

NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council
 Held at 6.30pm in the Town Hall, Old Bristol Road
on Tuesday 19th December 2023

Present:

Cllr Mike Kelly (Chair)
 Cllr Shelley Rider
 Cllr Jonathan Duckworth
 Cllr Steve Robinson
 Cllr Paul Francis
 Cllr Peter Bodkin
 Cllr Natalie Bennett
 Cllr Patsy Freeman
 Cllr Colleen Rothwell
 Cllr Angela Norman

Minutes:

Clerk

Apologies:

Cllr Ros Mulhall

Verbal Introductions

Out of respect for District Cllr Norman Kay, ex-Nailsworth Town cllr and ex-mayor of Nailsworth, the meeting observed a minute's silence.

Public participation

A member of the public was present to speak about planning application S.23/2154/HHOLD The Coach House, Spring Hill, Nailsworth. The member of the public circulated plans of the Coach House and discussed their application.

2023/144**Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensations**

There were none.

2023/145**Consideration of Planning Applications received as follows:****CONSULTATION**

- a) S.23/2258/HHOLD 1 Dark Lane, Nailsworth Stroud Gloucestershire GL6 0DR. Application Household Proposal. Reconfigured vehicular access. Ground floor windows to existing wc and new ensuite.

NTC comment:

Cllr Patsy Freeman declared an interest as she knows the householder.

Object. NTC is very concerned about the intention to use the pavement for vehicle parking and feels this will set a precedent for others to do so.

- b) S.23/2154/HHOLD The Coach House, Spring Hill, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: Householder. Insertion of dormer window and re-roofing. Resubmission of S.22/2073/HHOLD

NTC comment: No observations.

- c) S.23/2356/LBC Egypt Mill Stroud Road Nailsworth Gloucestershire GL6 0AE. Application Listed building. Partial demolition and new extensions to provide new kitchen and restaurant. Enlarge windows to first floor principal elevation.

NTC comment: Noted.

- d) S.23/2400/PIP Land Adjacent To Gracedale, Old Bristol Road, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire. Application: Permission in Principal. Erection of up to 2no. dwellings.
NTC comment: Object. NTC is concerned about the potential loss of green space, location and the amount of development on the land. If this application goes ahead NTC request CIL funding.
This application was withdrawn before NTC's comments could be submitted
- e) S.23/2355/FUL Egypt Mill, Stroud Road, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: Full Partial demolition and new extensions to provide new kitchen and restaurant. Enlarge windows to first floor principal elevation.
NTC comment: Support. NTC notes that it's good to see investment in this property.

TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA

- f) S.23/2361/TCA Mortimer Gardens, Fountain Street, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire. Application: Trees in a Conservation Area. T1- Birch - Fell to ground level. T2- Birch - Requires pruning to clear the lamp post.
NTC comment: This application was made by NTC.

2023/146

To confirm the minutes of the Special Budget Meeting on Tuesday 28th November 2023

The minutes were approved.

All agreed

2023/147

To agree the Annual Budget for 2024-2025 and the precept request

1. To **agree** the proposed Annual Budget 2024-25

All agreed

2. To **agree** the precept request of **£435,876**

All agreed

2023/148

To confirm minutes of the Council meeting and of the Recreation & Amenities meeting held on Tuesday 5th December 2023

Both these sets of minutes were approved.

All agreed

2023/149

To consider the recommendations of the Recreation & Amenities Committee:

It was **agreed** for contractor 2 to replace the damaged play equipment at a cost of £2,628.

All agreed

It was **agreed** for a RAAC inspection of the KGV changing rooms to be carried out at a cost of £770 +VAT

All agreed

2023/150

To confirm the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Thursday 23rd November and resumed on Tuesday 5th December 2023

The minutes were approved.

All agreed

2023/151

To consider the recommendations of the Personnel Committee:

It was **agreed** to confirm the Personnel Committee budget for 2024-2025 as detailed in the Annual Budget.

All agreed

2023/152

Matters of Urgency *important items that have arisen since the meeting summons (agenda) and cannot wait to be addressed with a written report at a future meeting, due to inflexible deadlines.*

The mayor gave thanks to all for the work over the past year.

It was noted that an emergency payment had been raised to Hosting UK due to an issue with their bank details (the original payment had been returned). The emergency payment was raised by the Deputy Clerk and authorised by Cllr Jonathan Duckworth on Friday 8th December.

The emergency payment had been made without usual requirement for two cllrs to authorise; this is because the Clerk does not have the authority to change the bank settings for the Deputy Clerk. The Deputy Clerk does not have the authority to change settings to downgrade his powers. Cllr Jonathan Duckworth undertook to downgrade the Deputy Clerk's powers for online banking.

2023/153

Accounts:

To agree payments in accordance with the budget as listed in the attached reports

These were agreed.

Cllrs Natalie Bennett and Jonathan Duckworth agreed to approve the payments before Friday at midday.

All agreed

2023/154

To consider movements of Reserves

It was **agreed** to move £16,335 from 6050 Hazelwood Bungalow Reserve to 6300 KGV Buildings Reserve

All agreed

2023/155

To consider a Pre-application Policy

To **agree** the Pre-application Policy

All agreed

2023/156

To agree membership of the Town Hall Major Projects working party.

At the last meeting it was agreed that the working party will consist of:

Cllr Jonathan Duckworth

Cllr Steve Robinson

With a third member still to be decided.

Cllr Colleen Rothwell was nominated as the third member of the working party.

All agreed.

2023/157

Financial summary:

- a) **Income and Expenditure report**
- b) **Budget comparison report**
- c) **Main bank account reconciliation report**
- d) **Premier bank account reconciliation report**

These reports were noted.

2023/158**To review NTC's Risk Assessment**

The Clerk highlighted that with local elections in May 2024, there will shortly be guidance from SDC on how cllrs and the council must act in the pre-election period. Council must be seen to be acting impartially and it's strongly advised that announcements about new or controversial initiatives that could be seen to be advantageous to candidates, are delayed until after the elections.

NTC's Communications Policy is that all communications come from the office and not from individual cllrs.

2023/159**To review the Council's [Action Plan](#)**

Noted.

2023/160**Report from Town Mayor**

There was a very good turn out for the TIC/Library get together.

2023/161**Report from Deputy Mayor**

The PCSOs held a community event, which was well attended by members of the community. They've produced a report from the day.

The Deputy Mayor undertook to send it out to all.

SDC are launching match funding for community groups who raise funds via crowdfunding.

2023/162**Report from District Councillors**

The examination of Stroud Local Plan has been paused for six months by the Planning Inspectorate due to concerns on the impact of the Local Plan on the motorway junction. It was confirmed this won't change the Local Plan as this has already been submitted.

The effect of this on Nailsworth is very limited due to the town's location in the AONB and the flood risk status.

Amendment agreed at council meeting on Tuesday 16th January 2024, minute 2023/169 to read:

The Planning Inspectorate is considering a request by SDC that the examination of Stroud Local Plan be paused for six months, due to concerns on the impact of the Local Plan on the motorway junction. It was confirmed this won't change the Local Plan as this has already been submitted. The effect of this on Nailsworth is very limited due to the town's location in the AONB and the flood risk status.

2023/163**Report from County Councillors**

Gigaclear still needs to complete their work to install fibre broadband; Nymphsfield Road is due to be resurfaced by GCC and it was confirmed that Gigaclear will use existing infrastructure for most of their work rather than digging up the new road surface.

Lengthman's work; (two weeks work across the division); this has uncovered a large drain at Bridge Street which will help lower flood risk.

Nailsworth Primary School windows: the original metal window frames need replacing.

2023/164

To receive an update on NTC office activities

There has been a request to book the Arkell Centre for Christmas Day, to open it for people who are on their own.

2023/165

Report from the Rural Services Network on Rural Health and Care

This was organised by GAPTC as an information sharing session.

2023/166

Report from the Carters Way working party

Noted.

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Town Mayor
Nailsworth Town Council
Civic Centre, Old Market, Nailsworth, GL6 0DU

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Date