The minutes of the Nether Heyford Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd November 2015 at Baptist Church Rooms,The Green.


2. To invite declarations of interest. None.

3. Register of interests update. None.

4. Public participation: Mr Thorneycroft reported that the PFA had a two phase plan to improve the playing fields by building a new pavilion at a cost of c£250,000; the funding programme is in place and should cover the costs. In addition to this a further plan is to purchase a field between the allotments and existing Playing Field. Purchase of this field cannot be secured until 2017, but NHB funding has been confirmed as available, should the Parish Council be willing to support the scheme. Lottery funding should complete the purchase.

Two parishioners expressed disquiet at SNH plans to demolish the garages in Hillside Crescent and build 4 houses. Their concerns included lack of space for parking for those with multiple vehicles.

Mrs Reeves commended the Neighbourhood Watch team and Mr Illot in particular.

5. To confirm and sign minutes of the meeting held on 5th October 2015. Resolved Minutes were accepted as a true record. Chairman duly signed minutes and agenda.

6. Matters arising from the minutes. AC would take on Arnold Trust and School Governor tasks. SC allotments. AW Planning and Finance.

7. To co-opt a Councillor. Resolved. To co-opt Mrs L Hurst as a councillor.

8. Reports 1. Lights –Aylesbury mains had stated that they can usually respond within 4/5 days. NH wanted to know what their minimum length of contract terms were.

2. Roads and pavements. Frustration was voiced that no work had been done in Heyford Lane during the recent road closure. This was apparently because of a gas installation.

3. The Green and Play Area. Clerk had only received one additional quote for Play Area work. One more is needed. A sign had apparently been removed.

As Townsends had not carried out the work requested on the Memorial Green, the Clerk had obtained a quote for £1024 plus VAT for the work, dependent on a site visit.

Resolved. Secure a –field quote for installation of wooden posts on the memorial green accepted at a cost of £1024 plus VAT.

4. Playing Fields. Council felt that support should be given to the PFA’s aspirations.

Resolved. Clerk to write letter of support, for the Playing Field Association’s plans, and for reserving £20,000 of NHB money for the purpose of buying a field between the Allotments and the existing playing field.

LE reported that PFA had decided not to position a camera at the entrance, but that signs suggesting the area was under surveillance would be placed.

5. Trees. No reports.

6. Allotments. Tree cuttings from 1 Brookside Close had been deposited on an active allotment. The owner insisted that he had been given permission to do so. This is not the case; permission had been given to use an empty allotment.

Resolved. Clerk to write stating that if the material was not removed within 2 weeks that it would be removed by council and not the bill forwarded to the occupants.

If the bill is not paid Council will go to the small claims court.

Carol Hesketh had complained that her allotment had become difficult to maintain due to the encroachment of weeds from adjacent empty plots, and the difficulty of maintaining paths. Clerk to respond.


9. Canal. NH and MB had attended a trust meeting on 20th Oct. Only Heyford had sent Councillors from villages next to the canal. MB reported that the Trust seems well run and keen to make local contacts. More local co-operation was sought.

10. Joint Burial Board. Met on Oct 19th. NH reported that maintenance costs have increased greatly with work on trees.

11. Youth Club. LD reported that the club was doing well. Toilets will be done on Jan 13th. Carpet will then be replaced.

Planning. Sheepcote. Caravans were still onsite, but it was reported that an injunction was imminent, and then
enforcement could proceed.
SNH had contacted Council to gauge opinions regarding the demolition of the garages in Hillside Crescent, and the building of 4 2 bedroom affordable homes. It was felt that few of the garages were actually used for cars, and that some looked unused and close to dereliction. The area as a whole was unsightly and open to vandalism.

Resolved. Council supported the proposal, with the proviso that the houses should only go to Nether Heyford residents, and that SNH should try to arrange alternative space.

10. Bus Shelters. – It was understood that Skaino would install 300m concrete platforms and the shelter uprights would be inserted into them. It was understood that this would soon happen.

11. SNH Land transfer –To discuss transfer of land maintenance. The project seems to have stalled.

12. Land off Ridgeway Furlong - Clerk had contacted Land Registry, who had not given any useful response.

13. Staff Assessment. The chair confirmed that the staff assessment had been positive.

Resolved. Council approved the positive Staff Assessment.

This triggers a contractual rise in the salary scale to SCP 32.

14 Correspondence

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a) Bank balances: – Parish Council C/A £46.88. 1/2/14, Robert’s Field C/A £5230.01 1/11/13Co-op current Acct 10/9/15 £75,314.27

b) Accounts for payment.

- Resolved. Payments to be made
Finance/Precept meeting date to be confirmed.

18. Items for the next Agenda.


There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.58