Minutes of North Perrott Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6th January 2014 at the Hoskyns Memorial Hall

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

In Attendance
Sarah Murphy (Parish Clerk), Marcus Fysh (County Councillor)

1. Apologies for absence.
   There were no apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of meeting held on Monday 4th November 2013
   The minutes were approved and signed.

3. Declarations of interest
   Cllr. Hawes declared her interest in the financial item relating to payments to the Village Hall and the Churchyard.

4. Matters of report arising from the previous minutes.
   Regarding the flood defence pond, the Parish Council is still awaiting a response from Cllr. Ric Pallister as per the discussion held at the last meeting.

5. District and County Councillors’ reports (by invitation)
   Cllr. Fysh reported that there is a grant available across the 13 Parishes which he looks after for ‘Health and Wellbeing’ (£5,000). The grant is designed to fund healthy activities and can also be event related. The deadline for applications is 28th February 2014.

   Council Tax has been frozen for now and Cllr. Fysh reported that the income from business rates is increasing. Children’s Centres are being streamlined to cut administration costs and to divert more funding into directly benefitting the children. Child protection is high on the agenda as they were given an ‘adequate’ rating by Ofsted. Education is improving at primary level, however, secondary level is underperforming.

   Adult social care takes a large percentage of the budget and the emphasis is on integrating social and health care, including helping vulnerable adults to stay in their own homes.

   Regarding transport, the Council are seeking savings on what they contribute to certain bus routes.

   The Chairman asked Cllr. Fysh if he would report back on whether there are still funds available to Parish Councils that would help NPPC to maintain its drains.

6. Planning Applications

   6.1 - there have been no new applications

   6.2 - there were no decisions to report, however, the Chairman did inform the meeting that he has written a letter to express his concerns over the sanitary facilities and arrangements at Stonage Lane.
7. **Affordable Housing**
This item was deferred until next meeting so that the Steering Committee can present the results.

8. **Highways**
Cllr. Pike reported that the village grit bin has been added to the Council’s plan and has been re-filled. There is a pot hole reported on A3066 and problems with a manhole cover near the Old Slaughterhouse. A pot hole has reappeared in Willis Lane. The need to ensure that the main road drains need clearing and that the catch pits need to be emptied and jetted was highlighted.

8.1 Councillors received an update on information relating to a bus shelter. The process includes and pavement license (£500), planning application (around £350), cost of shelter, and agreeing a suitable location which also must be done in consultation with the bus service provider.

8.2 Discussion on the signage for the village was deferred.

9. **Neighbourhood watch**
It was reported that in the week before Christmas there was a daytime burglary at Symes farmyard and goods were stolen. No one has been questioned or detained although the police did make enquiries when it happened.

10. **Speedwatch**
More volunteers would be most welcome. Nothing of particular note to report.

11. **Finance**
   11.1 **Budget for 2014 Precept**
The Chairman talked through the budget plan as circulated and proposed that the Council increase the precept by 3%. This was seconded by Cllr. Burton. RESOLVED to set the precept at £4,275.

   11.2 **Maintenance of village green**
It was RESOLVED to pay Ian Perrin £123.50 for the maintenance of the village green.

   11.3 **Donation to Hall Committee**
It was RESOLVED to pay donations to both the Hall Committee and the North Perrott Parochial Church Council both in the sum of £500.

   11.4 **Bank Reconciliation**
The bank reconciliation was circulated in advance and was approved by Cllrs.

   11.5 **Clerks Salary & Expenses**
The Clerks salary for November and December was approved.

12. **Review of emergency resources**
The emergency resources document was reviewed and the Clerk is to update and forward to the Chairman to be circulated and added to the village web site.

13. **Correspondence**
A letter from the Yeovil CAB has been received which will be dealt with at the next meeting.

**Meeting closed 8.50pm. Next Parish meeting Monday 3rd March 2014**