

NORTHWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the Meeting of Northwood Parish Council, held in Northwood Primary School, Wyatts Lane, Northwood on Tuesday, 3rd September, scheduled to start at 6.30pm.

Present: Councillors: John Pullen (Chairman), Peter Baker, Mark Coventry, Steph Flux, Paul Fuller, David Jaggar, Richard Martin and John Nicholson.

Also in attendance:
Katie Riley (Clerk and RFO)
No members of the public.

83/24-25 To approve any apologies for absence.

None received, all present.

84/24-25 To receive any declarations of members' interests and written requests for dispensations on items forming the agenda.

Cllr Pullen declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute number **88/24-25 a (ii)** as he was a Trustee of Northwood Cemetery. There had been no written requests for dispensation on items forming the agenda.

85/24-25 To receive a report on any local safety neighbourhood issues which have occurred since the last meeting held of the Parish Council. PCSO Lisa Paul

had forwarded her apologies as she was on the mainland but hoped to be able to attend the next meeting in October. No issues were raised at the meeting.

86/24-25 To confirm and authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting of Northwood Parish Council held on 2nd July 2024, and minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee on 14th August 2024.

RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the meeting of Northwood Parish Council held on 2nd July 2024, and the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 14th August 2024 be confirmed and the Chairman be authorised to sign them on behalf of the Parish Council.

87/24-25 To receive any matters arising on the minutes, not requiring a resolution.

The Clerk had circulated minutes arising from the previous meeting with some unconfirmed actions. No items were raised at the meeting.

Cllr Coventry took over the chair for the following planning items:

88/24-25 Town and Country Planning

a. The following applications were considered:

- i. Application No: 24/01120/FUL
Location: 33 Fieldway Crescent PO31 8AJ
Proposal: Proposed dwelling and vehicular access; alterations to vehicular access for 31 and 33 Fieldway Crescent

RESOLVED:

THAT Northwood Parish Council have no objection to this application but note that it has two parking spaces compared to the houses either side which only have one parking space, thereby taking parking spaces from the road and creating the potential for parking problems.

- ii. Application No: 24/01168/LBC
Location: Northwood Cemetery, Newport Road PO31 7ER
Proposal: Listed Building Consent for proposed alterations and extension to existing steps to West Chapel

At the Chairman's request Cllr Pullen remained in the room to provide more information about the application.

RESOLVED:

THAT Northwood Parish Council strongly support this application for ease of access and health and safety reasons. Whilst conservation of Island buildings is important, so is making community assets such as this practical and useable.

- iii. Application No: 24/01182/HOU
Location: Willow View Hillis Gate Road
Proposal: Proposed single storey extension and detached garage

RESOLVED:

THAT Northwood Parish Council object to this application on the grounds that it is outside of the settlement boundary and is an example of 'creeping development' which should be actively discouraged.

THAT Northwood Parish Council write to Mr Ollie Boulter and IWALC to request better explanation and clarity in architectural drawings, that they are provided in a standard format showing the current situation and what is being requested, and use actual measurements rather than scale.

b. The following decisions were noted:

- i. Application No: 24/01052/HOU
Location: 24 Greenways PO31 8AN
Proposal: Demolition of porch and garage; Proposed side extension, rear extension & external access ramp
Decision: Granted
- ii. Application No: 24/00848/HOU
Location: 4 Willow Tree Drive PO31 8AR
Proposal: Proposed single storey side extension
Decision: Granted
- iii. Application No: 24/00861/HOU
Location: Robin Hill Pallance Lane PO31 8LT
Proposal: Demolition of conservatory; proposed single storey rear flat roof extension
Decision: Granted
- iv. Application No: 24/00716/HOU
Location: 108 Nodes Road PO31 8AE
Proposal: Proposed single storey rear/side extension
Decision: Granted

Cllr Pullen took back the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

- c. To consider a Housing Needs Survey for Northwood and suggestion from Gurnard Parish Council to meet with Community Action IW's Rural Housing Enabler, Gretel Ingham, regarding the possibility of commissioning

RESOLVED:

THAT Northwood Parish Council join Gurnard Parish Council for an informal meeting with Community Action IW's Rural Housing Enabler, Gretel Ingham, regarding the possibility of commissioning a housing needs survey for Northwood and Gurnard. Cllr Fuller to liaise with the Gurnard Parish Clerk to take this forward and for interested members to attend as they wish.

- d. To agree on any action following concerns received about cars parked on Pallance Lane.

RESOLVED:

THAT Northwood Parish Council write to Planning Enforcement and request urgent action is taken.

- e. To consider a response to the public consultation for the Solent CO2 Pipeline Project
Cllr Fuller shared his understanding of the proposal having attended 2 meetings with Exxon where questions were asked about what the benefit of such a major infrastructure project were for the Island. Members discussed the project and failed to see any benefit for the local community, considering it to be detrimental to the Island, and that it would create a significant problem for future generations should it go ahead.

RESOLVED:

THAT Northwood Parish Council object to the Solent CO2 Pipeline Project in the strongest terms.

- f. To review the government's intended changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
Cllr Fuller provided an overview of the draft revisions to the NPPF and that a significant increase in the target for houses to be built per annum was being proposed, rising from 730 to 1104 compared to 453 proposed in the Island Planning Strategy. Members considered this to be completely unachievable.

RESOLVED:

THAT Northwood Parish Council object to the allocation of 1104 houses being proposed, especially for the Isle of Wight, and that 453 being proposed in the Island Planning Strategy, whilst still ambitious, is more realistic and achievable.

- g. To consider and agree on the character of Northwood houses
Although members considered this, it was felt that the houses were defined by era rather than area.

RESOLVED:

TO take no further action regarding a design statement for Northwood.

- 89/24-25 Consultation** **To consider a response to the Local Council Tax Support Scheme**

RESOLVED:

THAT the Local Council Tax Support Scheme Consultation be supported and that more support schemes should be simplified in this way.

90/24-25 To receive the summer review of assets and agree on any maintenance required including repair of the noticeboard. Cllr Nicholson advised he hadn't yet completed the review of assets and requested that this be brought forward to the next meeting. Cllr Martin advised that one of the legs on the noticeboard had rotted and needed replacing and the Clerk confirmed she still couldn't access the left-hand side of the board.

RESOLVED:

FOR the summer review of assets be brought forward to the next meeting and Cllr Baker investigate options for a new noticeboard.

Members also asked about the planter by the noticeboard which had been replaced but not yet finished.

RESOLVED:

TO ask Tony Hewitt when the planter would be finished and standardised.

91/24-25 To agree on any action following suggestions and concerns raised at Venner Play Park

RESOLVED:

THAT the suggestion to put cable ties around the top bar above the swings as a deterrent to birds be supported, and for the Clerk to write to the resident concerned to suggest they meet Cllr Martin on site to discuss suggestions for a more toddler friendly play area.

92/24-25 To consider purchasing stickers to cover the faded 'Think 30' signs on Nodes Road

RESOLVED:

THAT Cllr Baker investigate with Biltmore the costs involved in producing stickers to cover the faded 'Think 30' signs on Nodes Road and Pallance Road.

It was suggested that stickers could also be purchased for residents of Nodes Road and Pallance Road to place on their bins.

RESOLVED:

THAT Cllr Baker also enquire with Biltmore about bin stickers targeting one road at a time and a note be put in the Northwood News about the idea so that people can return their sticker for reuse if they did not wish to participate.

93/24-25 To consider supporting the estimated costs provided by Rights of Way to resurface Church Lane

RESOLVED:

THAT Cllr Martin meet with local residents to look at the problem and identify any cheaper alternative solutions to bring back to the next meeting.

94/24-25 To consider applying for the grant available through the Isle of Wight National Landscape (previously Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)) to fund a Tree Warden Scheme

RESOLVED:

TO take no further action in applying for a grant to fund a Tree Warden Scheme

95/24-25 To review and agree on any changes to the Grant Application Process.
The issue with grant applications being decided upon in the presence of applicants was discussed and it was felt that applicants should be asked to leave the room if present during the meeting, in order that a decision could be made without influence.

RESOLVED:

THAT future grant applicants be asked to leave the room if present when their application is being considered, and for Cllr Nicholson to share the process used by Cowes Town Council.

96/24-25 To receive further information and consider the grant application for £1,500 from the Early Years Teacher at Northwood Primary School to enhance the school's outdoor space for reading and writing.

RESOLVED:

THAT Cllr Martin obtain further information to bring back to the next meeting.

97/24-25 To consider the grant application from UKSA for £420 to fund 10 Northwood children to experience their Test the Water Programme

RESOLVED:

THAT the grant application from UKSA for £420 to fund 10 Northwood Primary School children to experience their Test the Water Programme be approved.

98/24-25 To receive an update from the Projects Working Group. Cllr Martin reported that numbers remained good at the Warm Space and that he had received 30 electric blankets through the community grant which he would start to distribute next week. Given that £346 of the total price was VAT and could be reclaimed by the Parish Council he asked if this money could come back to the warm space which members agreed. This would enable him to purchase the extra microwaveable wheat bags as originally intended. He suggested they needed to start thinking about the next picnic in the park and a meeting of the projects group would be arranged soon to coincide with the end of a warm space session. Cllr Flux reported on a very useful tour of the Cowes Foodbank recently and that following this visit, Cllr Martin had arranged for 628 toilet rolls (which they were short of) be delivered to them, courtesy of Bunzl, on behalf of the Parish Council. He also advised that donations of used clothes would be gratefully received. Cllr Flux advised she would shortly be updating the community information booklets and warm space posters, and that 247 signatures had been collected in support of Age UK's petition for the Government to halt

their proposed change to the Winter Fuel Payment. Cllr Martin advised that they were waiting to discuss this with Richard Quigley MP who had been invited to attend another warm space.

RESOLVED:

THAT the update from the Projects Group be noted and that £346 reclaimed for VAT be ring fenced for the warm space.

99/24-25 Cllr Nicholson, the IWC Ward Member for Cowes South and Northwood, had circulated a written report for information.

RESOLVED:

THAT the report of Cllr Nicholson, the IWC Ward Member for Cowes South and Northwood, be duly noted.

100/24-25 Finance

a. To note the conclusion of audit and certified Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year ended 31 March 2024

RESOLVED:

THAT the conclusion of audit and certified Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year ended 31 March 2024 be noted.

b. To note the copy bank statements and bank reconciliation for July and August 2024

RESOLVED:

THAT the bank reconciliation with the statements to the end of August 2024 be duly noted.

c. To approve the reimbursement of £2075.99 to Richard Martin for electric blankets, an additional £66.29 to the £2009.70 community grant funding received due to a price increase

RESOLVED:

THAT the reimbursement of £2075.99 to Richard Martin for electric blankets, an additional £66.29 to the £2009.70 community grant funding received be approved.

d. To approve the cheque and electronic payments for September 2024

RESOLVED:

THAT the following payments for September totalling £5474.10 be approved:

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| • BDO LLP (Audit) | £252.00 |
| • K Riley expenses (Aug and Sep) | £99.08 |
| • Community Action IW (Sep payroll) | £904.63 |
| • Northwood Village Hall (Cool space July) | £240.00 |
| • Armed Forces Day (Event support) | £50.00 |
| • Richard Martin (Reimbursement for electric blankets) | £2075.99 |

- JW Autoshine (Watering) £1852.40
- Biltmore (Cool space banner) £15.60

101/24-25 To note the Statistics for the Website up to 28th August 2024.

RESOLVED:

THAT the statistics be noted.

102/24-25 Correspondence – As per emailed to Councillors. Cllr Pullen raised the correspondence from Rights of Way re. overgrown vegetation on unregistered land causing problems for residents of Wyatts Close.

RESOLVED:

THAT the correspondence be noted.

103/24-25 Councillors' reports

Cllr Fuller had circulated a written report. Cllr Nicholson reported on the successful re-opening of the Travellers Joy now under new ownership. Cllr Baker reported that he had referred the dip on Nodes Road to Island Roads following Southern Water's poor reinstatement and that it was due to be repaired next month. Cllr Pullen raised the invitation to attend the Lord-Lieutenant Awards Ceremony at the Royal Yacht Squadron in October that the Clerk had forwarded which she would seek clarity about. He also raised the trip hazard caused by the telephone cable left by Open Reach on Wyatts Lane which, having been unable to resolve directly with Open Reach, will refer to Island Roads.

104/24-25 Future agenda items

None raised at the meeting.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 9.35 pm

Signed Dated