

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019**  
**in the Ray Shill Room, Northway Community Hub, Northway, commencing at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Cllr S Ward (Chairman) Cllr J Roberts (Vice-Chairman)  
Cllr Mrs D Bailey Cllr M Barnes  
Cllr Mrs P Godwin Cllr P Mackenzie  
Cllr Mrs E MacTiernan Cllr E Phennah  
Cllr C Porter Cllr G Shelton  
Cllr K Sollis Cllr Mrs S Terry

In Attendance: Mr R Dunn (Local Resident) (Until Min Ref:  
County Councillor V Smith (Gloucestershire CC) (until Min Ref: C/138/19 refers)  
Mrs C Woodward, Clerk of the Council  
Mrs L Stewart, Clerk's Assistant

C/131/19 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Woodward.

C/132/19 **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 Roberts mentioned that he was growing increasingly concerned about pot holes in the road outside Davey Walk. The Clerk confirmed that she had reported these to Gloucestershire County Council on 22 May 2019.

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

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/133/19 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs Godwin and Bailey declared an interest in any items relating to youth provision.

No further 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/134/19 **Previous Minutes**

- i. **Annual Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019** – Cllr Terry PROPOSED that the Minutes of the Annual Meeting that took place on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019 should be approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr MacTiernan SECONDED.

FOR: Cllr Terry Cllr MacTiernan  
Cllr Barnes Cllr Godwin  
Cllr Shelton Cllr Roberts  
Cllr Ward

ABSTENTIONS: Cllr Bailey Cllr Mackenzie

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C/134/19 **Previous Minutes** (continued)

Cllr Phennah  
Cllr Sollis

Cllr Porter

- ii. **Full Council Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019** – Cllr Terry PROPOSED that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting that took place on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019 should be approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr Godwin SECONDED.

Cllr Terry  
Cllr Barnes  
Cllr Shelton  
Cllr Ward

Cllr Godwin  
Cllr MacTiernan  
Cllr Roberts

ABSTENTIONS:

Cllr Bailey  
Cllr Phennah  
Cllr Sollis

Cllr Mackenzie  
Cllr Porter

C/135/19 **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes/Clerks Report**

**C/107/19 Public Participation** – Tewkesbury Borough Council had been informed of grass cutting complaints.

**C/93/19 & C/117/19 Traveller Encampment at Northway Playing Field** – It was noted that Stronghold Security planned to install the combination gate at Northway Playing Field entrance during the week of 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

**C/111/19 Roads and Road Safety** – A new Community Hub sign had been ordered for the junction of Northway Lane with Steward Road. Gloucestershire County Council were supplying this free of charge.

**C/111/19 Roads and Road Safety** – The Clerk confirmed that Gloucestershire County Council would be loaning the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) to the Parish Council from 1<sup>st</sup> July until 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019, councillors wanting to volunteer to use the VAS would need to contact her closer to then to arrange dates and times.

**C/126/19 Youth Provision in Northway** – The Clerk confirmed that Play Rangers would be able to provide five full days of play with food during the summer holidays, October half term and February half term. World Jungle had confirmed that they could hold sessions from 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> August with a longer final session on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2019. A poster advertising the sessions had been provided and this was shown to Members.

The Clerk mentioned that she had written to Northway Youth Club Trustees twice to enquire about availability of the Village Hall during these dates, but no response had been received.

Members did raise concerns that the World Jungle sessions only lasted two hours (three on the final day) and the poster mentioned that small charge might apply. Also, the poster made it sound like the activities were aimed more at younger children.

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that the Clerk should ask World Jungle to clarify what age group was being targeted and the small charges that might apply. Cllr Porter SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Cllr Ward PROPOSED that this item should be put to the General Purposes Committee due to limited time.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

**C/126/19 Youth Provision in Northway** – Ashchurch Guides and Mencap had been informed of the terms in which they could use the facilities at Northway Community Hub.

**C/136/19 Roads & Road Safety**

Cllr Roberts mentioned the pot holes in Saxon Park again.

Cllr Mackenzie said that he had reported speeding incidents to 101 (Gloucestershire Police) and as a result PCSO Simpson had spoken to drivers.

Cllr MacTiernan reported pot holes in the road over the Northway Lane bridge.

County Cllr Smith asked the Council to forward a list of all these issues to Craig Freeman, Local Highways Manager (copying in himself).

Cllr Ward asked whether there was any update on resurfacing/repair of footpaths following a meeting that had taken place with Craig Freeman (Min Ref: C/55/19 refers). County Cllr Smith recalled that the footpath sections Members had highlighted covered quite a big area and suggested that the Clerk emailed Craig himself for an update. The Clerk reminded Members which footpaths had been prioritised.

Mr Dunn was given permission to address the Council, he reported that the length of grass along Hardwick Bank Road on the approach to the motorway bridge was extremely long and restricting a view of the road when coming from Northway Mill. County Cllr Smith asked that the Clerk included this in her email to himself and Craig Freeman.

Cllr Ward mentioned that speed analysis highlighted Hardwick Bank Road to be a problem with vehicles coming into Northway very fast, he asked County Cllr Smith whether rumble strips might be a possibility. County Cllr Smith asked the Clerk to include this suggestion in her email to him and Craig Freeman, they would then look into whether it might be feasible.

**C/137/19 Borough Councillors' Report**

Cllr MacTiernan announced that she had attended an Executive Committee Meeting at Tewkesbury Borough Council earlier that afternoon at which a briefing was held regarding proposals for the bridge in Northway. Homes England had agreed to give £8.2million towards this bridge for the purpose of unlocking housing sites.

Cllr MacTiernan read a section of a report from Homes England which stated that the 826 units (houses) mentioned in the pre-briefing had grown to 1,100.

In addition, the Borough Council had to enter into a formal agreement with Homes England in acceptance of the funds, this agreement stipulated lots of conditions including agreeing to have the proposed bridge completed by 2022. Homes England also wanted an agreement between the Borough Council, County Council and Highways England before proceeding as well as an initial letter of support from Network Rail and a detailed plan of infrastructure works.

Proposals for Aston Fields land were for it to be straightened further North, this would then enter into the Parish just North of Sinderberry Drive, over the railway bridge, and then drop into Hardwick Bank Road allowing vehicles to go either over the motorway or down The Park to Northway Lane then Shannon Way and onto the A46.

In accepting Homes England's conditions Tewkesbury Borough Council would need to enter into the appropriate agreements.

Cllr MacTiernan said that she had tried to highlight the fact that the level crossing currently stopped a lot of people using Aston Fields Lane, the new road would create a rat run from Aston Cross into Northway to avoid backups on the A46. Only she and one other councillor (M. Sztymiak) voted against these proposals, there was one abstention and all the rest of the Committee were in favour. She felt sad that, in the debates, even some of the long term councillors did not seem to grasp what was being put forward.

In addition, there was still no information to hand following responses to the Ashchurch Masterplan consultation.

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### **C/137/19 Borough Councillors' Report (continued)**

Regarding a timeframe, the Borough Council needed to get back to Homes England by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019, the start date for the project needed to be 2020 with completion by 2030 although, as mentioned above, the bridge (for which planning permission would also need to be granted) would need to be built by 2022 otherwise Highways England could get the money back.

Cllr MacTiernan said that Borough Council Officers had said that they had been having various meetings behind the scenes (with Gloucestershire County Council, etc.). County Cllr Smith denied that the County Council had had any involvement with the Borough Council regarding these proposals yet. Cllr MacTiernan said that the Borough Council had referred to conversations with Colin Chick (Strategic Advisor for Communities and Infrastructure, GCC) who had said he would be thrilled to do this work and provide detailed drawings. County Cllr Smith disputed this and said that no one at the County Council had been approached by the Borough.

Cllr MacTiernan explained that the reason the Borough Council were pushing to progress this plan was because it felt it allowed more control of what went in the area as opposed to developers coming and doing things piece meal. However, she felt that it actually encouraged developers to come in and do things piece meal.

Cllr MacTiernan mentioned that the Fiddington enquiry had finished and it looked highly likely that they would be getting 850 houses built there.

Regarding the road and bridge being proposed for Northway, she said she was being told it would not have any unacceptable impact on traffic movement, however, she would continue to fight the proposals.

Cllr MacTiernan added that the Borough Council had assured that there would be many consultations with parishes over the months.

### **C/138/19 County Councillor Report**

County Cllr Smith reiterated that Tewkesbury Borough had made no approach to the County Council, likewise, Worcestershire County Council had concerns over lack of engagement from the Borough and, as a result, had arranged a meeting with Gloucestershire County Council on 16<sup>th</sup> July (it was highlighted that one parapet of the proposed bridge was shown to be in Worcestershire County Council on one of the Borough's drawings). He added that he would endeavour to arrange for a Parish Councillor to be permitted to sit in the meeting.

At a briefing the previous Monday, County Cllr Smith said he had met with Colin Chick and Senior Officers all of whom had said they were tired of telling Tewkesbury Borough Council that it needed a contract and it was impossible to have the drawings and plans put together in less than two years. In a previous case, it took two years just to negotiate with Network Rail over moving a bridge with the cost to Network Rail alone an estimated £4-5million (as it needed to pay for every train that would be unable to run whilst work was being undertaken). However, the County Council had made it clear to Tewkesbury Borough Council that it would be happy to take on drawing of the plans if the Borough was willing to sign an agreement.

County Cllr Smith said that he had attended the Fiddington enquiry alongside Ashchurch Parish councillors and he gave a report on what had taken place and how the the Borough Council had not followed rules and regulations relating to the five-year housing supply. He also pointed out that no Borough Council Officers had been present at the enquiry whilst he had been there which he felt was awful. The Enquiry which was supposed to last 6 days was finished in one. The Inspector had also expressed that the Borough had been unprepared, personally Cllr Smith felt that the Borough Council was being amateurish with how it was dealing with planning matters.

At the County Council, Cllr Smith mentioned that he had provided the Clerk with a copy of a report that had been voted through and she was welcome to forward this to Members if they were interested. It was noted that the County would now only cut grass when there was a safety issue.

C/138/19 **County Councillor Report** (continued)

County Cllr Smith mentioned that there would be a lot of disruption during the week of 17<sup>th</sup> June whilst works were taking place between Bishops Cleeve and Treddington. Also, from 18<sup>th</sup> June patching works would be taking place along Ashchurch Road whilst the road was being prepared for surface dressing.

Cllr Terry asked when Ash Road would be resurfaced (as this had been pending for a while). County Cllr Smith thought this would be around July time.

Cllr Godwin enquired as to what markings along Kingston Road were in relation to. County Cllr Smith wondered if it was done by a utility company marking out a cable or duct.

8.00pm – County Cllr Smith left the meeting.

C/139/19 **Planning Committee**

Members received the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting that took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019.

C/140/19 **General Purposes Committee**

Members received the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019.

C/141/19 **Community Event Working Party**

- i. **Previous Meetings** - Members received the notes of the Community Event Working Party Meeting that took place on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019.
- ii. **Update** – Cllr Ward reported that the Community Event had gone well and everyone he had spoken to had enjoyed themselves. He announced that the Council had raised £142 from BBQ sales, £112.50 from tea/coffee and cake sales and about £15 from balloon sales. In addition to this, £48 raised by K2 Toggs had been donated to the Council.

Cllr Terry expressed disappointment that not many people had attended. She also pointed out that thanks needed to be expressed to Cllr Roberts' cousin for his donation of the cakes and bread rolls. Cllr Ward mentioned that the left over cakes had been donated to the Northway Pub for its upcoming fundraising event.

Cllr MacTiernan added that the atmosphere in the morning during the litter pick had been really positive and all of the volunteers had been a pleasure to deal with.

It was noted that the Aston Project had also brought two young volunteers.

Cllr Ward said that he had spoken to some other councillors and it was generally felt that it was not viable to have a Community Event the following year, it might be more successful if done once in a while but not annually.

C/142/19 **Emergency Plan Working Party**

- i. **Handouts** – The Clerk had circulated copies of the handouts and PowerPoint presentation that GRCC had used at the Desktop Emergency Plan event.
- ii. **Previous Meetings** – Members received the notes of the Emergency Planning Working Party Meeting that took place on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

C/143/19 **Youth Club Trustees/Council Informal Meeting**

- i. **Previous Meetings** – Notes from the informal meeting that took place on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were unavailable.
- ii. **Update** – It was noted that, as a result of the informal meeting that took place on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019, the Council had put the following questions to the Youth Club Trustees:

1. Would the Youth Club Trustees be happy to consider the proposal of CMAS, as follows:

*“That Northway Parish Council set up a Youth Steering Group, in partnership with the Northway Youth Club Committee. The purpose of that committee would be to commission youth work in the local area, using funds from all/some of the below:*

*The Youth Club Committee/Trustees  
The Parish Council  
The District Council  
Neighbouring parishes and towns  
Grant funding received*

*The rationale for this is that, in the world of shrinking budgets, working together would sustain and enlarge youth work, which Northway is incredibly popular and in demand. I would suggest that both partners put one or two people on that committee that met once a year to commission youth work and maybe twice a year to review. It would give more ‘bang for buck’ for all parties and would enable a more joined up approach. Most parish councils contribute to youth work in Tewkesbury Borough and this would enable Northway Parish Council to be in the same boat but sharing the cost\*.”*

\*NB although the Parish Council does not contribute money to Northway Youth Club specifically, it does fund other means of youth work in Northway including Play Rangers and, more recently, World Jungle. In the past it has also funded various workshops aimed at the youth.

Northway Youth Club Trustees had responded that they felt unable to accept the proposals suggested by CMAS as they felt it would be unworkable. They went on to say:

*“We accept we have investment funds but these carry certain criteria which we as trustees cannot break. Due to careful management we do not ask the Parish Council for substantial funds to run the Youth Club but it would be beneficial if the Council could set aside an amount per annum for the youth. If the trustees feel the need a friends of Northway Youth Club will be set up with a view to exploring funding.”*

2. Would the Youth Club Trustees be happy to match fund, with the Parish Council, a survey to be distributed to every home in Northway regarding youth provision up to a maximum cost of £150?

Northway Youth Club Trustees had responded:

*“We feel there is no need for a survey as it’s all been done before and it would not tell us anything that we don’t already know.”*

3. Would the Youth Club be happy to work together i.e. a steering group/management committee to be formed, as suggested?

Northway Youth Club Trustees had responded to this as below:

*“See reply at no. 1”*

Due to the responses received, Cllr MacTiernan suggested that it was not possible for the Council to

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C/143/19 **Youth Club Trustees/Council Informal Meeting** (Continued)

take things any further. Cllr Ward PROPOSED.

FOR:	Cllr Ward	Cllr Barnes
	Cllr Mackenzie	Cllr MacTiernan
	Cllr Phennah	Cllr Porter
	Cllr Roberts	Cllr Shelton
	Cllr Sollis	Cllr Terry

ABSTENTIONS:	Cllr Bailey	Cllr Godwin
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C/144/19 **Council Accounts**

Members received the schedule of bills paid and cheques for payment totalling £12,557.95.

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that the accounts for payment be approved. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/145/19 **Antisocial Behaviour in Northway**

The Clerk confirmed that she had reported an incident of antisocial behaviour to the Police and also had access to video surveillance of someone (who had been identified as a Tewkesbury School student) throwing something at a house in Sycamore Road.

It was also reported that another spate of graffiti (with the familiar 'Budz' tag) had appeared around Northway. This had also been reported to the Police. Cllr Ward pointed out that he, along with GAB Waste, had removed a lot of the first round of graffiti but, with more appearing, he wondered whether it might be worth the Council putting a policy in place so that action could be taken to remove graffiti as soon as it was spotted, otherwise it would get out of control and cost the Council more money.

Cllr MacTiernan referred to the bus shelter on The Park and how there was graffiti on every wall as well as the ceiling. She felt that if the Council paid to remove this graffiti youths would just come back and vandalise it again. She did not feel that it was a good use of residents' council tax money to remove the graffiti, instead she believed the Council should leave it so that residents could see the damage that Northway youths were doing.

The Clerk mentioned that she had approached a company to provide a price for graffiti removal which could be considered by the Council once received.

Cllr Roberts PROPOSED that the Council should await costings. Cllr MacTiernan SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Cllr MacTiernan suggested that, once costs had been received, the Council should ask residents via the newsletter whether this was how they wanted their money spent.

The Clerk asked Members to send details of all the bins, shelters, etc. that they knew had been graffitied so that an accurate quotation could be obtained.

C/146/19 **Charity Events 15<sup>th</sup> June and 6<sup>th</sup> July**

The Clerk tabled risk assessments relating to upcoming community events being held at Northway Playing Field by Tewkesbury Town Football Club.

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### C/147/19 Section 106

Members considered improvements that could be made to the sports facilities at Northway Playing Field and funded by Section 106 money. The following suggestions were made:

Seating/picnic benches  
Outdoor gym equipment  
Improvements to gravel area outside the Changing Room Facility  
Replacement shower heads and valves for the Changing Room Facility

Improvements to the Skate Park were also suggested but it was believed that the funds needed to be used towards things that were football-related.

### C/148/19 Annual Governance Return and Accounts for the Financial Year 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

- i. **Annual Governance Statement** – Members received a recommendation from the Finance Committee (Min Ref: FIN/44/19 refers) that the responses were accurate and should be approved by Full Council. Members went through the list and Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED approval. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- ii. **Accounting Statements** – Members received a recommendation from the Finance Committee (Min Ref: FIN/46/19 refers) that the Accounting Statements were accurate and should be approved by Full Council. After reviewing Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED approval. Cllr Shelton SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- iii. **Accounts for the Year ended 31 March 2019** – Members received a recommendation from the Finance Committee (Min Ref: FIN/45/19 refers) that the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019 should be approved by Full Council. The Clerk confirmed that the Gould Playing Field heading was going to be renamed Northway Playing Field. Cllr Phennah PROPOSED approval. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR UNANIMOUS

- iv. **Public Rights Notice** – This notice was tabled and the Clerk confirmed that this would be displayed on-line and in the notice boards.

- v. **Internal Auditor's Report** – Members received the report of the Independent Internal Auditor, including bank reconciliation. Cllr Ward PROPOSED acceptance of this.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- vi. **Further Items** – There were no further items for consideration.

### C/149/19 Defibrillator

- i. **Response from Northway Community Volunteers (NCV)** – The Clerk confirmed that she had informed NCV of the Council's decision not to accept offer their offer of a defibrillator due to the additional administration work that would be involved (Min Ref: C/124/19 refers). Following on from this, Mr Beadle, NCV Chairman, had stated that the offer would be withdrawn.

- ii. **Update** – Since the previous Full Council Meeting, Cllr Sollis had confirmed that he would be willing to take on responsibility for doing checks of a defibrillator if one was installed at the Northway Centre. As Mr Dunn had passed this information on to NCV, they reinstated their original offer that they would be willing to donate the defibrillator if the Council would agree to take on ownership and responsibility.



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### C/149/19 **Defibrillator** (Continued)

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that the Council should accept NCV's offer to donate a defibrillator and thank Cllr Sollis for agreeing to inspect this regularly, once installed. Cllr Ward SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

### C/150/19 **Voluntary Work in the Parish**

Mention was made of all the residents who had volunteered their time to litter pick around Northway as part of the Community Event/Litter Pick on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

Cllr Roberts reported that Great Western Railway had installed flower box(es) at Ashchurch Station.

### C/151/19 **Groundworkers Meetings**

Cllr Terry gave a report following her attendance at the latest Groundworkers meeting. In relation to the Community Hub she mentioned that she was investigating the possibility of having the NHS hold a 'Big health check day' there and also Greensquare courses, including cooking classes.

Cllr Terry also mentioned that she hoped to visit PPNP (Priors Park Neighbourhood Project) to talk to them about how they managed to obtain their funding.

### C/152/19 **Correspondence for Action**

- i. **Joint Core Strategy** – BDP Report following event that took place in November 2018.
- ii. **Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Council (GAPTC)** – The Clerk listed upcoming GAPTC courses. It was noted that they were all in the Highnam area. The Clerk offered to enquire about the possibility of having a 'Being a Better Councillor' course held at the Community Hub so Members could attend as well as any other local councillors.

### C/153/19 **Correspondence for Information**

- i. **Worcestershire County Council** – Minerals Local Plan.
- ii. **National Association of Local Councils (NALC)** – Chief Executive's Bulletin.
- iii. **Tewkesbury Borough Council** – Press Release – A new council for Tewkesbury Borough.
- iv. **Information Commissioners Office** – Paying the Data Protection – An Update.
- v. **Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC)** – Details of a grant available for Village Hall improvements.

### C/154/19 **Correspondence Available in the Clerk's Office**

- i. **Community Alerts** – Details of the Big Lunch 2019.
- ii. **Community Alerts** – Details of Fake talktalk emails.

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

### C/155/19 Correspondence received after 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019

- i. **Gloucestershire County Council** – Details of proposal to purchase a new vehicle to deliver books to people unable to visit the library (due to existing mobile library being off the road).
- ii. **Gloucestershire Charter** – Minutes from last meeting and agenda for 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019 meeting.

As there wa`s no other business the meeting concluded at 8:52 p.m.