

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
at Northway Community Hub, Northway, commencing at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Cllr S Ward (Vice Chairman) Cllr M Barnes  
Cllr J Beadle Cllr C Blackmore  
Cllr P Godwin (from: C/140/22, until: ) Cllr P Mackenzie until C/146/22 from C/147/22  
Cllr E MacTiernan (from: C/140/22 until: C/146/22) Cllr E Phennah (from/until C/146/22)  
C/146/22 and from: C/147/22 until: C/149/22) Cllr G Shelton

In Attendance: County Cllr Smith, Gloucestershire County Councillor (from Min Ref: C/140/22 until C/141/22)  
Mrs C Woodward, Clerk of the Council  
Mrs L Stewart, Clerk's Assistant

C/134/22 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Roberts and Terry. Cllrs MacTiernan and Godwin had advised that they would be late. No further apologies for absence were received.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

One minute of silence was held in honour of Mrs Bailey, an ex-councillor who had passed away.

The Clerk read an email from a local resident who wanted the Council to put in place a lasting tribute to Mrs Bailey. Cllr Blackmore suggested one of the trees due to be planted on Platinum. It was AGREED this should be put on a future agenda.

C/135/22 **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

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

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/136/22 **Declarations of Interest**

The Clerk reminded Members to request a new form if any of their interests required updating.

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

C/137/22 **Councillors**

- a. **Co-Option** – Members received an application for co-option onto the Council from Ms Tara Fowler. Cllr Shelton PROPOSED acceptance. Cllr Mackenzie SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- b. **Resignation** – Members received Cllr Treacy's resignation from the Council.

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

### C/138/22 Minutes of Previous Council Meeting

Cllr Shelton PROPOSED that the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 should be approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr Barnes SECONDED

FOR:                      Cllr Shelton                      Cllr Barnes  
                                 Cllr Beadle                      Cllr Blackmore  
                                 Cllr Ward

ABSTENTIONS:      Cllr Mackenzie                      Cllr Phennah

Cllr Shelton PROPOSED that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 should be approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr Barnes SECONDED

FOR:                      Cllr Shelton                      Cllr Barnes  
                                 Cllr Beadle                      Cllr Blackmore  
                                 Cllr Ward

ABSTENTIONS:      Cllr Mackenzie                      Cllr Phennah

### C/139/22 Matters Arising from Council Minutes/Clerks Report

**C/91/22 Priors Park Neighbourhood Project** – A meeting had been arranged with members of the Priors Park Neighbourhood Project; this would take place on 13<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm

**C/124/22 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22 (AGAR)** – This had been submitted to the External Auditors with the Public Rights Notice advertising the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 until 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022.

**C/130/22 Brownie Garden** – The Brownies had been told they could use some of the garden in the Community Hub grounds.

**C/131/22 Correspondence for Action – Atkins Global M5 Junction 9 and A46 (Ashchurch) Transport Scheme** – A response to this assessment was forwarded.

### C/140/22 Roads & Road Safety

- a. **Issues of Concern** – It was noted that complaints had been received about the overgrown hedges on the M5 motorway bridge on Northway Lane.
- b. **Resurfacing Northway Lane** – County Cllr Smith had informed the Clerk that resurfacing of the Northway Lane motorway bridge would likely take place in September, however the Local Highways Manager had said that there was no date in the pipeline. It was AGREED that this should be chased again due to the amount of potholes on the bridge.

Cllr Ward PROPOSED that the Local Highways Manager should be reminded of the road safety improvements that he and the Parish Council had discussed in 2021 (Min Ref: C/84/21 refers) and ask for an update.

- c. **Speedwatch** – Cllrs Mackenzie and Barnes gave an update following attendance at a recent presentation on Community Speedwatch. A £600,000 'Community Speedwatch Safety Fund' had been made available towards a range of traffic calming measures, including wheelie bin stickers, vehicle activated signs (VAS) and community speedwatch cameras. Bids needed to be supported by a local County Councillor and the deadline was 31 August 2022.

7.15pm – Cllr MacTiernan joined the meeting.

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

### C/140/22 Roads & Road Safety (continued)

Cllr Barnes had looked at some vehicle recognition cameras which could be purchased for approx. £500, this would give an indication of speeding and then Gloucestershire Constabulary would send out letters at a cost of 50p each.

7.17pm – Cllr Godwin and County Cllr Smith joined the meeting.

County Cllr Smith confirmed that he would be happy to support the Parish Council should it decide to submit a bid for funding from the Community Speedwatch fund and due to a change in policy Northway would be allowed a VAS if it still wanted one. He encouraged the Council to act fast as the fund was being made available on a 'first come, first served' basis.

It was AGREED that a Road Safety Meeting should be scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

d. **Community Speedwatch Fund** – This had already been addressed under the previous heading.

### C/141/22 County Councillor Report

County Councillor Smith reported that he was happy to support the Parish Council in matched funding towards weedkilling for the current year (Min Ref: GP/74/22 refers).

Cllr Ward asked about resurfacing of the Northway Lane motorway bridge. County Cllr Smith said this was programmed for either August or September with notices being sent out in July. Cllr MacTiernan pointed out that, if there would be a long wait, the potholes needed to be addressed sooner as there was a safety issue. County Cllr Smith said that he would take a look.

County Cllr Smith said that a new Local Highways Manager was being appointed and would be calling at the Office to meet the Clerk.

Cllr Ward thanked County Cllr Smith for supporting the Parish Council's grant towards the Jubilee event.

7.30pm – County Cllr Smith left the meeting.

### C/142/22 Planning Committee

Members received the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting that took place on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

### C/143/22 General Purposes Committee

a. **Previous Minutes** – Members received the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

b. **Skate Park** – Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED approval of the General Purposes Committee's recommendation to set aside £50,000 from rolling capital funds towards the new Skatepark. Cllr Godwin SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

### C/144/22 Borough Councillor Report

Cllr Godwin reported that Councillor Murphy had been invested as mayor of Tewkesbury Borough, his chaplain was Canon Reverent Paul Williams of Tewkesbury Abbey. Also, Tewkesbury Borough Council had started issuing energy rebates, residents who had not received theirs would get a letter explaining what they needed to do.

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

### C/144/22 Borough Councillor Report (continued)

Cllr MacTiernan added a few items to the report, mentioning that Tewkesbury Borough Council's Borough Plan had been approved and so there would be a six-week public consultation. County Cllr Smith had stepped down as Cabinet Member for Highways. Also, the MOD had decided to expand its site at Ashchurch (rather than build a completely new site) for storage of vehicles, which may or may not have an effect on the Garden Town.

### C/145/22 Council Accounts

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that the accounts for payment, now totalling £31,634.40, should be approved. Cllr Barnes SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

### C/146/22 Queen's Platinum Jubilee

- a. **De-Brief** – Cllr Terry had been unable to attend this meeting but had forwarded a list of comments relating to the Picnic in the Park Jubilee Celebration event which had taken place at Northway Playing Field on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022, these were read to Members. Cllr Blackmore suggested that the Jubilee Working Party held a meeting to go through these comments more fully and discuss 'lessons learnt' and things that could be improved upon next time a community event was organised.

Special thanks was expressed towards Cllr Shelton who oversaw the parking, Cllr Blackmore who helped with donkey rides, Cllr MacTiernan who took on the MC role as well as Tara and the rest of the Working Party.

Members noted comments that had been received as to whether there would still be a summer fete and it was felt that, although not this year, this might be something the Council should consider taking on in the future.

The Clerk mentioned that she had received a query which would need to be considered under confidential cover.

Cllr Ward PROPOSED that, in view of the special/confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press were temporarily excluded, and they were instructed to withdraw.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Under exclusion a question had been raised about the possibility of reimbursing a Councillor for financial loss as a result of assisting with the Jubilee. It was noted that the Council did not have the legal power to do this so were unable to assist.

Cllr Blackmore asked that a letter of thanks was sent to the 'Booze Box' who allowed use of their generator, they had been told the Council would reimburse them for the cost of fuel.

8.00pm – Cllr Phennah left the meeting.

- b. **Platinum Park Event** – Members considered the details of this event, due to take place on 24<sup>th</sup> June, and it was agreed that, if available, the Chairman should give a short address/welcome to the schools.

Members considered where the time capsules should be buried, it was AGREED that this should be just in front of the trees, outside the tree guards and the engraved stones placed on top.

8.05pm – Cllr Phennah rejoined the meeting

Cllr Godwin confirmed that the stone masons would bring the engraved stones to site and cement them in place.

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

### C/146/22 Queen's Platinum Jubilee (continued)

It was hoped that a contractor would be able to dig the holes on the morning of 24<sup>th</sup> June before the schools arrived so that the children could drop the capsules straight in.

8.10pm – Cllrs MacTiernan and Mackenzie left the meeting.

### C/147/22 Covid-19

Members considered whether council meetings should be moved back into the Ray Shill Room which would free up the Main Hall for hirings. It was also noted that Mythe Medical Practise had made enquiries as to availability of the Hall on Wednesday evenings.

8.15pm – Cllrs MacTiernan and Mackenzie rejoined the meeting.

Cllr Beadle PROPOSED that council meetings should be moved back into the Ray Shill Room subject to covid-19 levels remaining low. If there were any changes and 2m distancing was again required, meetings should be moved back to the Main Hall again. Cllr MacTiernan SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

### C/148/22 Crime & Disorder

Cllr Mackenzie mentioned that he had emailed the police following an incident in which he had been threatened by local youths on Platinum Park (previously named The Park).

Cllr Blackmore said that she had heard that the local youth worker had witnessed youths drinking and taking drugs on Northway Playing Field. The Clerk had advised the youth worker to report this at the time.

Cllr Ward explained that the easiest way to report issues was by emailing the 101 email.

### C/149/22 Youth Club / Youth Work

- a. Members received the draft notes of the meeting that took place on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022.
- b. The Clerk confirmed that she had requested information on boxing club attendees following the last Full Council Meeting (Min Ref: C/129/22 refers). This showed that the vast majority of youths attending the sessions were from Northway with only approximately 2-3 non-Northway youths attending (out of approximately 45 youths) each week.

Cllr Blackmore said that on Facebook it explained that priority would be given to Northway residents, if there were spaces after this, then it would be extended further afield. The issue she had was that there did not seem to be a reduction in crime, she also questioned the Parish Council's responsibility to fund youth provision of any kind. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council does have a power to providing funding for youth work.

Cllr Ward explained that the boxing sessions were not only started to reduce antisocial behaviour but to provide some sort of provision for older children in Northway.

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that, in view of the special/confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press were temporarily excluded, and they were instructed to withdraw. Cllr Mackenzie SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

8.23pm – Cllr Godwin left the meeting.

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### C/149/22 Youth Club / Youth Work (continued)

Under confidential cover, Cllr Shelton PROPOSED that the Council match funded, with the Youth Club, a further six months of boxing (amounting to £1,170). Cllr Barnes SECONDED.

FOR:                    Cllr Shelton                    Cllr Barnes  
                             Cllr Beadle                    Cllr Blackmore  
                             Cllr Mackenzie                Cllr Phennah  
                             Cllr Ward

AGAINST:            Cllr MacTiernan

It was also AGREED that the Council should offer to advertise for members of a Youth Club Management Committee in the next newsletter and on the Parish Council's social media, as the Trustees had mentioned in one of their meetings with the Council that they would like a Management Committee but no-one came forward.

It was further AGREED that matters should be reviewed before the end of six months, when the matched funding was due to end and another meeting with the Youth Club Trustees should be arranged for August.

- c. **Young Gloucestershire** – Members were reminded that Young Gloucestershire had been in touch about holding summer youth sessions throughout August at Northway Playing Field and, ideally, they would also like access to an indoor space (Min Ref: GP/75/22 refers). The Youth Club Trustees had agreed to allow use of the Village Hall at a cost of £10 per day. Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that the Parish Council should cover the cost of this. Cllr Blackmore SECONDED.

FOR:                    UNANIMOUS

8.45pm – Cllr MacTiernan left the meeting.

### C/150/22 Ashchurch Bridge Over Rail (ABoR)

**Exclusion Items** – Cllr Ward PROPOSED that, in view of the special/confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, i.e. determining/approving actions relating to possible legal procedures and expenditure, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press were temporarily excluded, and they were instructed to withdraw.

FOR:                    UNANIMOUS

Under exclusion, an update was provided on proposed legal action relating to the Judicial Review / ABoR and approval was given to make a further financial contribution towards legal action.

### C/151/22 Correspondence for Action

- a. **Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils (GAPTC)** – The Clerk listed details of upcoming courses.

### C/152/22 Correspondence for Information

- a. **National Association of Local Councils (NALC)** – Chief Executive's Bulletin 13<sup>th</sup> May, 20<sup>th</sup> May and 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022.
- b. **The Clerk Magazine** – Vol. 53, May 2022.

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### C/152/22 Correspondence for Information (continued)

- c. **Worcestershire County Council (WCC)** – Worcestershire Local Minerals Plan: Receipt of Inspector's Report.
- d. **Tewkesbury Town Council** – Details of new Town and Deputy Mayor.
- e. **Gloucestershire County Council (GCC)** – 'Public show their support for proposed M5 Junction 10 Improvements Scheme'.

### C/153/22 Correspondence received after 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022

- a. **Tewkesbury Borough Council** – Details of Town and Parish Council Seminar on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022.
- b. **Tewkesbury Town Council** – Invitation to Twelfth Night performance on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022.
- c. **Great Western Railway** – Details of Community Fund (forwarded by Tewkesbury Borough Council).
- d. **GoVolunteerGlos** – Poster for new volunteering platform.
- e. **National Association of Local Councils (NALC)** – Chief Executive's Bulletin 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022.
- f. **Worcestershire County Council (WCC)** – Authority Monitoring Report 2018-20.
- g. **GRCC** – CARS Toolkit: Community approaches to road safety.
- h. **Sycamore Chapel** – Details of Community Scarecrow Competition. It was AGREED that the Councils involvement in this should be put on the General Purposes Committee agenda for consideration.
- i. **InfoBuzz** – Details of nail art course to be held at Northway Community Hub starting 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022.

As there was no further business the meeting concluded at 9.25 p.m.