

NYMET ROWLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the 184th meeting of the Parish Council in Village Hall on Wednesday 9th February 2022 at 7-30pm.

Present:- Councillors Anthony Odhams AO (Chair), David Gruncell DG(vice Chair) & Viv O'Dell VO, Clerk Roger Cooper RC. County Councillor Margaret Squires MS, MOP's Roland Smith, Julie & Vaughan Lovesey.

Apologies:- Councillors Babs Channing, Winnie Rookes.

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 11th August 2021 were approved and signed.

Questions from members of the Public: - VL raised the matter of litter in the village, particularly after the recycling bins have been collected. AO also commented on the amount of beer bottles/cans again discarded at several points on the road verges between Eggesford Cross and Hawkridge Bridge. He has been advised that the repeated problem is primarily due to one offender who is known. AO showed a photo of some 18 empty bottles/cans at one spot, which he recently collected one morning. This was a few weeks after another incident just prior to Christmas. MDDC have been advised and if the problem continues an inspector will pursue the matter and prosecute if necessary. VL also raised his concern at the amount of litter left in the laybys on the A377, asking MS why there are no litter bins which, could be collected by the refuse teams on their rounds. MS stated that she would raise the matter with MDDC.

Matters Arising: -

1. Pothole prevention/road maintenance. No progress has been made in respect to determining a permanent solution to drain the natural spring water from running down Barton Hill from Eggesford Cross. There continues to be no communication from Steven Tucker ST, despite requests from MS. MS stated that ST has a very large area to cover, so his time is spread very thinly.
2. Change of Priority at Eggesford Cross Junction. AO said that ST had originally outlined a guideline for a change of priority which matches our request. The seemingly high costs to change a junction priority are mainly due to bureaucratic and legal process. The PC continues to be very concerned that this junction remains a real and serious risk to road users. In the light of the procedural costs associated with this request the PC need to determine whether to continue to pursue the initiative.
3. Possible siting of Memorial Bench and Tree. Richard Daw RD has given his approval in principle (subject to sight of and agreeing the PC's final proposal) that a bench can be sited on the wider verge just past Eggesford Cross, adjacent to the entrance to the field. MS advised that there may be a contribution to funding available for this. VO agreed to take the lead on this task.

RC is still trying to find a repairer for the existing bench outside Prior House which is not in usable condition.

4. Update on Emergency Plan. DG briefed the meeting that he had been in discussion with the Chairman of Willand PC in respect to their EP which is an appropriate template of the Local Resilience Forum and fits Nymet Rowlands requirements very well. DG in conjunction with Mark Wooding will prepare a revised EP for distribution and comment at the next PC meeting.
5. Streetlight pollution. RC reported that the CPRE Devon representative has now made contact and provided some suggestions which he will be following up.
6. Activities at Nymet Mill Field. Planning application 21/02415/4 has been received for comment by the PC – numerous concerns have been received. The PC will take all into consideration and raise/discuss with local agencies (EA, MDDC, CPRE etc) and submit all comments to MDDC prior to the deadline of 23/2/22.
7. RC reported that 89 calls were made from the Village phone box in the 12-month period ending 30/11/2021.

Finance Report.

The Current Account stands at £1,546.41 and Deposit Account at £450.40.

There is one outstanding Invoice due for the Village Hall meeting rent of £24.00, which was agreed to be paid.

New Business.

1. AO sounded the idea of potential Jubilee Celebrations. The current workload of councillors mean this would require appointment of a sub committee, so needs further consideration
2. RC asked if it would be prudent to enquire if it is permissible to appoint an additional councillor, in view of the problems achieving a quorum for this meeting. All agreed.
3. Mid Devon District Council Local Plan Consultation. MS advised the PC to look at the proposed changes to local boundaries etc as the deadline for comments closes in the near future.
4. RC requested that the date of the November meeting be changed to Wed 16th November to avoid a clash with the WI meeting. All agreed.

Date of Next Meetings. Wed 11th May, Wed 10th August and Wed 16th November.

The meeting closed at 20.50 hrs.