

## NORTHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011

- Apologies:** Cllr Kim Gottlieb  
Mr Simon Walker
- Present:** Mr Roger Brooke (Chairman)  
Mr John Mitchell  
Mrs Monica Nightingale  
Mrs Fleur Rutherford  
Mrs Rhona Hatchley (Clerk)

#### 1. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### 2. Matters arising

A resident had reported that the bus shelter opposite the village hall - which belongs to the Parish Council - is falling apart. Mrs Monica Nightingale remembered that the Parish Council had agreed to dismantle it many years ago but it had not been done. The Clerk agreed to contact Ian Cammack to organise this.

#### 3. Chairman's report

Following an exchange of letters with Mr Ken Thornber, leader of Hampshire County Council, the Chairman is hoping that the case for reducing the speed limit on the B3046 will be put on the list for the next A and B road review. It was suggested that the Police Officer responsible for Northington should be invited to our next meeting (Clerk to arrange) and asked to explain why, according to Mr Thornber's reply, the numerous accidents on the corner of the road by Mrs Rutherford's house had not been recorded even though she contacted the police on every occasion including one in which a drink driving offence was committed.

#### 4. No Councillors' reports

#### 5. Sustainable Communities Act

A letter had been received by the Council, via email, regarding the upholding of the Sustainable Communities Act 2007 – to promote the sustainability of local communities encouraging the support of economic, social or environmental well-being – with regard to dealing with planning applications from large corporations. Whilst the Council was broadly in favour of the principles of the Act it was not felt necessary to respond as the matter in question was geographically distant.

#### 6. Bank Holiday rave in Micheldever Woods

The Clerk reported being contacted by a number of residents during the recent rave. Other council members reported their experiences. It was decided that residents should be encouraged to contact the police directly in the event of it happening again.

#### 7. Millennium footpath stile

The Chairman had received a report that the Millennium footpath stile nearest the church had fallen into disrepair. It was agreed that Mrs Rutherford should contact White and Etherington who originally built the stiles and ask them to come and assess it for repair.

#### 8. Clerk's report

It was announced that Mrs Emma La Fontaine Jackson had kindly agreed to become the treasurer of the council. The Clerk was asked to check with HALC whether Mrs La Fontaine Jackson needs to be a council member too.

The year end figures have been approved by the internal auditor, Dennis Hardy, and it was agreed that he should be given a Wyevale Garden Centre voucher for £20 as a thank you. The Chairman then signed the audit which the Clerk will now post to the External Auditor.

Mrs Nightingale was asked to sign a form for the Nationwide to change the address on the Parish Council deposit account. The form will now be taken to Mrs Sheila Wye, the other signatory, before being taken to the Nationwide. Members of the council questioned whether the account we have with the Nationwide is the best one as it only produced 12p interest last year. The clerk agreed to investigate.

The clerk reported that at this date the balance of our accounts at the Nat West and Nationwide were £1,584.87 and £1,112.30 respectively. The precept of £1,690.00 was received on 8<sup>th</sup> April and cheques written since the end of March 2011 were as follows:

St John's maintenance grant	£162.00
HALC affiliation fee	£118.00
Clerk's salary	£200.00
Parish Council Insurance	£287.01
Millennium Seat maintenance	£27.00
HALC new clerks course	£24.00

Also in the Clerk's report: Mr Peter Lamb has painted the Millennium seat with wood preservative to maintain it for the time being and it will be monitored for further deterioration.

#### **9. Planning Applications**

An application had been received from Francesca Baring who wishes to register her existing riding stables in Grange Park as a commercial enterprise. This met with no objection from the Parish Council.

#### **10. Any other business**

The Chairman congratulated the Village Hall Committee on the receipt of all the grants they had applied for in order to refurbish the Village Hall. The Parish Council looks forward to seeing the work progressing.

#### **11. Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting was set for Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2011 at 7.30pm in Northington Village Hall (if refurbishment is still in progress a new venue will be arranged).