Minutes of North Perrott Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th November at the Hoskyns Memorial Hall

Present
Jonathan Hoskyns (Chairman), Joanne Cox (Vice-Chair) Enid Haws, Arthur Burton, Nigel Pike

In Attendance
Sarah Murphy (Parish Clerk) Cathy Bakewell

1. Apologies for absence.
   Ric Pallister

2. Minutes of Meeting Held on
   The minutes were approved and signed.

3. Declarations of Interest
   None.

4. Matters of report arising from the previous minutes.
   None

5. District and County Councillors’ reports (by invitation)
   Cllr. Bakewell confirmed that she had circulated a report on 23rd October 2012 to all Parish Councils regarding Highways issues, in particular blocked drains, ditches, gullies and surface water. She confirmed that the County Council will meet on Wednesday 28th November and the District Council on Thursday 29th November - nothing particular to report on the agendas other than budgets and precepts are tabled. The County Council is outsourcing all duties except for Safeguarding Children which it retains in light of recent Ofsted report. Details on the Community Enablement Fund have been circulated to Parish Councils and the Councillor suggested that it could be useful to our PC in helping to sort out drainage issues. There is a day planned on 29th November at Preston School, Yeovil which relates to the Fund and Cllr. Bakewell suggested that the ‘Local Choices’ workshop could be valuable to the PC. The Chairman asked whether Cllr. Burton would be prepared to use his expertise in helping to assess the village’s drainage issues as a preliminary step to accessing the Fund.

   There was a question from the floor regarding the ongoing project to improve broadband across Devon and Somerset. Cllr. Bakewell confirmed that BT have started to roll this out, however, nothing has yet happened in areas which affect this PC. Cllr. Bakewell agreed to request an update on the project.

6. Planning Applications

   The following applications were mentioned as approved:

   **Application No:** 12/02962/FUL
   **Type of application:** Full Application
   **Proposal:** Internal and external alterations to include removal of staircase, installation of new staircase and partitions, erection of 2 No. single storey extensions and insertion of roof light to outbuilding. (GR 347323/109482)
Minutes of North Perrott Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th November at the Hoskyns Memorial Hall

Application No: 12/02585/FUL Type of application: Full Application
Proposal: Demolish conservatory, erection of single storey extension to dwelling house (GR 347538/109715)

Application No: 12/02171/FUL Type of application: Full Application
Proposal: The erection of retaining wall to front boundary (GR 347546/109803)

7. Affordable Housing

The Chairman updated the meeting and explained that following discussions with Mr. Steve Watson, who made the presentation on 23rd October, it is suggested that there be an open meeting as the next step rather than an attempt to form a steering committee. Mr. Watson will be invited to attend again and as many villagers as possible will be encouraged to come along. The purpose of the meeting is to find out how the village can organise itself to gather the necessary information to assess whether there is a need for affordable housing in the village. If a need is established only then will the village move to the next stage which is to assess what sites are available and what can be built there. Cllr. Bakewell clarified that the activities currently are purely exploratory. The Chairman confirmed the following points:

- this is a community project
- it can be done with or without the assistance of a housing association
- a questionnaire will be circulated to all villagers and a follow-up process will be in place to ensure maximum number of returns
- the questionnaire will be balanced and a housing association can help with putting this together
- the minimum target is 6 houses (units) for the village to undertake the scheme independently; if the need shows less than this number there is an option to join with other villages, however, that has an impact on how much control the village has on who accesses the housing (i.e. can be people not from North Perrott)
- there will be two village referendums and there must be a majority vote in each instance for the project to go ahead; the questions being voted on would be whether there is a need and then if so, what is the need

The date for the initial village meeting was put forward as Monday 10th December 2012 at 7.30pm.

8. Highways

The Chairman asked the Clerk to prepare a letter of thanks to Nigel Eglon for providing the grit bin to the village.

De-icing material is available for collection from the Yeovil depot on 24 November.

Cllr. Bakewell noted the following problems which require investigation and remedy:

- an ongoing problem with a free-flowing drain at the corner of East Street and Back Lane. This is particularly hazardous in cold weather when the water is warm enough to flow but freezes once on the road causing dangerous ice patches.

- inadequate patching on Trindlewell Lane
Minutes of North Perrott Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th November at the Hoskyns Memorial Hall

- blocked drain on the corner where Back Lane meets the main road
- drains covered with general debris on the road from North Perrott to Haselbury Plucknett

9. Neighbourhood Watch

Nothing to report

10. Speed Watch

South Somerset Speed Watch have been awarded the Prince Michael Road Safety Award with an official presentation at the Savoy. All local members are further invited to the Council Offices on 14th December 2012 for a local presentation. The Watch currently comprises 11 volunteers and another is sought.

11. Stonage Lane

Nothing further to report. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes appear to be living off site currently, although Mr. Hughes returns each night.

12. Review of the following Documents

The Chairman reviewed the following documents:

Risk Assessment Document

The Chairman had reviewed the Risk Assessment document on 13th November 2012. There were no amendments other than to add Richard Keylock’s name as the Internal Auditor – RESOLVED.

Financial Regulations and Internal Auditing Systems

The Chairman read out the financial regulations and internal Auditing System documents. There were no changes – RESOLVED.

Standing Orders

These were circulated to all Councillors ahead of the meeting and then RESOLVED. A copy is available from the Clerk.

Emergency Resources

This document was updated and an amended version will be circulated.

13. Finance

Budget 2012
The Chairman read through the forecast budget and the Actual spend for November 2011 to November 2012 and this was approved.

Internal Audit
The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to Richard Keylock, that he was satisfied with the accounts to date and will conduct full audit in May as usual.

Bank Reconciliation
Minutes of North Perrott Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th November at the Hoskyns Memorial Hall

The bank reconciliation was circulated in advance and was approved by Cllrs.

**Clerks Salary & Expenses**
The Clerk’s salary for August to November approved.

**CAB Donation**
Cllrs agreed to make a donation of £50.00 to the South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau.

- **RESOLVED** to donate £50.00.

The dates for the 2013 meetings were read out and agreed subject to Hall availability.

Cllr. Hawes to confirm dates with Clerk and Clerk to post dates on the noticeboards.

14. Village website

Tony Lean had noticed last week that the village website had gone offline. The Chairman eventually discovered that the debit card used for initial payment had expired and he had to enter new details. The invoice will be presented to the council for the next meeting.

15. Correspondence

**Community Warden Scheme**
The Clerk had received details about this scheme and after brief discussion it was decided that the village does not currently have a pressing need for such a scheme.

**SALC meeting**
This clashes with the meeting for Affordable Housing and so the Affordable Housing meeting takes precedence.

**Weymouth and Portland Consultation**
There was nothing in this document which impacts on the village or Council. No further action required.

**Meeting Closed 9.21pm.**

**Next Parish Meeting Monday 14th January 2013 7.30pm.**