

North Cadbury & Yarlington Parish Council

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‘Draft’ Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
Held as a consultative virtual meeting via Zoom software on
Wednesday 24th February 2021 at 7.00pm

Councillors Present (remotely):

Malcolm Hunt (Chairman)

Sue Gilbert

Roger House

Bryan Mead

Alan Rickers

Katherine Vaughan

Alan Bartlett (Vice Chairman)

Karen Harris

Andy Keys-Toyer

Archie Montgomery

John Rundle

In Attendance (remotely): C.Cllr Mike Lewis, the Clerk and eleven members of the public.

Public Session

A resident wished to discuss the possible provision/purchase of land in to be used as a school car park. The Chairman advised that the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group were in discussions with the landowner regarding the possibility of acquiring the field at the end of Chapel Lane to provide additional parking for the school.

North Cadbury and Yarlington Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG).

Cllr Keys-Toyer gave the following report on behalf of the NPWG:

“The NPWG continues to work hard. **NPWG Meeting 18th Feb** discussed the recently completed Supplementary Community Options Survey and the analysis of the returns. There was a good response, despite the odds, as follows;

Settlement	Households		Population	
Galhampton	33	21.7%	41	19.6%
North Cadbury	94	61.8%	131	62.7%
Woolston	17	11.2%	24	11.5%
Yarlington	8	5.3%	12	5.7%
Blank	1	0.5%	1	0.5%
Total	153		209	

New Sites

Generally speaking the new sites were better supported than those previously put forward although residents didn't have the benefit of the AECOM report. AECOM have done their assessment and we received their first draft report on 17th Feb. This is subject to further corrections and the final report is expected in a month's time. Yet two further sites for development have been suggested to the group but at the moment it is felt to be too late to consider these.

New Local Green Spaces

The four new proposed Local Green spaces were well supported with the exception of the orchard in Ferngrove Lane Woolston (which will probably be withdrawn). Greenslade Taylor Hunt, who represent the Diocese, have stated that they cannot support the naming of the field owned by the Diocese, between the western end of the church and Parish Hill, as a Green Space in the Neighbourhood Plan as the Diocese has the space under consideration for future development.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) informed the PC that the graveyard could be at full capacity in five to six years time and the field would be required for a graveyard extension. As it is the statutory duty of the PC to ensure that sufficient land is available for burials, the Clerk agreed to confirm the responsibilities of the PC and write to the PCC to ascertain its plans for a graveyard extension.

The WG had put out a request for local knowledge on natural habitat and wildlife sites that may not necessarily be found on any formal register. Therefore, if any residents had knowledge of veteran trees, hedgerows or wildlife habitats, please could they photograph and submit them for evidence?

Communication

We plan to publish an “update and what’s next” to residents ASAP but are conscious of the danger of putting out information which we may have to correct later.

SSDC Meeting 23rd Feb.

There will be a further meeting with SSDC Strategic Planning Officers on 23rd Feb. and we look forward to it being as productive as the last one.

In the meantime, work goes on writing the draft Neighbourhood Plan.”

Reports from County and District Councillors.

District and County Councillors may give short verbal reports on matters affecting the Parish.

C.Cllr Lewis reported that last week Robert Jenrick, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, announced that he had deferred county council elections until 2022. The elections in May 2022 would create a shadow authority to run until May 2023 at which time unitary authority elections would be held to coincide with town and parish council elections. The deferral of the election was requested so that the Minister could launch the formal consultation on the unitary case for Somerset on what shape, if any, the unitary authority should take in Somerset. There were two bids; ‘One Somerset’, put forward by Somerset County Council (SCC) that covers all of the districts and county council. The second bid, put forward by the district council is to split the county in two, west and east, creating two unitary authorities and to have an overarching Adults and Children Services to cover the whole of Somerset. The consultation will take place until 19th April 2021, at which time he was hopeful that a decision would be put forward as to what shape the future of local government will be in Somerset. He did not believe that it would affect town and parish councils in terms of current work in the future, however, there may be some additional responsibilities if requested. The decision would be announced on June 21st.

C.Cllr Lewis reported that SCC tax element would increase by 1.99% from April 2021 with an additional 3% for Adult and Children Services. He also reported that the A303 dualling was agreed by the Minister, however, Queen Camel PC had called an extraordinary PC meeting to put forward reasoning to have a judicial review of the Minister’s proposal for the A303 dualling.

21/09. Apologies for Absence and to consider the reasons given.

Council to receive apologies for absence and, if appropriate, to resolve to approve the reasons given.

RESOLVED: D.Cllrs Hobhouse and Messenger tendered their apologies.

21/10. Declarations of Interest.

Members to declare any interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Local Authority (Model Code of Conduct) Order LO9-12 May 2018.

(NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

RESOLVED: None received.

21/11. Minutes.

To approve the Minutes of the Virtual PC Meeting held on Wednesday 27th January 2021.

RESOLVED: The minutes were approved as a true record and would be duly signed.

21/12. Planning.

a. Applications received.

PC to consider applications for recommendation to SSDC:

i. **PA 20/03470/OUT.** Outline application with all matters reserved for the erection of up to three dwellings on land to the rear of Arkle House, Cary Road, North Cadbury.

The PC considered the above application at its virtual meeting on 24th February 2021. The Agent, Mr Adrian Smith, Collier Reading Architects was present and gave a brief outline of the application. He stated that at the time of submitting the outline application they were not aware of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan otherwise they would have put the site forward during the call for sites.

Councillors commented that the Design and Access Statement is inaccurate as it states that 'South Somerset District Council (SSDC) are unable to demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing sites', whereas SSDC can now demonstrate that there is approx. six years supply.

One of the main concerns of the PC and residents is access and egress to the site. The entrance is very narrow and also serves as a Public Right of Way. During school term time cars park along Cary Road, which makes access to properties along Cary Road very challenging; the additional vehicle movements generated from three dwellings would further exacerbate the issue.

Concerns were also expressed that the direction of the footpath on the plans was inaccurate. The Agent advised that the plans were indicative only and correct procedure would be followed to apply for a footpath diversion order if necessary.

Councillors agreed that the proposal for three dwellings on this site was not viable, however, they were not opposed to the principle of development; one dwelling would provide an average size garden and may be considered more acceptable.

RESOLVED: The PC agreed unanimously to recommend that the application be **REFUSED.**

b. SSDC Decisions.

i. **PA 20/02946/HOU & 20/02947/LBC.** Internal alterations including replacement staircase, removal of 20th century partitions & new openings, construction of a single storey boot room to side of The Grange, Cary Road, North Cadbury – **APPROVED.**

21/13. Highways and Footpaths Report.

PC Representatives to provide progress reports.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Rundle and Vaughan presented their reports, which can be found at Attachments 1 and 2.

C.Cllr Lewis advised that John Nicholson, Assistant Highway Service Officer, had been seconded to assist with the Covid-19 vaccination roll out, which is why Parish and Town Councils were experiencing a lack of response from SCC Highways. Councillors agreed that this did not help to maintain the highways and address major issues; Corkscrew Lane may have to be closed as the road had collapsed on both sides. Many of the parish's lanes were deteriorating and suffering from flooding.

Cllr Vaughan reported that Eve Wynn, Rights of Way Officer had been assigned a wider area to manage, therefore, she may not be able to respond as quickly as before. She had also been seconded to assist with the vaccination roll out.

21/14. Finance.

a. **Balance of the Councils Bank Account & Bank reconciliation.**

To report on Council's Bank Account.

RESOLVED: The Clerk previously circulated the PC Accounts which were received and approved.

b. **Accounts for payment**

To review and approve a schedule of items of expenditure:

Routine Grants Village Halls:	
North Cadbury	£150.00
Galhampton	£100.00
Yarlington	£50.00
Grant - South Somerset Community Accessible Transport	£200.00
Grant - South Somerset Citizen's Advice Bureau	£150.00

RESOLVED: Items of expenditure APPROVED unanimously.

21/15. Full Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) in North Cadbury.

To discuss new voucher scheme available to residents via Wessex Internet (WI). General sales enquiries and registrations please call 0333 240 7997 or via the link on their website: <https://www.wessexinternet.com/iwantfullfibre/>

Mr R Rundle advised that WI were installing FTTP in Yarlington and had received approval to install FTTP in Galhampton, both under a government funded scheme. WI required an indication of interest from residents in North Cadbury and Woolston as such schemes were demand led. WI would need forty residents to register an interest, approx. 20% of households, in order for them to take the request forward for the voucher scheme funded by the government; there would be no commitment from residents to proceed. The current voucher scheme ends in April, however, it may continue after this date under a new scheme. Installation would be at no cost to the resident. Various packages were available depending on service requirements under an initial one year contract.

RESOLVED: To widely advertise the FTTP scheme.

21/16. Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) – Next Steps.

To consider which services provided by the PC could be improved upon (how, with what resources etc.) to be the focus for discussion at the next Local Rural Parish Alliance/Network meeting on 24th March 2021.

Following a full discussion it was considered that the LGR proposals were vague and lacked information. There was much to be resolved and parish and town councils required more detail.

RESOLVED: Decisions would be made at a higher level, not at local government level, at which point more detail would be forthcoming. In the meantime, the PC would take a more proactive stance and endeavour to stay up to date.

21/17. Items for Report and Future Business

Please notify items to the Clerk at least 24hrs before the meeting.

- Cllr Keys-Toyer wished to thank Mr R Harding and Mr P Wells who recently purchased and replaced the broken glass in the North Cadbury telephone kiosk book exchange.
- Preparing for the Possibility of Return of Face to Face Meetings. The regulations that allow local authorities to hold meetings remotely apply to local authority meetings that are required to be held, or held, before 7 May 2021. This means that, without any further action from the government, all local authorities including local councils must return to face to face meetings from 7 May. NALC is working with a number of national bodies to press the government to extend these regulations beyond this date and will continue to stress the urgency and importance of this issue. However, at this time government has no plans to extend these regulations and so local councils have been advised that they should start preparing for the real possibility of face to face meetings from May.

ACTION: The Clerk agreed to carry out an assessment of the options and venues available in order to minimise any risk while effectively being able to conduct PC business.

Next meeting: to be held on Wednesday 24th March 2021, 7.00pm via Zoom.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed
Chairman

Dated

DRAFT