

MINUTES OF THE **WRAXALL AND FAILAND PARISH COUNCIL** MEETING HELD AT THE CROSS TREE CENTRE, WRAXALL AT 7.30 PM ON TUESDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2019.

PRESENT: Cllrs Robinson (Chairman), Amos, Delmas, Malpas, Mrs Moon, Parsons, Robinson, Sheppard, Sykes, Mrs Vallentine and Wyatt.

Parish Clerk – Tony Jay.

At the commencement of the meeting Richard Olive, community engagement manager for Gigaclear gave a fifteen minute presentation regarding their 'Connecting Devon and Somerset' project.

Mr Stevens informed the meeting that work on the B3130 will be necessary outside the Battleaxes in the near future, which will result in two more road closures each for a twenty four hour duration. The dates of these road closures have not yet been finalised. Residents and customers of the Battleaxes will still be able to use the road during the closures although they may experience short delays.

170/19 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were accepted from District Cllrs Cartman and McQuillan. The absence of Cllr Law was noted.

171/19 TO RECEIVE MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS ON ANY AGENDA ITEM.

There were no declarations of interest.

172/19 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 8th OCTOBER 2019.

It was resolved to approve the minutes (7 in favour, 3 abstentions as not present at the meeting).

173/19 TO INVITE PUBLIC SPEAKING.

No member of the public wished to speak.

174/19 TO APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT.

A schedule of all invoices and payments had been previously circulated to the members of the Finance Committee

Chq No.	Payee	Details	Amount
2997	Anthony Jay	Mileage £51.30; Homeworker allowance £18.00; Mobile phone (1/2 split) £6; Stamps £8.40	£83.70
2999	Wembdon Parish Council	Reimbursement of 50% of cost of Clerk's training	£37.50

It was unanimously resolved to approve the payments.

The Clerk had provided a summary of receipts and payments for the present financial year prior to the meeting.

175/19 TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT.

The internal audit six monthly review is now complete. The auditors gave a good report, although they once again commented upon the high level of reserve funds being held. This will be discussed at the forthcoming budget setting meeting.

The Bristol Airport annual community review will be taking place on 3rd December. Cllrs Delmas, Law, Sheppard and Sykes will be attending.

Cllr Sheppard gave the background to a previous LDE planning application at Gowan Croft, Church Lane, Lower Failand, upon which the Parish Council was unable to comment upon. A new planning application is expected to be submitted regarding this address shortly.

NSC Highways are considering measures that improve safety at the top of Wraxall Hill with the junction with the B3128. They have this item on their works programme for 2020-21. The scheme will incorporate the cutting back of the vegetation on the visibility splays and the installation of anti-skid surfaces both on the approaches and also for vehicles pulling out. The new surface will improve traction between vehicles and the road surface and as such will assist vehicles slowing on the approach to the junction but also assist vehicle pulling out to get greater traction. NSC Highways state that they have considered redesigning the junction however such a proposal would likely to be cost prohibitive as it would require considerable land take and carriageway construction. The Parish Council has suggested that the current 40 mph speed limit on the B3128 be extended to include this junction.

The Clerk will arrange for minced pies, mulled wine and soft drinks to be served after the December meeting.

176/19 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FOLLOWING ATTENDANCES AT MEETINGS.

The Chairman and Clerk attended the NSC leader's Town and Parish Council Summit on 12th October. Each portfolio holder gave a presentation, which was very interesting. A large number of suggestions were put forward regarding ways that the relationship between NSC and local Councils could be improved. The list of ideas has been circulated to Councillors .

The 'new' District Council will adopt a more open regime than the previous administration, holding regular briefing summits with Town and Parish Councils, and taking a greater account of their views and opinions. District Council meetings will be held at various locations in the district, making it more accessible for local people to attend and observe the proceedings.

177/19 TO NOTE AND COMMENT ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

19/P/2223/FUH. 17 Sixty Acres Close, Failand BS8 3UY. Proposed single storey side and rear extensions.

It was unanimously resolved to support the application with the following conditions:

- If the proposed extension, along with the previously built extension extends more than 8 metres behind the original rear wall of the property then a neighbour consultation should have taken place, and if this has not taken place then the Parish Council would not support the application.
- That the curtilage of the proposed extension along with the previously built extension does not exceed 50% of the original building.

The measurements required to determine these two concerns do not appear in the available planning documents.

178/19 TO NOTE PLANNING RESULTS FROM NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL.

19/P/0080/FUL. Birdcombe Farm Tower House Lane Wraxall BS48 1JR..Demolition of existing light industrial units and installation of 5no. residential park homes together with a touring caravan and tent park. **WITHDRAWN.**

19/P/2105/FUL. Charlton Farm Charlton Drive Wraxall BS48 1PE. Minor internal alterations to include layout changes to Starborn room and adjacent mediation room with minimal changes to elevations and relocate door to north west elevation. **APPROVED.**

18/P/3272/LDE. Watercress Farm, Bristol Road, Wraxall BS48 1NE. Lawful development certificate for the existing use of Barn B as two units of separate residential accommodation.
APPEAL WITHDRAWN.

The results were noted.

179/19 TO NOTE THAT PARISH COUNCILLORS HAVE EXAMINED THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND HAVE DECIDED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL DOES NOT HAVE ANY ISSUES TO RAISE.

19/P/2359/TPO. Cedar Court, Lodge Lane, Wraxall BS48 1BJ. T1 - Deodar Cedar - reduce lateral branches by 1.5 metres and remove broken branch.

19/P/2127/FUL. Buzzard House, Bristol Road, Wraxall, BS48 1NY. Sub-division of existing dwelling to create 2no. dwelling houses. Erection of a single storey extension, new external steps, alterations to fenestration, hard and soft landscaping proposals.

The applications were noted.

180/19 TO NOMINATE A PARISH COUNCIL TRUSTEE TO THE WRAXALL PAROCHIAL CHARITIES.

It was unanimously resolved to appoint Martin Law as a trustee.

There is currently one more trustee vacancy. Nominations of suitable people should be passed to the Chair of the Parochial Charities, Cllr Ian Malpas. It should be noted that there are currently no trustees living in Failand.

181/19 TO APPROVE THE REMOVAL OF THE SIGNATORIES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL'S NAT WEST BANK ACCOUNTS WHO ARE NOT CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

It was unanimously resolved that the authorised signatories in the current mandate, for the accounts with NatWest detailed in section 1.3, be changed in accordance with the section 'Authorised Signatories'. The current mandate will continue as amended.

182/19 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE PARISH COUNCIL'S PLANS TO CELEBRATE THE 75th ANNIVERSARY OF V.E. DAY.

Cllr Mrs Moon is arranging the events in Failand, with a 'street party' planned in Failand Village Hall for the afternoon of Saturday 9th May 2020 immediately followed by a dance.

Cllr Mrs Moon will be drafting a notice to be published on the Council website asking for volunteers to help with the arrangements.

Cllr Mrs Vallentine will be organising events in Wraxall on the same day, centred on The Grove.

183/19 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE FORTHCOMING FAILAND RESIDENTS SURVEY REGARDING SPEED LIMITS.

A successful trial survey has taken place among Councillors to ensure that the website based survey system works, and the trial found that the platform can be used.

The survey amongst Failand residents can now go ahead, using both this web based method. Additionally, a paper survey will be available which residents can complete and hand in at the Post Office.

Cllr Sheppard will consult with the FRAS members to get their views on the questions to be asked in the survey.

It was agreed that the issue of providing a playground in Failand will be the subject of a similar survey in the future.

184/19 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE PROPOSED HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT WORKS IN BOTH FAILAND AND WRAXALL.

Cllr Sheppard gave an update regarding the Failand work. The last proposal, which went before this Council, was submitted to David Bailey of NSC in July. That was an amended proposal which took into account the comments Mr. Bailey had submitted in regards to the previous proposal. The latest ideas came as a direct result of the last FRAS (Failand Residents Against Speeding) meeting.

David Bailey replied saying what can, and cannot, be done. These included:

- Speed humps will not be allowed
- New surface markings are possible on some of the roads around the Failand triangle in locations including the Weston Road especially on the approach to the Belmont Hill / Ashton Hill plantation junction.
- New signs are possible, along with the Village gateways.

Costings for these improvements were requested, along with a timescale. All that has been received from David Bailey since July is an acknowledgement of our request. Mr. Bailey has apologised saying that this had slipped down his list of priorities as 'greater things had come up'. The Clerk has been chasing Mr. Bailey for some answers, and now the District Councillors have been asked to enquire as to what is causing the delay.

District Cllr McQuillan will be meeting with David Bailey later this week to find the reasons behind the delays in:

- the costings and timescale for the Failand work (described above)
- the previously agreed Wraxall highway work taking place (to be fully funded by the Parish Council),
- providing ideas and solutions to the street lighting issues at the bollards on the B3130 road crossing.

Cllr Sheppard relayed the dismay amongst FRAS members regarding the time that is being taken to implement highway improvements in Failand, particularly as other local Parishes such as Portbury and Clapton-in-Gordano have been successful in having highway measures introduced but Failand has had nothing.

Cllr Sheppard then spoke about the highway issues related to the proposed installation of a playground at Failand Village Hall.

It is accepted that there is no available location for a playground within the Failand triangle.

The Village Hall trustees would consider allowing a playground in the hall grounds, but only if a safe method of crossing the B3130 could be introduced, along with a safe pedestrian access route to the hall i.e. the widening of the existing pavement. The hedge there is overgrowing the pavement, and the soil on the verge has encroached onto the tarmac over many years meaning that the width of the pavement has been reduced. The hedge is owned by the Village Hall trustees.

The Clerk has asked the Council contractor to cut back the hedge (which is necessary prior to any work on the pavement), but he has said that this cannot safely be done without traffic control measures being put in place as the road is so busy. Any 'digging out' of the soil on the pavement would also need similar traffic control measures.

The preferred method of providing a safe method for pedestrians to cross the B3130 would be a pedestrian crossing, but regulations prevent a pedestrian crossing on a 40 mph road, so the speed limit would need to be reduced to 30 mph before such a crossing could be considered.

Views were expressed that the whole junction at this location should be re-designed.

The Clerk was asked to write to Gregg Brake, the NSC local area officer, to request that NSC cuts back the hedge and reinstates the pavement to its original width by removing all the soil that has encroached over the pavement over many years. The Parish Council will be prepared to pay for the hedge cutting element to the work, with the expectation that NSC pay for the pavement clearing component.

Cllr Sheppard has data from the Vehicle Activated Sign relating to speeds along Flax Bourton Road. This will be useful information when asking for the mobile Police speed camera unit to attend. He will forward this data to the Clerk.

185/19 TO CONSIDER THE PARISH COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE NSC CONSULTATION REQUEST DATED 1.11.19 REGARDING PLANNING APPLICATION 18/P/5118/OUT – BRISTOL AIRPORT EXPANSION.

It was unanimously resolved to submit the following response:

The formal comments from Wraxall and Failand Parish Council regarding Bristol Airport - Planning application no: 18/P/5118/OUT are:

Traffic

Wraxall and Failand Parish Council has already submitted an objection to the original application primarily based on the continuing failure to address the transport infrastructure problems created by the location of the airport in relation to the major regional transport links. The new support information contains a great deal of detail on the ability of major junctions on the approach to the airport to absorb the inherent increases in the traffic load as throughput increases from 10 to 12 mppa. However, this analysis totally neglects to evaluate the effect of the increased traffic movements on the network of rural approach roads and the potential chaos at the pinch-points within the local "rat-runs".

We are already facing the effects of an increase from 8 to 10 mppa with Flax Bourton Road in Failand being used as a preferred route from J19 of the M5 by Sat-Nav and approval of this further expansion will pile yet more pressure on local roads and communities.

Environment

We note with that the adverse economic effects of contributing to climate change have not been included in the economic analyses, thus painting an unrealistically optimistic picture (Socio-Economic Analysis, page 14). If this application is to be genuinely sustainable, as required by the National Planning Policy Framework, it will need to show how the adverse climate effects of an increase of 20% in passenger journeys will be mitigated.

The climate change mitigation measures deal only with the carbon footprint of constructing and maintaining the airport in such a way that it can support 12 million passenger journeys per year. This footprint is utterly dwarfed by the increased emissions from the extra flights that will be required. In order to be sustainable, in line with the National Planning Policy Framework, the Airport will need to show how it will mitigate these effects also.

Noise

The noise contour maps in the Noise Analysis (Appendix 7D) indicate that there will be a particularly marked increase in the extent of night-time noise. Residents are already very concerned about aircraft noise and we do not consider it acceptable to increase night noise with the associated detrimental impact on the health of people living in our parish.

As stated in our previous objection the Noise Analysis is purely based computer simulation that does not take into account to topology of North Somerset. Failand is within a few meters at the same height as the airport runway and frequently suffers unacceptable night and daytime aircraft noise while being well outside the noise map contours. We urge North

Somerset Council and the Airport to work together on a more realistic noise map based on real world measurements and not simply on simulation.

Based on the traffic, environmental and noise impacts on our parish, Wraxall and Failand Parish Council objects to the application.

186/19 TO CONSIDER THE PARISH COUNCIL'S APPROACH TO THE NALC INITIATIVE REGARDING TACKLING LONELINESS.

Cllr Mrs Moon will pass to the Clerk details of the scheme which provides a hospital transport service in Failand.

The Chairman will forward details of the service provided by Failand and District Community Transport to the Clerk.

When received, the Clerk will post the above contact details on the Council's website and prepare notices for the notice boards.

187/19 TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS.

Failand Post Office has been advertised as being for sale on the 'Right Move' website. The owners have indicated that they would like to sell the building as a going concern. The Councillors acknowledged the valuable service that the Post Office has provided for many years, and hope that a new owner will continue to provide this amenity.

The planning appeal to build 450 houses at land north of Youngwood Lane and east of Netherton Wood Lane, Nailsea has been allowed. Full details of the Planning Inspector's decision on the appeal can be found here:

<https://planning.n-somerset.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=ZZZXGRLPJV357&activeTab=summary>

This is an interesting decision as there could be ramifications if there is any future development in Failand. NSC is not achieving its five year housing supply target, and therefore this appeal has gone through as NSC did not make a decision within the required timeframe, and the developers chose to assign it to the planning inspectorate.

The other matter of interest is how it will impact on our Parish. There is a mass of documentation on the NSC planning website, but in the midst of it all it only considers the traffic implications in and around Nailsea and the Planning Inspector assumes that there will be a link road around Flax Bourton which was included in the (now rejected) Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study. The inevitably will be that traffic will be pushed onto the rural road network be that through Chelvey, Station Road or through our Parish.

There has been an article in the North Somerset Times, which is associated with climate change and green spaces, that says that NSC are looking at areas suitable for re-wilding. There is a consultation about the areas that have been designated for re-wilding but none are in our Parish. If we wanted to have further changes to green spaces in the Parish (which would probably only apply to the green space at The Elms) then this can be considered. The Chairman will provide the Clerk with details of an agenda item to be included at the December meeting.

The three benches in The Elms are in a terrible state. The Council's contractor will be asked to renovate the benches in the most cost effective way. The Chairman will provide the Clerk with a map showing the precise locations of the benches.

188/19 TO AGREE AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

To consider any implications of the rewilding scheme being introduced by in North Somerset for the Parish. The Chairman will provide the Clerk with further details for circulation.

Cllr Sykes raised the issue of the parking control arrangements being introduced in North Somerset. He will provide the Clerk with details of a proposed agenda item, and a brief summary of the issues involved to be circulated.

189/19 TO AGREE ACTIONS TO BE CARRIED OUT PRIOR TO THE NEXT MEETING.

182/19	Cllr Mrs Moon
183/19	Cllr Sheppard
184/19	Cllr Sheppard and the Clerk
186/19	Cllr Mrs Moon, the Chairman and the Clerk
187/19	The Chairman
188/19	The Chairman and Cllr Sykes.

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 10th December 2019 in the Cross Tree Centre. Minced pies, mulled wine and soft drinks will be served after the meeting.