

MINUTES OF THE **WRAXALL AND FAILAND PARISH COUNCIL** MEETING HELD IN THE FAILAND VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY 10th JANUARY 2017

PRESENT: Cllrs. Robinson (Chairman), Mrs Lock (Vice Chairman), Malpas (Vice Chairman), Amos, Delmas, King, Law, Mrs Moon, Sage, Sheppard and Mrs Vowles. Parish Clerk – Tony Jay.

1 TO INVITE PUBLIC SPEAKING

No member of the public wished to speak.

2 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cave and Stowey.

3 TO RECEIVE MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS ON ANY AGENDA ITEM

No declarations were received.

4 TO CONFIRM THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL IS ELIGIBLE TO HOLD THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

The Clerk explained the criteria for holding this power. The Councillors confirmed that they fit the criteria and are eligible to hold the power.

5 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 13th DECEMBER 2016

It was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes as a correct record, with one minor amendment.

The Chairman signed the minutes as being a correct record.

6 TO RECEIVE THE POLICE REPORT AND NOTE THE CRIME FIGURES

There was no Police presence, and a Police report had not been received.

The Clerk said that before Christmas he emailed the PCC Sue Mountstevens asking why there is rarely a Police attendance at Parish Council meetings, and also why a Police report is often not received. He has today received a phone call from her staff officer, Ashley Jones, who gave him the following answers to his queries:

- Police Officers and PCSOs will no longer attend Parish Council meetings as a matter of course. The local beat manager should be informed that a meeting will be taking place, and someone may attend if they are free, but it certainly cannot be guaranteed, and should not be expected.
- Police reports take a disproportionate amount of Police time to prepare – time that could be better spent operationally. Crime figures for each neighbourhood can easily be found on-line, and so if anyone wishes to know what crime has occurred in their area then they can do so that way.
- If there is a specific problem which a Parish Council wishes to discuss with a local officer e.g. a specific crime trend in the area, then an officer may be able to attend if given sufficient notice.

Mr Jones said that Police resources are now spread so thinly that they cannot give the commitment to Parish Council meetings that has happened in the past.

For those who do not how to find out the crime figures, here is a guide:

Click on <https://www.police.uk/>

Click on 'Find Your Neighbourhood, and then enter your postcode or place name. Select your particular area from the drop down list.

Click on 'Explore the Crime Map' then click on one of the black circles with a number which appear. Click on a black circle again, and that will show you the number of crimes which have occurred in that street, and the type of crime.

It normally takes between one and three months for the information to be uploaded. Currently the November crimes are displayed. There are two drop down lists at the top of the map, where you can select a different month, or a particular crime.

Mr Jones said that Ms Mountstevens is of the belief that as this gives the public access to the crime figures in their area, Police attendance at Parish Council meetings is no longer routinely required.

It was agreed that this agenda item will be removed in the future. If anyone would like to request Police attendance, or information regarding a particular matter then the Clerk should be contacted and an agenda item will be included.

7 TO NOTE AND COMMENT ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

16/P/2889/F. 14 Sixty Acres Close, Failand, BS8 3UH. Erection of a front porch. (Cllrs Amos and Law)

It was resolved to support the application (9 in favour, 1 abstention)

The Clerk was asked to point out that the plans state number 4, not number 14.

8 TO NOTE PLANNING DECISIONS MADE BY NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL

16/P/2555/F. 12 Manor Way, Wraxall BS8 3UY. Erection of a two storey extension to the north west elevation. Erection of a dormer window and two roof lights to the north east elevation. **GRANTED**

16/P/2631/O. 61 Clevedon Road, Failand, Bristol, BS8 3UL. Outline planning application for the erection of a dwelling with associated parking and access off Woodland Close; access and layout for approval with appearance, landscaping, & scale reserved for subsequent approval. **REFUSED**

16/P/2377/CUPA. Hazel Farm, Bristol Road, Wraxall, BS48 1LQ. Prior approval for change of use from 3no. agricultural buildings and land to 2no. two bedroom dwellings and 1no. four bedroom dwelling within use class C3, with associated operational development comprising of the installation of new doors and windows. **REFUSED**

The planning decisions were noted.

9 TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT

A request has been received for a grit bin to be installed in Jubilee Drive. The cost of a bin is around £150, paid by the Parish Council, and then NSC stocks the bin with grit.

It was agreed not to purchase the bin, as the Council would be inundated with similar requests which would have to be granted and which the Council could not afford.

10 TO SET THE BUDGET AND PRECEPT LEVEL FOR 2017/18

The Chairman informed the meeting that there was some good news regarding the Wraxall School crossing patrol. Cllr Cave had indicated that a crossing could be possible and funded by NSC. However this will not be happening quickly. Provision should be made for the full cost in the budget, with the hope that the Wraxall Parochial Charities will provide up to 50% of the cost, which will be around £4,000.

Cllr King asked that it be recorded that there are more traffic problems in the Parish than just the Failand triangle.

A long discussion took place regarding the amount to be allocated for grants. A number of different amounts were proposed and seconded, but none were carried. The Chairman then proposed that a figure of £3,500 be allocated for grants.

It was resolved to allocate £3,500 for grants (6 in favour, 5 against).

Cllr Mrs Lock asked that it be recorded that she felt very strongly that Parishioners should not be asked to donate to charitable organisations through the precept.

It was unanimously resolved to approve a precept of £44,631.

11 TO NOTE THE PENSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CLERK

The Chairman reported that the Clerk had been enrolled in the NEST pension scheme. The Clerk said that he did not intend to take up a pension. The Council thanked the Chairman for his work in setting up the pension scheme, and to the Clerk for saving the Council money by not taking out a pension.

12 TO RECEIVE UPDATES ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

a SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL

An update had been given earlier in the meeting.

b ALLOTMENTS

It was decided to remove this as an agenda item, as it is not viable to go ahead with this project at the present time. Nailsea Town Council no longer wishes to be involved. They do not foresee a demand for allotments from Nailsea residents.

13 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

An email had been received from FRAS asking for the Parish Council's support in their attempts to persuade NSC to install direction signs and weight limits which would deter vehicles from travelling through Failand. It was decided to wait for a response to their email from NSC before deciding whether the Parish Council should offer it's support.

Cllr Sheppard gave an update regarding the loaned VAS which is now in use. Unfortunately the equipment does not record the speeds of vehicles. It merely flashes the speed limit and states 'slow down'. It should be moved around different roads in the Parish. Cllr Sheppard would like some help from other Councillors to take over whilst he is unavailable for a period in the near future. Councillors were asked to liaise with Cllr Sheppard.

Cllr Sheppard was thanked for his efforts regarding this issue.

Flooding takes place on Oxhouse Lane, Towerhouse Lane and Sandy Lane close to Mulberry Farm and Laurels Farm. The gullies need to be cleaned. The potholes in Woodland Way and Beggar Bush Lane are terrible.

The Clerk will report these problems.

14 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

A good response has been received from the landowners in regard to the proposed permissive footpath route around the school. There will be conditions that the Parish Council are responsible for the upkeep of the paths and to provide the galvanised gates that will be required. One of the landowners has intimated that he may be prepared to do some of the

work regarding the installation of the gates. Enquiries are continuing with an adjacent landowner.

15 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FOLLOWING ATTENDANCES AT MEETINGS

There has been no attendance at meetings.

16 TO CONSIDER A RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION ON THE NSC PLANNING APPLICATION PROPOSALS PARTS 2 AND 3

It was noted that it was very positive that the quality of plans will be improved. Individual Councillors were asked to forward their own views to the Clerk, who will collate replies and submit them to NSC.

17 TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

All correspondence received had already been discussed.

18 TO APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Chq No. Payee Details Amount

Chq No.	Payee	Details	Amount
2716	Cathryn Butler	Contracted services	£118.13
2717	Anthony Jay	Mileage £15.30; Home working allowance £19.50; Mobile phone £1.67	£36.47
2718	Failand and Portbury CC	Hire of hall	£25.00

It was unanimously resolved to approve payment of the bills for payment.

19 TO CONFIRM THE ADOPTION OF A GRANT AWARDING POLICY AND THE WORDING OF THE POLICY

Questions were asked regarding whether the application form should include requests for the financial details of organisations asking for donations. The working group had provided a draft policy for consideration by the full Council.

It was resolved to adopt the draft policy with a minor amendment (9 in favour, 1 abstention)

20 TO NOTE THE DATES AND VENUES FOR THE 2017 PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The venues of meetings were discussed. A proposal was made that winter meetings should be held at the Cross Tree Centre with summer meetings held at Failand Village Hall whenever the halls are available.

It was resolved to hold the winter meetings at the Cross Tree Centre and summer meetings at Failand Village Hall (7 in favour, 1 against, 2 abstentions)

21 TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

22 TO AGREE AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The Clerk will ask Mr Connell of the National Trust whether he will be able to attend the next Parish Council meeting.