

# **GEORGE NYMPTON & QUEEN'S NYMPTON**

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held at George Nympton Village Hall  
**May 19 2015**

**Councillors Present:** Trudy Herniman, Roger Gay, Mark Dean, Trevor Allen, Mike Miller, Richard Toller  
The meeting opened at 7.34pm

- 2015/001 Election of Chairman** – Trudy Herniman was unanimously elected
- 2015/002 Election of Vice-Chairman** – Roger Gay was unanimously elected
- 2015/003 Delivery of Declarations of Acceptance of Office** – The Chairman and Vice-Chairman completed these, witnessed by the Clerk
- 2015/004 Apologies/Attendance Register** – Apologies received from Mike Monaghan who is away and Sarah Leworthy who is sick.
- 2015/005 Disclosable pecuniary interests** – There were none
- 2015/006 Announcements from the Chair** – There were none.
- 2015/007 Questions from the Public** – There was a complaint about the drain repairs, Trevor Allen explained it is getting very difficult to liaise with the Highways department, their standard answer seems to be there is no money. Village Hall changes, Lloyd Ayre now Chairman and Jane Smith will be keeping the diary and will be holder of the main key.
- 2015/008 Minutes of the previous meeting** – All agreed and signed by the Chairman.
- 2015/009 To consider any dispensation requests** - None requested.
- 2015/010 Police Report** –An e mail was received from P.C. Adrian Micallef, no reported crimes, there was one call received in April regarding a shot being heard, source not found, but likely to be people out lamping.
- 2015/011 Review of delegation arrangements to local organisations** – Mike Miller for the Church and Sarah Leworthy for the Village Hall.
- 2015/012 Settings the dates, times and place of Ordinary meetings of the full council for the year ahead** – All to be held at the Village Hall 7.30pm, dates as follows - July 14<sup>th</sup>, Sept 17<sup>th</sup>, Nov 19<sup>th</sup>, Jan 21<sup>st</sup> and Mar 17<sup>th</sup>.
- 2015/013 Planning Matters** – Nothing received.
- 2015/014 Local Plan for Village** – Trevor Allen has agreed to speak to Ian Bateman and will try to establish a steering group to move this forward.
- 2015/015 County Councillor's slot** – Jeremy Yabsley said there will be a Parish Survey to be completed by the Highways department because they need to make further cuts. This survey intends to find lanes that can be downgraded from Highways to Public Right of Ways saving them money on upkeep.  
The Electoral Review of Devon has made draft recommendations to move certain boundaries based on numbers of electors. Given that a large part of the county is very rural this will change things for the communities and the county councillors, details of this plan have been advertised on the village board and Jeremy would like people to give comment.
- 2015/016 District Councillor's slot** – Jeremy spoke on behalf of Eric Ley - Because of the Election no leader has yet been chosen for the District Council yet, it should be decided by the 26<sup>th</sup> May. The Local Plan is progressing should be finished in August. Planning regulations re barn conversions have been relaxed.

- 2015/017 Village Hall** – Sarah Leworthy not present.  
**Church** – On 7<sup>th</sup> June 2015 there will be an ‘Open Gardens’ in the village to raise funds for the stain glass windows in the Church, a leaflet has been distributed with all the details.
- 2015/018 Financial Matters**
- 2015/018.1 Account balances £1,917.79 and £1,629.33, the first payment from NDC of £980.66 has been received.
- 2015/018.2 Internal Audit has been scheduled for 3<sup>rd</sup> June at the Amory Centre.
- 2015/018.3 Approval given for Audit Commission Annual Return Section 1 (Accounting Statements)
- 2015/018.4 Approval given for Audit Commission Annual Return Section 2 (Annual Governance Statements)
- 2015/018.5 Authorisation given for payment to Parochial Church Council for burial ground maintenance during 2014/15 of £546 as per budget, cheque number 100286 raised and signed
- 2015/018.6 Authorisation given for first payment to Village Hall for £200 as per budget, cheque number 100287 raised and signed
- 2015/018.7 Authorisation given for payment to Clerk for expenses totalling £28.98, cheque number 100290 raised and signed
- 2015/018.8 Authorisation given for payment to Community First, for the insurance £144.59 (same for past two years) cheque number 100288 raised and signed
- 2015/018.9 Authorisation given for payment to DALC for affiliation fees for DALC and NALC £48.71 plus VAT total £56.51, cheque number 100289 raised and signed
- 2015/018.10 VAT return submitted for £115.60 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015, awaiting refund.
- 2015/019 Councillor Vacancy** – Due to Vikas Mahajan not standing for re-election a vacancy has arisen, due to the election we can co-opt a new member. Clerk to advertise and the closing date for all applications will be 7<sup>th</sup> July 2015.
- 2015/020 Parish Clerk Resignation** – Mary Burbidge gave the Council notice to quit on 31<sup>st</sup> August. It was decided to ask around to see if anyone is interested, Mary did volunteer to continue as the Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) if that helped.
- 2015/021 Highways/Drainage Issues** – Trevor Allen said that the Highways department no longer informs us when the Parish Lengthsman is due, he will ask them again about the blocked drains .
- 2015/022 CORRESPONDENCE**
- 2015/022.1 Barnstaple Town Council – Councillors Training in June – Councillors declined any further training.
- 2015/022.2 NALC – Legal Briefing, all councils that have a turnover not exceeding £25,000 have new rules to follow i.e. Transparency Requirements regarding expenditure and what to publish, items bought over £100, end of year accounts etc.
- 2015/022.3 Local Government Boundary Commission – As previously mentioned by Jeremy Yabsley these draft recommendations can be found at <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/4141>, see noticeboard also.
- 2015/022.4 NDC – Training available for Councils re Code of Conduct available on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015, it was felt as we had already attended, this was not needed.
- 2015/023 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/ITEMS TO BE RAISED FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**
- 2015/023.1 Local Plan for Village – Trevor Allen to give update.
- 2015/023.2 Councillor Vacancy – Update on applications
- 2015/023.3 Parish Clerk Vacancy – Update on applications.
- 2015/024 Date of next meeting**  
 Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm  
 The meeting was closed at 9.44pm