

**MINUTES OF NORTON IN HALES PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY  
6TH JULY 2010 IN THE JUBILEE HALL AT 7.30PM.**

**PUBLIC FORUM**

In the absence of representation by the Police, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator Mrs Karen Cliff reported that PC Paul Frank had done such a good job in policing the local parishes and liaising with the youngsters that he was now being placed permanently in Market Drayton with a view to improving behaviour there. This is disappointing but there is little hope of a change of decision.

**CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR**

Mr Michael John Ankers was co-opted as a new member to replace Mr ND Sharman – he was warmly welcomed by the Chairman.

**PRESENT** Cllrs RWG Lucas (Chairman), MJ Ankers, J Finlay-Burrows, N Groom, S Kiessling, JE Lovatt, IG Nixon and a member of the public.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Cllr GD Powell, Shropshire Cllr B Gillow OBE and the Press.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None were declared at this time.

**TO CONFIRM AND SIGN MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 4.5.10 AND PLANNING MEETING OF 25.5.10.** These were confirmed and signed.

**PROGRESS REPORTS**

**SIGNPOST RENOVATION.** Order for the replacement finger had been placed on 15.3.10 with Weston Signs – Cllr Lucas said he had visited them to see why the delay. They had promised to have it done within a week or two but certainly before the judging of 10.8.10. Mr and Mrs Mayer had kindly agreed to put their generous offer of refurbishment in hand.

**PLANTING OF THE TRIANGLE. (Cllr Ankers declared a personal and prejudicial interest)** This has now been completed and bark covering put on by Mr Ankers (now Cllr Ankers). It was suggested that a few more plants towards the front would improve the site as it was looking bare – there would be bulbs added for Spring. Proposed by Cllr Lovatt, seconded by Cllr Kiessling that £50. should be allocated to purchase a few more plants – this was agreed with 5 For and 2 Abstentions.

**REPORTS**

**PARISH PLAN.** Cllr Powell's report was read out stating that launch of the Plan had taken place in mid-June with a meeting planned for mid-August to advance implementation of the objectives. It was requested that a further representative of the Parish Council be appointed to serve on the Parish Plan Committee – unanimously agreed that Cllr Ankers take on this role.

**AREA COMMITTEE.** Cllrs Lucas and Kiessling are to attend the next meeting on 7.7.10. Budget of £66,000. with £2,640. carried forward from last year makes total available this year of £68,640. for allocation. To date, £40,175 has been allocated with £28,465 still available. At the meeting of 7.7.10 further allocations of £6,635. are likely, leaving £21,800 approx still available to 31.3.2011. The Jubilee Hall Committee intend to make a bid for the next meeting.

**PLAYING FIELDS.** Cllr Groom said there had been a request for a litter bin to replace the one tied to the tree by the bowling green – it needed to be lidded and be set at site. Types and costs to be looked at.

Mr Philip Smith, on behalf of the Playing Fields Committee, has requested a donation from the Parish Council towards cost of repairing/rebuilding the sandstone wall at the entrance to the field. The most reasonable quote was for £1,200. The Parish Council stated that it should be kept as a dry stone wall in keeping with the Conservation Area and suggested that, sometimes, Reaseheath, Walford or Harper Adams will undertake such projects. Councillors were sympathetic to the request and unanimously agreed to a donation of £400. with a proviso that the above colleges be approached and that dry stone walling be carried out.

**VILLAGE HALL.** Cllr Groom reported that he had put in a bid to Mullers for help with electrical



matters at the hall. Mr Harrall is putting a bid in to the LJC for the September meeting. A letter from Mr Jeff Harrall stated that the Trust Deed for the Hall required 12 representatives from: Parish Council, Parochial Church Council, Women's Institute, Youth Club, Cricket Club and Tennis Club. This was now outdated and .....

**THE PARISH COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY AGREED THAT THE RESTRICTION NOW BE REMOVED AND THE JUBILEE HALL COMMITTEE CONSIST OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TWO FROM PARISH COUNCIL AND ONE FROM THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL, AND THAT THE TRUST DEED BE AMENDED ACCORDINGLY.**

The Committee now proposed to hold events in the Jubilee Hall which are not specifically fund raising but purely for the benefit and welfare of the inhabitants of the village as per the Parish Plan.

**THE PARISH COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY AGREED THAT THE TRUST DEED BE AMENDED ACCORDINGLY.**

### ACCOUNTS

nortoninhales.org – donation £125.00

Graham D Powell – (Parish Plan a/c – printing costs) £42.00

Pancreatic Cancer UK – donation in lieu of payment for Internal Audit per Mr EM Rees £85.00

Diamond Print Ltd (Parish Plan a/c – printing costs) £831.90

Bloomsbury Nursery – Plants for In Bloom £358.59

MJ Ankers – work at triangle – planting, weeding etc. £50.00

Jubilee Hall – room hire PC mtg 4.5. £10; AGM 25.5. £10; P Plan mtg 20.5. £5 TOTAL £25.00

NIH Playing Fields – annual subscription/share of upkeep £375.00

M Edwards Clerks salary 3.5.10-4.7.10 £374.18; Broadband Apr/May/June £45.93 TOTAL £420.11

ND Sharman (Parish Plan a/c – expenses re launch) £84.79

datacraft – costs re nortoninhales.org £105.75 (VAT of £15.75 to be reclaimed)

PAID IN: from nortoninhales.org £90.00 to cover the above account less VAT reclaimed.

**To discuss:** Bus Shelter – it was agreed that the Bus Shelter be washed down before the judging as an inspection deemed it unnecessary to have it repainted.. Cllr Lovatt offered to do the job when he is able to.

**To discuss:** Speed of cars past the School. A boy was recently knocked down by a passing car near the school, fortunately without serious injury; it was again agreed by all that cars drive too fast past school. Cllr Kiessling said she would write to the headteacher asking why the Police were not notified at the time and had a letter been sent to parents? Cllr Powell had also suggested, by e-mail, the need for a car park near the school and showed concern at the parking on Main Road.

It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk contact the owner/s of the ground behind the Bus Shelter, through their Agent, to seek a way forward for a car park on that area.

**To discuss:** Offer by AR Richards of skips. At the Parish Plan launch Mr Andrew Richards intimated that their firm may consider providing skips at the concrete pad for one day for disposal and re-cycling of rubbish. He had hoped to attend this meeting, was unable to due to work commitments, but it was unanimously agreed to pursue this idea as it was deemed to be a very generous offer.

**To discuss:** Affordable Housing Meeting of 14.7.10. This meeting has been cancelled by Shropshire Council due to removal/reduction of funding for housing associations.

**To discuss:** Shropshire Council 2010-11 Winter Service Review. Will be notified that Bellaport Road to the Cheshire Boundary is always hazardous in wintry conditions and should be a priority as there have been accidents, some serious, due to lack of attention to that road. Also Beswick Lane needs gritting etc as necessary.

**To discuss:** Samuel Owen Evening 10.8.10. Following the village judging for the British Nationals, Arne and Astrid Sundstrom, who are travelling from Sweden for the occasion at their own expense, will unveil a plaque to commemorate the life and achievements of Samuel Owen. Cost of this plaque has been borne in full by the goodwill of various anonymous parishioners. The Sundstroms



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will meet with local people and visit the site of the old forge at Forge Farm by kind invitation of Cllr & Mrs John Lovatt. They are to stay as guests with Cllr & Mrs Ron Lucas for three days and on the evening of 10<sup>th</sup> August will give a talk to members of the public in the Jubilee Hall about Samuel Owen, Founder of the Swedish Mechanical Industry, who was born at Norton Forge in 1774. All are welcome to attend.

Admission is free and it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council have remit to provide some refreshment. It was also unanimously agreed that up to £75.00 be allocated but a plate be put for voluntary donations to help defray the cost.

**To discuss:** Judging of Best Front Garden 4.8.10 at 6.00pm onwards. Andrew Humphris of Wollerton Old Hall Gardens will be judge this year and he has also kindly agreed to give a presentation 'Wollerton Old Hall – Past and Present' at the Celebration Evening on 5th October.

#### **COUNCILLORS REPORTS.**

Cllr Ankers: Report of gaps between the kerb and tarmac around the triangle at The Old Post Office; Clerk will report to Highways.

Cllr Groom: Report of hole (rather a low area) on the Betton straight, between Betton House and the Oakley Lane turning. Clerk will report to Highways.

Cllr Finlay Burrows: Road cone at the corner of Hinds Head – needs removing by Highways.

Cllr Lovatt: Had complaint of Hinds Head looking an eyesore – Clerk will try to contact Punch Taverns, Burton on Trent, to ask their co-operation to do remedial work.

Next meeting - 7<sup>th</sup> September 2010.