

Annual Residents meeting at 19:00 on 16th April 2024

Nempnett Thrubwell Parish Hall

Minutes

1. Attendance:
P Hellier(PH-chair), J Batten (JB), J Mallone (JM), Ingrid Wilms (IW), James Everett (JE), Peter Rendle (PR), George Ford (GF), Ward Councillor: David Harding (DH), one parishioner: Stephen Read(SR) and L Horne (LH-Parish Clerk).
2. Apologies:
 - a. None.
3. Approval of minutes of meeting on 4th April 2023:
 - a. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved, vote 3.0
4. Announcements from the Chair:
 - a. The chair gave a report highlighting the key events of the last 12 months, copy attached.
5. Any other business:
 - a. PH would like to propose a Green Spaces Group to look after and maintain the communal green spaces around the village.
 - b. SR raised the following key points via his agent, Acorn RPC, and wanted the points raised at both the Annual Residents Meeting and the Parish Council Meeting. PH confirmed that these points would be discussed within this meeting and considered for a later Parish Council meeting due to the timing and a very busy agenda with audit and year end:
 - 1) Housing – the need to provide additional housing for local people who wish to live and work in the parish and/or adjoining parishes: PH commented that this point had been raised previously and discussed at length but will discuss again at a future Parish Council Meeting. The need in the village is very small plus no interest has been shown by any housing associations. SR commented that “Low Cost” and “Affordable” housing were key factors.
 - 2) New and larger village hall- fit for purpose to meet the current and future needs of the local community: JE commented that the hall had good capacity for the size of the village. JM agreed that the hall is large enough for the numbers that attend events. IW and JE agreed and asked where funds to build another hall would come from.
 - 3) Parking issues at the church –to be resolved; PH would like to gather more information about who is impacted by this issue
 - 4) Clean energy – the opportunities for creating a renewable clean energy scheme for the benefit of local people and the wider area; IW commented that grants are available but need to be applied for not being taken up.
 - c. PH acknowledged that at the 2023 Annual Residents Meeting, SR missed his opportunity to contribute and apologised if his opportunity was not made clear.
 - d. SR queried some guidance given by Ward Councillor, Anna Box, at a previous meeting whereby she suggested that councillors not in attendance at a

previous meeting could sign off minutes. SR asked if this was correct and would like to know if the councillors should have voted rather than accept the Ward Councillor's guidance?

ACTION: PH agreed to explore SR's query and respond at a future meeting.

- e. SR raised a query with the Parish Council following the full Code of Conduct, paragraph 12 item 2, in relation to PH planning application. SR was advised that the Parish Council follow and review the Standing Orders annually and that these are available on the website for all to view.

ACTION: PH to Review paragraph 12(2) and Nempnett Thrubwell's Standing Orders and respond at a future meeting.

- 6. Date of next meeting:
 - a. It was agreed that the next meeting would be 8th April 2025.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 19:30.

Chair Person's report:

The year started with the Parish Walk for the Coronation held 8th May which was a great success giving people the chance to meet new neighbours and catch up with old.

Adrian Johnstone saw out his notice as Parish Clerk after over 6 years of valuable service to the Parish Council and the parish, kindly staying until a replacement was found.

After a worrying time trying to attract a new clerk, we were lucky enough to find Liz Horne who has managed admirably with the steep learning curve.

We also welcomed George Ford, Ingrid Wilms and Peter Rendle to the Council to replace Vicky Lambert and Sarah Miller whom we thank for their time on the council.

A quick look at the minute's shows that as usual a large proportion of non-routine time has been spend on development within the parish, both proposed and unauthorised. Of particular note was the application for a new dwelling to support an equestrian business based on a false case. This has also cast a shadow over a similar previously approved application elsewhere in the parish. The developmental pressures on this rural community are unlikely to change in the coming years.

The other common topic is the state of our roads about which we are often in contact with Banes. As always, these issues are best reported immediately with photos on fix.bathnes.gov.uk and only escalated to the parish council when necessary.

Using funds from the Community Infrastructure Levy we have been able to purchase a bench in commemoration of the Coronation of King Charles 3rd and have the Jubilee seat repaired. Both should soon be in place!

We made use of the 'Clean and Green' team to tidy up the triangle at Dewdown (Five Ways).

After continuing to struggle with our bank account, our clerk Liz Horne has managed to migrate us to a modern on-line account with Unity Trust Bank.

Thanks to John Mallone for representing us at the Parish Council Airports Association, and to our new district councillors particularly Anna Box for their support.