

NORTHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday 28th January 2010 at 7.30pm.

Present:	Mr R. Brooke (Chairman)
	Mr R. Bryant
	Mrs M. Nightingale
	Mr E. J. Mitchell
	Mr R. Leonard (Clerk)
	District Councillor Neil Baxter
Apology:	Mrs S. Wye

The Chairman welcomed Mr Mitchell, who had been co-opted to the Council.

1. **Community Safety.**

The Clerk reported advice of a new policing initiative (PACT) aimed at getting better communications between the public and the police. It was agreed that a police representative should be invited to attend the next Council Meeting to explain the initiative. There had been no local Neighbourhood Watch incidents since the last meeting, but Countrywatch had reported an attempted burglary nearby at Abbotstone.

2. **District Councillor's Report.**

Councillor Baxter reported on the disruption of the refuse collection services due to the recent heavy snow. The backlog of collections had now been cleared and the service was back to normal.

The City Council was now organizing new services for older persons who needed help with gardening, handyman services, or transport home from hospital.

Planning permission had been granted for a large development of low cost houses on the outskirts of Headbourne Worthy. The contracted developer for the Silver Hill area of Winchester had gone into administration, further delaying the project.

Councillor Baxter was thanked for his report, and he then left the Meeting.

3. **Minutes of the last Meeting.**

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 29th October 2009 were accepted and signed.

4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes.**

(a) **Totford Woodyard.** No planning application for redevelopment of the site had yet been submitted to the City Planning Committee.

(b) **Travellers at the Chipping Depot.** The travellers had eventually moved on, and the site had been secured. There were reports that they had moved to a site near Wallers Ash Tunnel, and that a recent Court Order had been granted requiring them to leave. Vigilance was urged in case an attempt was made to re-enter the Chipping Depot, and the adequacy of the defences was questioned.

(c) **Web site.** The Clerk had started to develop the site, and had posted the minutes of the October Council Meeting there. The existence of the site would be publicized in Oxdrove. It was suggested that the Clerk should look at other local parish sites to see what information they contain.

(d) **Community Transport Taxi and Car Sharing Schemes.** The Clerk had made enquiries and found that these were only available as replacements for a normal bus service. He had been advised that the parish should be within the area served by the Winchester Dial-a-Ride service, and this might be a more convenient service for those without their own transport. The Clerk was asked to find out how the scheme worked, and what would be a typical cost to the user.

(e) **Speed of traffic through the parish.** The Clerk had circulated papers on the Village30 initiative, from which it was apparent that it would be difficult to meet the criteria for Village30 implementation. Councillors agreed to concentrate effort on getting the 40mph restricted zone extended southwards towards Alresford.

5. Finance.

- (a) **Financial position.** A finance report to 31st December had been circulated to Members. There had been no unplanned expenditure, and the end of year forecast balance was £1060.
- (b) **Further grant to PCC for Churchyard Upkeep.** The Clerk reported a request for an additional grant towards the costs of mowing in the churchyard. The year cost had been in excess of £776. Councillors agreed to make an additional payment of £150, bringing the total grant for the year to £750.
- (c) **Budget for 2010-11 year, and Precept.** The Clerk had prepared a draft budget and precept to meet the deadline imposed by WCC, and details had been circulated to Councillors.

Resolved.

That the draft budget for the year 2010-11 be approved and adopted.

That the precept on Winchester City Council for 2010-11 be set at £3,380.

6. Planning. There were no new applications to consider.

7. Reports and Questions from Councillors.

- (a) **Fly tipping on Abbotstone Down.** A recent incident had been reported to the Ranger.

8. Correspondence.

- (a) **Affordable Local Housing.** The Clerk had contacted WCC about the possibility of providing such housing in the parish. Hampshire Rural Housing Enablers would assess the need, and it was decided that their representative should be invited to the next Council Meeting to talk about the procedures.
- (b) **Wheels to Work moped loan scheme.** This provided mopeds for young people needing transport to work. Posters had been displayed, and contact details were on the web site.
- (c) **Control of Dogs on Highways.** The clerk reported on a recent incident of an owner not controlling his dog when out jogging, causing distress to other parishioners. The distressed party had contacted the WCC Environment department and spoken with the City Dog Warden for advice.
- (d) **Alresford and District Partnership.** The Chair of ADP, Dr Nigel Paterson, had asked if he might attend a Council meeting to explain the aims of the Partnership. It was agreed that he should be invited to the next Council Meeting.
- (e) **Development at The Old Pumphouse, Swarraton.** The Clerk reported receipt of a notification from the WCC planning department that they were in negotiations with the property owner over alleged change of use of a garage to residential accommodation without planning permission. This was noted by the Council.

9. Date for Annual Parish Meeting. This was fixed for Thursday 22nd April, at 7.30pm, following the Village Hall Annual General Meeting.

10. Date for next Council Meeting. Subsequently arranged for Thursday 18th March 2010, to be held in Swarraton Village Hall at 7.30pm.

There being no further business to transact the meeting was closed at 9.20pm.