council as a resident of Northway and not in his Councillor capacity. He explained that he had been nearly knocked over 7 times during the past week and felt that the situation was ridiculous and needed addressing, he had faced many dangerous situations in his life but felt more threatened by the speeding cars in Northway. He had written to the MP Laurence Robertson as well as the County Councillor regarding his concerns and had since had a meeting with County Councillor Smith who was going to arrange a meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner later in the year.

Cllr Godwin pointed out that the hedge at 32 Kingston Road had still not been cut back.

Cllr Shelton mentioned that before the pandemic the Council had been offered a tour of Tewkesbury School by the Head Teacher and wondered whether this would be possible to organise. The Clerk said that she had this in the diary and would try and secure a date.

Cllr Roberts advised that there was now a ticket machine at Ashchurch Station.

- ii. **Reconvening of Meeting** – Cllr Mackenzie PROPOSED re-convening of meeting.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/79/22 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Godwin declared an interest in item 19 on the agenda relating to the Youth Club. No further 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).

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

C/80/22 Minutes of Previous Council Meeting

Cllr Mackenzie pointed out a spelling error on item C/65/22 and, subject to an amendment to Blackmore from 'Clackmore' he PROPOSED that the Minutes should be approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr Terry SECONDED

FOR: Cllr Mackenzie Cllr Terry
 Cllr Barnes Cllr Beadle
 Cllr Godwin Cllr Shelton
 Cllr Terry

ABSTENTIONS: Cllr Ward

C/81/22 Matters Arising from Council Minutes/Clerks Report

C/64/22 General Purposes Committee – *Maverick had been informed that they were successful with their tender for the skate park project.*

C/60/22 & C/231/22 Digibus – *Following a site meeting, it had been determined that the Digibus would be unable to access Northway Playing Field car park due to the sharp left hand turn at the entrance. Other suggestions such as The Northway or the Co-op were made.*

C/76/22 Correspondence Received After – Stitch Story – *This Community workshop was coming back to Northway Community Hub on 19th April 2022 between 3.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m.*

C/82/22 Roads & Road Safety

- a. **Issues of Concern** – The Clerk had made enquiries with the Highways Manager regarding the timing for resurfacing Northway Lane motorway bridge. To date she had not received a response but Cllr Godwin said it was going to be in the first quarter of the current year and the gullies had to be cleared by National Highways first.

The Clerk read out a letter received from a resident following the latest issue of Northway Voice with some suggestions about a 20mph zone. The letter also included suggestions relating to the proposed bridge behind Sinderberry Drive. The Clerk could not respond as no address had been provided.

An email had been received from a local resident about the chaos resulting from recent roadworks. This was read to Members.

- b. **Road Closures** – Details of temporary road closures between junction 6 and 7 of the M5 were noted for the repair of safety barriers. A road closure was also noted for May to allow for new sewer/drainage in Alexandra Way, Grange Road and Northway Lane, details were given to Members.

C/83/22 County Councillor Report

County Councillor Smith was not present to give a report but had emailed one earlier in the week and this had been forwarded to Councillors. Cllr Godwin added that Cllr Smith had sent his apologies and just added that the Tour of Britain was on the 9th September and would be starting in Tewkesbury High Street.

C/84/22 Planning Committee

Members received the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting that took place on 16th March 2022.

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

C/85/22 General Purposes Committee

- a. **Minutes from the Previous Meeting** – Members received the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 16th March 2022.
- b. **Wheelchair Swing** – Cllr Roberts reminded Members of the problems encountered with the recent installation of the Wheelchair swing, particularly that they had left water running at least overnight and possibly longer in the changing rooms. This was a metered supply paid for by Tewkesbury Town Football Club. Cllr Shelton PROPOSED that a £30 refund was given to the football club. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/86/22 Staffing Committee

Members received the Minutes of the Staffing Committee Meeting held on 6th April 2022.

C/87/22 Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Party

- a. Members received the Notes of the meeting that took place on 11th March 2022.
- b. Cllr Terry gave an update of some of the events taking place on the day.

It had been confirmed that the Build Back Better grant had been approved in the sum of £2,500 and thanks should be passed on to County Cllr Smith for this.
- c. Insurance – The Clerk tabled a document from Zurich, the Council's insurers, relating to Jubilee events stating that if less than 500 were in attendance then the Council was covered under its current policy. Cllr Roberts confirmed that less than 500 attendees were expected – AGREED.
- d. Members discussed the possibility of funding an act call 'The Music Man', he had already attended one of the Parish Council events and was very popular. Although he would only be able to attend for an hour it would provide some entertainment for children. The cost for the hour would be £250.00. It was agreed that this was good value and Cllr Ward PROPOSED that the Music Man should be booked for the event. Cllr Shelton SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- e. The mention of flags, banners, bunting was raised including flags for the children, which would be a commemorative gift. Cllr Terry pointed out that the cost for these items had been factored into the grant application. The Clerk was asked if she had been given details of what should be ordered, where from, designs etc. The Clerk confirmed that she had not been given any details and it was, therefore, AGREED that she should check with Cllr Treacy for more information.

The recent school visit would be considered at the next General Purposes Committee meeting but Cllr Terry did raise the fact that a copy of the flyer should be sent to all the schools so they could advertise the event in their newsletter etc. It was AGREED that a copy should be sent to Northway School, Carrant Brook School and Tewkesbury School.

C/88/22 Borough Councillor Report

There was nothing to report.

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

C/89/22 Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils (GAPTC)

Members were aware of the benefits of being a member of this association and Cllr Terry PROPOSED that the subscription at a cost of £1,216.33 for the 2022/2023 financial year was renewed. Cllr Godwin SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/90/22 Council Accounts

The Clerk referred to a cheque that was approved but not posted to Caloo following the installation of the gym equipment. It was held back as there were some matters that needed to be rectified. Cllr Roberts informed Members that he had met with a Caloo representative on site and confirmed everything had been rectified to a satisfactory standard. Cllr Ward PROPOSED that the cheque should be sent but the Council should make a note not to use the firm again. Cllr Roberts SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Cllr Terry PROPOSED that the accounts for payment, totalling £29,587.30 should be approved. Cllr Ward SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/91/22 Priors Park Neighbourhood Project

Cllr Mackenzie reported on a meeting he had at the Priors Park Neighbourhood Project (PPNP) with three of the workers from there. He explained to Members where the pantry was, the set up of the room and how it worked. The people that used it were not necessarily people on benefits but people that were struggling, they would pay £3.50 and could choose 10 items of choice with that money. The food was donated by such shops as Morrisons and M&S. Cllr Mackenzie thought that the Co-op in Northway may support such an initiative in Northway.

Cllr Mackenzie felt that before considering this further the whole Council should have a meeting with Ruth, the Manager, Alex and Lucy who had said they would be happy to come along to a meeting. Members talked about possible locations and the need for volunteers. Cllr Ward suggested that if a meeting was held it may be better to do it outside of a regular council meeting as it may take too long. Cllr Mackenzie PROPOSED inviting them to a meeting. Cllr Beadle SECONDED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Cllr Ward pointed out that 'DAD' sometimes donated slightly damaged fridges etc to good causes.

C/92/22 Northway Community Hub and Parish Office

a. **Hiring Charges:**

- The Clerk reported that she had received a request for the hire of the Hub for a BINGO evening to raise funds for Ukraine. Cllr Beadle PROPOSED that there should be no charge for this hire. Cllr Ward SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

A new group had started up at the Hub being run by the Mythe Medical Practice to help with balance and strengthening. The Practice had been allowed use of the hall without charge for the month of April as the classes were being offered for free. In May there would be a charge for the classes, so Members considered whether to offer the Practice a beneficial rate as the sessions were being funded by a Charity.

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

C/92/22 Northway Community Hub and Parish Office (Continued)

Cllr Ward PROPOSED that the Mythe Medical Practise were charged a total of £15.00 (inc. VAT) for the whole session. Cllr Godwin SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- It had previously been agreed that Slimming World charges would be reviewed once a new, permanent leader was in place, this was now the case (FIN/45/21 refers). Cllr Roberts PROPOSED the charge was £12.00 + VAT, which was still a favourable rate.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/93/22 Armed Forces Covenant

Following agreement to sign the Covenant (Min Ref P/12/2 refers) Cllr Ward attended the virtual ceremony. He explained it had been a long meeting with over 60 people on screen or requiring to verbally offer support. Cllr Roberts thanked Cllr Ward for attending on behalf of the Council and PROPOSED ratification of signing of the Armed Forces Covenant.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/94/22 Crime & Disorder

It was noted that PCSO Simpson's update at the Parish Assembly in March had been very interesting, Cllr Ward added that Northway were lucky to have a PSCO as proactive as him and hoped that he did not leave the area too soon.

C/95/22 Youth Club / Youth Work

8.20 p.m. Cllr Godwin declared an interest and left the meeting.

- a) The Clerk reminded Members that an application had been submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for funding to assist with the boxing, but a response had not yet been received.
- b) It was noted that a meeting had been requested by the Youth Worker and although the Clerk had contacted her to ask for dates no further response had been received. It was agreed that the Clerk should not chase this further.
- c) The Clerk read out a couple of emails received from parents who were thrilled with the Boxing Club and the impact it was having on their children.
- d) Members considered whether it was time to have a further 'catch up' meeting with the Youth Club Trustees (this would be Cllrs Roberts, Ward, Mackenzie & Terry).

Cllr Roberts provided some 'background' for Cllr Beadle to give him an understanding of why the meetings were happening. Cllr Roberts PROPOSED a meeting was arranged.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

It was suggested that, as a Parish Council, Members should start looking at youth provision in a different way, although the boxing was doing well.

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

C/96/22 Correspondence for Action

- a) **National Association of Local Councils (NALC)** – The Civility and Respect Project was asking for videos to be submitted relating to the project's subject matter. It was AGREED not to submit a video.
- b) **Tewkesbury Borough Council** – An Invitation to the Annual Meeting and Mayor Making Ceremony had been received. This had already been passed on to the Chairman who would let the Clerk know if he was able to attend.
- c) **Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils (GAPTC)** – Call for Resolutions. Members had no matters they wished to raise.

C/97/22 Correspondence for Information

- a) **TBC Press Release** – 'TBC embraces environmental crime custodial sentence'.
- b) **GAPTC** – Newsletter 22nd February and 21st March 2022 (forwarded to Members by email).
- c) **National Association of Local Councils (NALC)**: Chief Executive's Bulletin 11/03/22, 18/03/22, 25/03/22 & 01/04/22.
- d) **Guideposts** – Details of opportunities in the Gloucestershire area.
- e) **Play Gloucestershire** – A farewell email from the founder and leader of Play Gloucestershire
- f) **Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)** – Accounts for Years 2020 and 2021.
- g) **Gloucestershire County Council (GCC)** – Details of the updated information relating to the Hub on www.yourcouncil.or.uk/Services/14001
- h) **Resident** – A request for donation from a 13-year-old toward the World Scout Jamboree in 2023. The Council was unable to donate to a private individual.

C/98/22 Correspondence Available in the Clerk's Office

- a) **Clerks & Councils Direct magazine** – March 2022 Issue 140.
- b) **Age UK** – Introduction to the new CEO of Age UK Gloucester, Mr Matt Fellows

C/99/22 Tewkesbury Garden Town & ABoR

- a) **Response to Resident's objections** – A response from the Garden Town Team to Hope, the young girl who was campaigning to protect the wildlife, was tabled for information.

Cllr Roberts reminded Members that this was the young girl that had been awarded the Special Recognition Certificate at the Parish Assembly. The certificate had not been signed so he had called at her home to sign it. He had thanked her for her support in raising awareness locally.

- b) **Parish Subgroup Meeting** – This meeting had not been quorate, but a brief update had been received.

Cllr Roberts PROPOSED that in view of the special/confidential nature of the business about to be transacted in receiving an update from Tewkesbury Garden Town, details of which were not yet in the public domain, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press were temporarily excluded and were instructed to withdraw.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

C/99/22 **Tewkesbury Garden Town & ABoR** (Continued)

Under confidential cover Members received a short report regarding land ownership and recent sales, as well as an update relating to the challenge in the High Court.

C/100/22 **Correspondence received after 7th April 2022**

- a) **Tewkesbury Borough Council (TBC)** – Details of the next Town and Parish Seminar on the 15th June 2022, the main topic of which would be the various aspects of planning relation to town and parish council. Two people could attend from each parish. Cllr Roberts expressed an interest in attending if available and it was agreed to ask Members not present whether they would be interested.
- b) **Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils (GAPTC)** – Newsletter (forwarded to Members by email).
- c) **National Association of Local Councils (NALC)** – Newsletter ‘Fighting Climate Change’ and a Chief Executive’s bulletin.

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