

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 27th February 2019 at Northway Community Hub, Lee Walk, Northway, commencing at 7:07 p.m.

Present: Cllr S Ward (Committee Chairman) Cllr Mrs P Godwin (Committee Vice Chairman)
Cllr P Cox Cllr Mrs E MacTiernan
Cllr E Phennah (from: GP/19/19) Cllr C Porter
Cllr J Roberts Cllr Mrs S Terry

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

GP/15/19 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Bailey and Cllr Phennah had advised that he would be arriving late.

GP/16/19 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 (Min Ref C/159/12), including paragraph 12(2), were made.

GP/17/19 Previous Minutes

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 16th January 2019 should be approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: Cllr MacTiernan Cllr Terry
 Cllr Godwin Cllr Porter
 Cllr Roberts Cllr Ward

ABSTENTIONS: Cllr Cox

GP/18/19 Matters Arising From the Previous Minutes

GP/09/19 The Park – A response was sent to resident that requested fencing and lighting to be installed on The Park.

GP/153/18 Emergency Plan/Winter Plan – Grit spreaders had been delivered to Northway Community Hub.

C/45/19 Emergency Plan – Confirmation had been received from GRCC that the date of Monday 3rd June 2019 was acceptable for holding a desktop exercise of the Emergency Plan. It was AGREED that a meeting of the Emergency Plan Working Party should be scheduled for 3rd April 2019.

GP/10/19 Parish Maintenance Contract – Tewkesbury Borough Council had installed a sign along Northway Lane asking people not to park on the pavement. Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that the Parish Council should request more of these signs be put up in hot spot areas – specifically in Lee Road. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

GP/18/19 **Matters Arising From the Previous Minutes**

GP/06/19 The Park – PCSO Simpson had been informed that signs of drug use had been found on The Park.

GP/19/19 **Dog Fouling**

- i. **Signs** – The Clerk’s Assistant confirmed that she had spoken to Mr Buchanan (Environmental Health Manager at TBC) who explained that they were trying to raise awareness about the new Order and the fact that it was now an offence for dog walkers to fail (if/when asked) to produce a means of picking up after their pet.

Gordon confirmed that he had signs on order as well as stickers and some printed dog bags - he hoped to bring these to the General Purposes Meeting on 20th March 2019 and also provide an update for Members.

- ii. **Bins** – The Clerk’s Assistant updated Members following correspondence between herself and Julie Davies at Tewkesbury Borough Council in relation to the requests for installation of a dog bin in Sinderberry Drive (Min Ref: GP/111/18 and GP/05/19 refer). Ms Davies had asked the Parish Council to put up a laminate sign encouraging residents to use the nearby bins to dispose of their dog waste bags. In the meantime, she agreed to speak with Ubico about the possibility of allowing the Parish Council to install a new bin.

Cllr Roberts PROPOSED that the Council should put up a sign advising residents that Northway Parish Council was in the process of talking with Tewkesbury Borough Council about possible installation of a bin at this site, in the meantime please could they use nearby bins in Hardwick Bank Road or at the end of Sinderberry Drive for disposal of any rubbish or dog waste. Cllr MacTiernan SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

7.25 p.m. - Cllr Phennah joined the meeting.

GP/20/19 **Northway Playing Field**

- i. **Painting** – Cllr Ward mentioned that he had been and removed graffiti that had been sprayed on the doors of the Changing Room Facility (Min Ref: C/27/19 refers), whilst doing this he had felt that it would be good to use some of the Council’s left over paint to paint the doors and also the concrete bollards near the entrance to the Playing Field, which would brighten up the area.

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that Cllr Ward should be permitted to paint the doors and the bollards if he was inclined to do so. Cllr Terry offered to help if necessary. Cllr Porter SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- ii. **Northway Play Park** – Members received inspection reports relating to the Play Park. Signs of drug use had been noted. It was also reported that a group of 6-10 teenagers had been loitering at the Park for 4-5 nights in a row and leaving a lot of litter on site.

It was noted that the trampoline pit needed to be emptied. Cllr Roberts PROPOSED that GAB Waste should be instructed to do this at their earliest convenience. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

GP/20/19 **Northway Playing Field** (continued)

- iii. **Northway Skate Park** – Members received inspection reports relating to the Skate Park. No issues were raised.
- iv. **M.U.G.A / Outdoor Gym** – Members received the inspection reports relating to the MUGA and outdoor gym area. It was reported that the main bearing had now gone in the centre of the mechanism on the Cross Trainer. GAB Waste advised that the item was still safe to use but the peddles were hard to push around.

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that should defer making a decision on this, and the other items of gym equipment, until after RoSPA had undertaken their annual inspection of the play equipment (due in April). Cllr Ward SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- iv. **BMX Track** – Members received inspection reports relating to the BMX Track. It had been raised that one of the humps had work and was holding water, although still safe to use.
- v. **Footpath** – The Clerk's Assistant confirmed that she had contacted three firms asking for a quotation for resurfacing of the footpath to the Skate Park. One of the firms had not wished to undertake this work and the other two had failed to respond.

Cllr MacTiernan mentioned that she had spoken to Andy Sanders at Tewkesbury Borough Council who had confirmed that available 106 funds could be used towards work like this.

Cllr Ward PROPOSED that provided Cheltenham Surfacing's initial quotation still stood and there were 106 funds available to cover the cost, this should be actioned.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

It was AGREED that the request should be put to Tewkesbury Borough Council for release of 106 funds to cover the cost of improving the pathway/walkway to allow access for football spectators.

- vi. **Other Issues** – None received.

GP/21/19 **The Park**

- i. **Teenage Shelter** – Members received the quarterly inspection report relating to the Teenage Shelter. No issues had been highlighted.
- ii. **Benches** – It was explained to Members that, following removal of the wrong bench on The Park and installation of a new one in its place (Min Ref: GP153/18 refers), additional expenditure had been incurred. Cllr Ward had, however, repainted the wrongly removed bench and it had been re-installed in place of the damaged one.

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED ratification of the additional expenditure which amounted to £120.00. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

GP/22/19 **Giant Hogweed**

It was noted that the next Giant Hogweed inspection was due to take place at the start of March. Cllr Roberts confirmed that he was able to undertake the inspection but, due to the fact that it would need to be over a weekend, it might not be until early April.

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

GP/23/19 **Newsletter**

Members received a draft copy of the next issue of Northway Voice and several minor amendments were made.

Cllr Terry PROPOSED acceptance of the newsletter subject to the discussed amendments as well as approval for 'What's on at the Hub' inserts to be photocopied and included inside the final copy of Northway Voice. Cllr Roberts SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

GP/24/19 **Digital Mapping**

The Clerk's Assistant provided a report following her attendance at a Digital Mapping Course. The course had provided information on software available from Pear Technology and Parish Online that could assist with mapping of assets, trees, etc.

Cllr MacTiernan mentioned that the Borough Council used this software and it worked very well although she felt that it would overkill for a parish of Northway's size. Also, it would be a large, ongoing cost and would create more work for the office staff.

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that the Council should not purchase digital mapping software at this time, although details should be kept on file for future reference. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

GP/25/19 **Parish Maintenance Contract**

- i. **Countrywide Grounds Maintenance** – It was noted that the Council, in future, would be dealing directly with Mr Boden's daughter regarding any grounds maintenance issues.
- ii. **Litter** – Cllr Ward mentioned that he had noticed a lot more litter around the parish over recent weeks. Cllr Godwin added that there also seemed to be a lot more litter on the Playing Field.

Cllr MacTiernan felt that this was a growing problem everywhere and suggested that the Council should consider holding another big volunteer litter picking event in the summer.

Cllr MacTiernan PROPOSED that the Council should inform GAB Waste of areas that may have been overlooked and also enquire what areas he covered on what days. In addition, the Council should hold a meeting in May to arrange date, time and finer details of a possible voluntary litter picking event/day. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- iii. **Other Issues** – No further issues were raised.

GP/26/19 **'Report It'**

The following issues had been reported to Tewkesbury Borough Council and/or Gloucestershire County Council via the report-it service –

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

GP/26/19 **'Report It'** (continued)

TBC operatives leaving dog bin lids open in Elm Road and Virginia Road.
Dead growth from tree left on site at the Northway Centre.
Fly tipping wood by sub station at Bevan Gardens.
Graffiti on signs, bus shelters, notice boards, etc.
Cllr Ward had reported bollards near Joan's Field that had been bent over.
Overhanging tree at Grange Road/Hardwick Bank Road junction was reported to Chris Riley.

GP/27/19 **Correspondence for Information**

- i. **Sunshine Gym** – Outdoor fitness.
- ii. **Tewkesbury Borough Council** – Waste collection delays due to advertise weather.
- iii. **Glasdon** – Brochure.
- iv. **RoSPA** – Notice that play area inspections are due to take place in April.
- v. **Keep Britain Tidy** – Great British Spring Clean.
- vi. **Parking** – Correspondence relating to parking along Hardwick Bank Road. It was noted that PCSO Simpson had spoken to parents during school pick-up time.

C/28/19 **Correspondence for Action**

- i. **Woodland Trust** – Offer of free trees. Cllr Roberts PROPOSED that further free trees should be applied for (and Cllr Ward was happy to lead with the planting of them). Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Cllr Cox wondered whether it would be worth seeing if any of the local schools would be interested in getting involved with planting the trees.

GP/29/19 **Correspondence received after 21st February 2019**

- i. **Woodberry** - Catalogue

As there was no other business the meeting concluded at 8:10 p.m.