

Minutes of the MS Teams Meeting at 6pm on Thursday 9th November 2020

Meetings are held at 7.30pm at the Village Hall unless stated otherwise

Nigel Ashton, our Ward Cllr attends when possible; Colin Medus, our NSC Liaison Officer, attends every other month

There are 2 Councillor vacancies - please contact a Councillor or the Clerk if you are interested in becoming involved

Present: Cllrs Mike Ralston (Chair), Brian Cannell, Rachel Dickinson

In Attendance: Ward Cllr Nigel Ashton, Colin Medus (NSC Liaison), Don Hill (Clerk)

Public Attendance: 0

072/20 APOLOGIES - none

073/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - none

074/20 LAST MEETING MINUTES - October 12th - were agreed, and reserved for signature.

075/20 MATTERS ARISING NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE - none

076/20 PLANNING - *Visit the NSC website for fuller details*

New: none

Approved: 20/P/2229/TRCA The Manor, 7 trees.

Enforcement: one case ongoing but will take some time. Cllr Ashton keeping abreast of progress.

077/20 PARISH MATTERS

Public Footpath - Brighton Cottages to Cliff Path

Discussion Background - There is a project to get the 2 unsatisfactory stiles in the field between Walton Street and the coast path (near Brighton cottages) replaced by hooped galvanised steel, disabled friendly kissing gates - the current norm when gates need replacing. This path forms part of what is called 'The Gordano Round' - a walking route developed by a member of the Gordano Footpaths Group, but up-kept as a route independently of that group. The Miles Estate are happy with the idea, as the landowners. NSC will provide the new gates, but will need to be paid £261 each for them. Installation labour will be via Woodspring Ramblers, who have a footpath maintenance team who work voluntarily for NSC installing the gates. The project leader will pay for 1 gate (the Cliff Path one) + a memorial plaque. The 2nd gate needs £261 of funding and the Council has been approached for those funds. Four years ago, 'The Gordano Round' put together a plan with NSC to fund a dozen gates - including the 2 subject gates - via surpluses from the sale of 'The Gordano Round' Guidebook: latest timetabling updates on that project are awaited. Members to consider if it would be good to fund one of the gates out of the Parish Maintenance budget, thus leaving 'The Gordano Round' funds free for other needed work.

Consideration of the request: The meeting, in seeing this as a worthy project for parish maintenance, needed to consider both the budgeting of funds to pay for it, and the basis for supporting this project. Funds would need to be budgeted in the 2021-22 financial year: if they are needed before that, it would be in line with best practice to advance the sum from the council's non-ring-fenced capital budget, and to replace the amount advanced from the new funds when they came through in April 2021. Some years ago the Council ceased budgeting funds for donations to special interest applic-

ants. Within the tight constraints on precept management that have prevailed over past years, it became incumbent on the Council to re-direct former donation funds to a new capital fund that would specifically be directed towards parish maintenance and development projects that are increasingly likely to fall to its responsibility under localism legislation. The Council's highways strategy is part of this, with things such as public footpath maintenance being another example.

Decision: Given careful consideration of the project, of the requested funding for it and of the new capital fund context of the Council's financial strategy, Cllr Cannell proposed that the project be granted the requested funding of £261, to be budgeted in the 2021-22 financial year. Cllr Ralston seconded the proposal and Cllr Dickinson agreed, ergo, there was an unanimous decision to grant the requested funds. **Clerk to so inform the project leader.**

7.5 Ton Limits: installation still expected by Christmas - there were no objections arising from the NSC consultation.

Walton Street Ongoing Traffic Incidents: Other traffic management opportunities might present themselves, but the success of the 7.5 ton restriction will be monitored as the initial priority.

Blocked Gullies in Walton Street: Reported to NSC and awaiting date of next scheduled emptying. **Clerk to chase.**

078/20 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Cannell: Fly-tipping on Moor Lane was reported (by two residents) and cleared quickly.

(Note: The most efficient route for reporting such matters to NSC is for the witness to visit the NSC website 'Street Cleaning' page, at: <http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/parking-travel-roads/street-cleaning>. The reporting of everything from mud on the road to fly-tipping to dead animals in a public place is explained, and is easy to follow).

Cllr Dickinson: The Village Hall is closed during the new lock-down. The obscured road signs have been made visible again, although the hedges are yet to be cut.

Cllr Ralston: 1. Huge thanks is due to Phillip Miles for the many days he spent single-handedly removing two fallen beech and ash trees from across the footpath that runs through the woods on the golf course, rather than waiting for NSC footpath staff to do the work. **2.** Walking through the Golf Course has, encouragingly, been increasing through our lock-downs. Please be aware that there is a clearly defined public footpath along this route. When the course is closed, people do wander off the footpath onto the course area. Although this may not be appealing to the golf club, it does happen, and people doing so do need to be sensitive to the fairways and the greens and in no way desecrate them through carelessness.

079/20 FINANCE

2020-21 Accounts: circulated with the meeting papers, reviewed and noted.

Cheques: 795.... No cheques

Online Banking: If the email addresses are transferred to the new website provider, **lcn.com**, there will be no additional charge beyond the Domain and Hosting charges, therefore no need for a credit card. With the new website now up and running, **Clerk to re-apply for online banking.**

080/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: via Microsoft Teams, on Monday December 14th at 6pm.

The meeting closed at 6.40pm