

NYMPFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
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**MINUTES of the meeting of Nymphsfield Parish Council held on
Monday July 8th, 2019 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

19/67: Present: Cllrs E Sturgess (chair), S Cowle (vice chair), A Hardy; Gloucestershire county Cllr L. Patrick, Stroud District Cllr J Dewey, prospective parish councillor Peter Tomiak, Stroud District Road Safety Group representative Iain Dunbar, 11 members of the public, the Locum Clerk.

19/68: Apologies: Cllr C. Pittaway.

19/69: Public questions/participation: After ascertaining that the members of the public were present because of planning application S.19/0771/FUL Cllr Sturgess outlined an objection she had drafted to the proposal which was for affordable housing of four flats and six houses on land opposite The Hawthorns, The Plain in Nymphsfield. She proposed the council strongly objected to the application because of the number of units, their location, and the sustainability of the location which was next to a large working farm and was not the preferred site identified in earlier surveys. She made clear the parish council disputed the need for affordable housing in the village (as concluded by a review in 2014/15), did not support the proposed location, and was “hugely disappointed” with the failure of the housing association to engage with the parish council and the way in which the application had been drafted to suggest otherwise. A broad and wide-ranging debate involving the parishioners’ present followed. Discussion then turned to whether the Stroud District Council local planning authority might “call in” the application for determination by its councillors instead of its delegated officers. It was broadly agreed Cllr Dewey and Nymphsfield PC would request that course of action in the strongest possible terms. Cllr Sturgess then urged all present to also make their own individual objections to the SDC about the scheme.

19/70: Declarations of interest/dispensations: There were none.

19/71: Minutes: The minutes of the annual general meeting of the council on 13th May, 2019, were agreed as a correct record and signed.

19/72: Financial matters: a) **To authorise June and July payments of the parish council** – These were generally approved and signed by Cllr Cowle as internal auditor; b) **Additional bank signatory** – A letter had been received from Lloyds Bank confirming Cllr Hardy as a new signatory; c) **Annual Governance and Accountability Return** – The AGAR, exemption certificate and Notice of Public Rights were presented and approved for submission to the external auditor.

At this point in the meeting, due to the obvious public interest, the chairman proposed and it was agreed, to bring forward agenda item 8 a) S.19/0771/FUL.

19/73: Cllr Hardy proposed, Cllr Cowle seconded, and it was agreed, that the council object in the strongest possible terms to the application and to press for its “call-in”. The parish’s objections would be detailed by Cllr Sturgess and would be based on the document she had presented for public benefit earlier in the meeting. It was further decided that, if the application was as hoped defeated, a future agenda item would be for the village to discuss the provision of affordable housing within Nymphsfield village.

19/74: County and district councillors’ reports: Cllr Patrick reported her liaison with bus operators Stagecoach and was asked by NPC members to return to Stagecoach with the message that the existing stone bus shelter was once again suitable for use as no buses were now scheduled to pass through the village at school drop-off and pick-up times when there had previously been congestion.

Cllr Dewey drew attention to an event to set up local climate change action groups. He also urged attendance at an affordable housing drop-in in Coaley at which progress on the call-in of planning application s.19/0771/FUL could be discussed.

19/75: Stroud District Road Safety Group presentation: The group’s chairman Iain Dunbar gave a resume of the group’s launch and progress to date. He urged support for the initiative which enabled parishes to share the cost of expensive Traffic Regulation Orders and the use of vehicle activated speed monitoring equipment. Full details were available on the group’s website. Membership would cost NPC £250. It was agreed to discuss potential involvement at the next parish council meeting.

19/76: Planning matters: a) Applications – S.19/1272/HHOLD The Old Shed, Tinkley Lane, Construction of single storey, detached workshop ancillary to main house and amendments to size and orientation of double garage (resubmission of S.19/0351/HHOLD) No comment; **S.19/0771/FUL**, Land opposite The Hawthorns The Plain, demolition of existing single storey structure and construction of 10 no dwellings for affordable provision. Object as detailed above; **S.19/0951/VAR**, Bath Road Farm, Bath Road, Variation of condition 2 of approved plans following appeal. No comment; **b) Decisions - S.19/1045/HHOLD** Highlands, The Plain, erection of single and double storey extension awaited; S.19/0880/MINAH installation of doors to car port, 1 Nymphsfield Gardens The Cross, approved; **S.19/0674/HHOLD** The Hawthorns, The Plain, two storey front extension, permitted; **S.18/0815/OUT** (resubmission) demolition of The New Lawn Football Stadium (Forest Green Rovers FC) and re-development to provide the erection of up to 95 dwellings, pending; **S.14/2888/FUL, 0194/FUL and 1334/FUL** Discharge of conditions re storm and foul drainage, plots 1,2,3,4,and 5 Arthurs Yard, Tinkley Lane, permitted; **S.18/2409/VAR** Court Farm, Townsend, variation of condition to enable mobile home to remain until 1st March, 2021, awaited; **S.19/0351/HHOLD** The Old Shed, Tinkley Lane, construction of single story new detached workshop, withdrawn;

19/77: Clerk’s report/correspondence: Relocation of the war memorial – Cllr Cowle supported its move to The Barrow and members agreed to view that site. A working party would be needed to progress details; Stroud Valleys Project tree planting offer, Cllr Cowle to take up with school; Pub footpath – adjourned as it was due to be dug up again; Hardcore rubbish outside James’ field – a member of the public would liaise with the landowner if the public footpath was blocked; Glebe stile project – not completed; Pub defibrillator – no reply from the Rose and Crown to earlier NPC correspondence. The letter would be sent again;

After liaison with the chair of council the vacancy for a permanent clerk had been advertised on the GAPTC website and in both the Nympsfield School newsletter and the July Nailsworth News The deadline for applications was 19th July, 2019. Two applications had already been received and a third was expected. Members set a date in late July for conducting interviews so that a recommended appointment could be put to the August meeting.

The Locum Clerk had tendered her resignation from 1st September, 2019, due to pressure of other work but had offered some flexibility on that date if the appointment of a permanent clerk is underway.

Councillors would arrange their training in uploading to the NPC new website.

A thank-you letter was received from St Joseph's School for its grant.

June E-Correspondence (available on request from the clerk):

Chartered parish and town councils meeting
Hinkley Point 2 consultation on cooling
Invite to GAPTC AGM
Cotswold Conservation Board re mowing of road verges
Joint parish cluster meeting
SDRSG minutes and TRO list

July E-Correspondence (available on request from the clerk)

Chartered Parish and Town Council meeting
Consultation on SDC street trading policy
Councils Connected
Consultation papers re: closures of Southfield and Wyatt House
Gloucester railway upgrade
GAPTC agm papers
From GCC: Introduction of Youth Council, Local Queens Birthday honours, and avoiding Ransomware fraud.

19/78: Traffic matters: GCC had issued a notice temporarily closing the B4066 Pennwood to Long Barrow road near the Gliding Club from 20th May, 2019, for not more than 18 months for road works.

Resident Bob Woodman had reported to GCC the potholes still not repaired on the rutted link road between The Hawthorns and Bath Road which he considered a trip hazard.

Members discussed strimming grass on the exits from the village, at the top of Frocester Hill and other locations including The Barrow and The Cross. Contractors' prices would be compared at the next meeting.

19/79: Councillors' items for future discussion: The local PCSO would be invited to a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.53pm.

Signed: Date: