

North Cadbury & Yarlington Parish Council

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“Draft” Minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held on
Wednesday 26th February 2020, commencing at 7.00pm in Galhampton Village Hall

Councillors Present:

Malcolm Hunt (Chairman)

Sue Gilbert

Bryan Mead

John Rundle

Alan Bartlett (Vice Chairman)

Andy Keys-Toyer

Alan Rickers

Katherine Vaughan

In Attendance: C.Cllr Mike Lewis, the Clerk and six members of the public.

Public Session

A resident asked if the PC was consulted on the removal of the willow tree in the grounds of North Cadbury Primary School, which was a prominent feature within the village and conservation area. The Clerk confirmed that the PC was not consulted. Cllr Keys-Toyer advised that an application was submitted to carry out tree works in a conservation area and could be viewed on the South Somerset District council (SSDC) website. The arborist report stated that the tree had significant landscape value, however, the risk of harm was moderate to users of Chapel Lane and Cary Road and he recommended ‘removal of the tree and replacement with a suitable tree in the same area to maintain the benefits that the tree provides’. Following a brief discussion the Clerk agreed to contact the school and ask if the PC could be kept informed of such matters as they arise and to maintain communication.

North Cadbury and Yarlington Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG)

Cllr Keys Toyer reported that last month was mostly devoted to distributing and collecting the Household Survey forms and entering the data from the completed forms on to the Survey Monkey portal. The total entered, from those who chose to fill the survey online and from 194 out of 486 forms delivered, was 39%; there was one more week left with a closing date of 29th February 2020. By comparison the Community Plan Survey achieved a 47.9% completion rate from 468 surveys delivered. There were two additional, much smaller scale surveys to go out; one for ‘Businesses as Employers’ and the second for ‘Community Facility Providers’.

The analysis of the Household Survey results will inform the Housing Needs Assessment and the Local Green Spaces Assessment. In addition the WG will be considering co-opting people with specific skills as required onto the WG, looking into future grants and a call for sites.

Reports from County and District Councillors

C.Cllr Lewis reported that the Council Tax for a Band D property would increase by 1.99% to £1,289.20 per annum plus an additional ‘shadow’ precept for the Somerset Rivers Authority. Cllrs would not receive an increase in their allowance. There would be additional funds available in reserve, which were previously low, therefore funds would be available in exceptional circumstances from the Health and Wellbeing budget, e.g. if there was a sudden outbreak of Coronavirus

C.Cllr Lewis reported that the Council had approved a plan for the future to plant a tree for every child in Somerset using trees indigenous to the UK.

Following a brief discussion on Somerset County Council’s (SCC) proposal for a Unitary Authority, C.Cllr Lewis advised that Val Keitch, Leader of SSDC would be willing to speak at Parish and

Town Council meetings to discuss the four District Councils' proposals for the future of local government in Somerset and the role that parish and town councils could play, which were contrary to David Fothergill's, Leader of SCC, proposals for a Unitary Authority.

20/17. Apologies for Absence and to consider the reasons given

Council to receive apologies for absence and, if appropriate, to resolve to approve the reasons given.

RESOLVED: Apologies received from Cllrs Roger House and Archie Montgomery.

20/18. Declarations of Interest

Members to declare any interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Local Authority (Model Code of Conduct) Order LO9-12 May 2018. (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

RESOLVED: Cllr Gilbert declared a personal interest in item 20/25 as one of the residents who signed the letter requesting a Tree Preservation Order (TPO).

20/19. Minutes.

To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd January 2020.

RESOLVED: The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

20/20. Vacancy on the Parish Council

To consider applications received and conduct vote to fill casual vacancy on the Parish Council by co-option.

RESOLVED: No applications received. Clerk to re-advertise.

20/21. Highways and Footpaths Report.

PC Representatives to provide progress reports.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Rundle and Vaughan presented their reports, which can be found at Attachments 1 and 2.

In addition Cllr Rundle reported that the Emily Estate had funded and installed the replacement cast iron fingerpost at Three Ashes, for which residents and the PC were most grateful. He also asked for volunteers to assist him in cleaning highway signage in 'safe' locations within the parish.

20/22. Replacement Signage on A359 Galhampton

To consider replacing the two existing small "Galhampton" signs on the A359 with larger signs at the cost of c£800 each to be funded entirely by the Galhampton Community Fund (GCF).

Cllr Rundle reported that he met with representatives from the GCF who explained the signs would be a direct replacement to emphasise the village and its speed limit to all road users. SCC Highways also agreed to paint chevrons on the approach at both ends of the village along the A359. All signs and road markings would be paid for through the GCF in stages, as additional funds were raised.

RESOLVED: The PC agreed unanimously that the GCF should proceed with the installation of the proposed signage and road markings.

20/23. Planning.

a. SSDC Decisions.

- i. **PA 19/02235/OUT.** Outline planning application with all matters reserved for the erection of 5 dwellings on land at North Town Farm, Higher North Town Lane, North Cadbury – **APPROVED.**

20/24. Finance.

a. **Balance of the Councils Bank Account & Bank reconciliation**

To report on Council's Bank Account.

RESOLVED: The Clerk previously circulated the PC Accounts which were received and approved.

b. Accounts for payment

To review and approve a schedule of items of expenditure.

Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Expenditure:

Dorset Planning Consultant Ltd. £948.36

Aurora – printing NP Survey £528.00

Parish Council Expenditure:

SALC Planning Training 13 Feb 20 £60.00

SALC Clerk's Training (Shared) £28.33

Clerk's Expenses £42.42

RESOLVED: All items of expenditure approved unanimously.

b. Upgrade of North Cadbury and Yarlinton Parish Website.

To consider report from WesternWeb with costings and agree expenditure of c£996 to design and set up the new Parish Website.

Cllr Rickers previously circulated the proposal from WesternWeb with costings and answered questions from Cllrs.

RESOLVED: The PC agreed unanimously to proceed with the design of the Parish Website as proposed, which would be 'future-proof' and compliant with the Accessibility Regulations 2018.

20/25. Request for Tree Preservation Order (TPO) – Oak Tree, Clare Field, North Cadbury

To consider request from residents that an application be made by the PC for a TPO to be placed on the mature oak tree that stands in the centre of Clare Field. **(Cllr Gilbert left the room at 8.00pm)** Following a brief discussion, Cllr Keys-Toyer proposed that residents should submit the TPO request due to the PC's ownership in developing the NP. The proposal was not seconded and, therefore, not approved. A second proposal was made to approve the residents' request.

RESOLVED: The PC agreed by a majority vote to submit a request to SSDC for a TPO to be placed on the mature oak tree in Clare Field, North Cadbury. **(Cllr Gilbert returned to the room at 8.07pm)**

20/26. VE Day 75 celebrations 8 – 10 May 2020

Chairman to provide update following meeting held 30 Jan 20 with community representatives.

RESOLVED: The Chairman previously circulated his report in which it was proposed that North Cadbury Primary School would hold a tea dance in the afternoon of Thursday 7th May. Galhampton Village Hall would also host a tea dance and other events in the afternoon of Friday 8th May, which was the official Bank Holiday and North Cadbury Village Hall would host a BBQ and entertainment in the evening. A church service would be held on Sunday 11th May with church bells rung throughout the country at 7.00pm. The next meeting of the parish representatives would be held on 4th March 2020.

20/27. Request for 'Environment Champions'

To advertise the voluntary role of 'Environment Champion' and be the recipient of any environment/climate information from SSDC through emails and attendance at forums.

RESOLVED: The Clerk reported that she advertised for Environment Champions on the parish website and notice boards.

20/28. Items for Report and Future Business

a. The Clerk confirmed that she was in the process of re-applying to list the Catash Inn as an Asset of Community Value.

b. Cllr Mead reported on the drop in sessions held on 14th and 15th February 2020 in Yarlinton Village Hall, at which the Emily Estate exhibited their initial proposals on the longer term future proposals for Yarlinton Lodge. Cllr Mead advised that approx. two thirds of

Yarlington residents were against the proposal for the buildings and grounds of the Lodge to be used as an event venue, to include weddings. Residents were concerned that the increase in the volume of traffic and noise/fireworks such events would bring would have a detrimental effect on the residential amenity of the parish and its infrastructure. A number of councillors concurred with residents' concerns. The Clerk asked Cllr Mead to suggest that residents could copy the PC in on any correspondence to ensure the PC is fully informed prior to the submission of any planning application.

c. The PC noted the sad death of Eileen Carter on 30th January 2020 at the age of 97. She had been a prominent member of Village and Parish life for many decades and was a member of the PC for approximately 25 years. Her commitment to improving the lot of Parishioners will be greatly missed. Eileen's funeral will be held on Tuesday 3rd March 2020 in St Michaels Church, North Cadbury.

Next meeting: Ordinary Meeting to be held on Wednesday 25th March 2020, 7.00pm in The Reading Room, North Cadbury.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Signed:

Dated:

Attachment 1

NORTH CADBURY & YARLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

HIGHWAYS REPORT FEBRUARY 2020

Since our last meeting there have been few developments as far as the highways are concerned. You will all be aware of the atrocious weather conditions with storms Ciara and Dennis wreaking havoc across the country but the damage to our lanes appeared minimal. I drove around the parish after both storms and was surprised that flooding, in particular, was minimal - the one area that regularly floods was Woolston Road as shown below



Other than that areas that have flooded in the past seemed to be clear but I did notice that someone had cleared the drainage points in and around Yarlington and on Sandbrook Lane North Cadbury.

Tree down in Sandbrook lane

The morning after storm Dennis I drove along Sandbrook Lane and was confronted with a tree across the road near Hewletts Mill. As it was completely blocking the road I put in a report to SSDC and a message on Neighbourhood Next-door only to receive a reply from Peter Wells offering to take his Land Rover and attempt to pull the tree out of the way. I went down with him but it was impossible to move. I later spoke with Nick Fone who kindly cut away part of the tree allowing vehicles to pass beneath it. The following morning I spoke with the council and was told that arrangements would be made to clear the tree - as I write this report it still hasn't been cleared!



As you will all be aware we are rapidly approaching the end of the year budgets for road maintenance and any repairs that we can hope for this year will not be assessed until after April however you will be pleased to see that the chevrons on the bend at Three Ashes have been cleaned as promised and the demolished sign near the slip road onto the A303 has been removed (although for some reason they have not taken away the protective barriers so it still looks untidy)

Parish Hill North Cadbury

Following the accident that occurred on Parish Hill during the short spell of freezing weather John Nicholson visited the area and satisfied himself that the overrun of water was due to a blocked drainage pipe under the highway and told me that he had issued an order for a jetting team to attend and clear the



PARISH HILL

blockage. To date this has not been done although I have chased the matter.

Three Ashes Junction North Cadbury

I have been advised by Ed White from the Emily Estate that the new cast iron finger post is almost ready for installation and we should see that in place shortly - I suspect that the current bad weather is hindering this work.

General state of the highways

I am well aware that there are numerous examples of areas where the road surface is deteriorating and repairs are necessary but when I approach SSDC I am told that they have hundreds of defects across the council area that need attention and dealing with them is a question of priorities and available funds.

John Rundle

Attachment 2

North Cadbury and Yarlington Parish Council

Rights of Way Update – February 2020

Application for Grant

The 'footpaths team' has applied for a grant of £1500 from The Somerset Fund to support our circular walks initiative. We hope this will cover the cost of producing 3/4 notice boards, large, coloured, laminated maps to be displayed in the notice boards, and individual maps for walkers. A decision should be made during the last week in March.

Installation of Bollards and resurfacing of bridleway WN19/105

On 24th Jan. I e.mailed Eve Wynn asking for information about the progress of the above works. Eve referred me to Loren Eldred for an update. Mr. Eldred said there would be a 28 day consultation period on the matter and due to current workloads they would not be able undertake this until later in the year. The delay was of concern as funding for the project is budgeted for this financial year and the opportunity may be lost. Loren Eldred's response was at odds with information received Sept/October 2019 stating the work would be approved, typically, in 6-8 weeks. He said the delay had been caused because Alan Brain had not responded to a request for further information. Alan received this request on 26th November, two months after submitting the original paperwork. As he had left the PC he passed the queries on to Eve Wynn on 28th, believing her to be best placed to answer them. Eve told Alan she would discuss them with the relevant people at County Hall on 4th December. According to Mr. Eldred's e.mail to me, he 'recently' acquired the information from Eve Wynn.

I e.mailed Eve and Loren Eldred on 19thFeb. pointing out the contradictions in Loren's reply and asking for clarification re. funding. Eve responded on 24th saying she had just posted notices on the site and any objections to the proposed works should be received within 28days. If there are no objections she believes the work should go ahead. E.mail from Loren Eldred received today confirming consultation underway.

Lost Footpaths Campaign

This project has been launched by the Ramblers in an attempt to save 10,000 miles of missing footpaths. They have a website which the public can access to compare historic and current maps of any area. After 2026 it will no longer be possible to add paths to a definitive map. This might be of interest to the more dedicated walkers in the parish.