

**FLAX BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL  
MEETING  
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, FLAX BOURTON  
TUESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2007**

Meeting Commenced: 8.00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 9.10 pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Barnes (Chairman), Higgins (Vice Chairman), Brice, Mrs Crawford and Mrs Johnson.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** The Clerk, 4 members of the public and District Councillor Burden.

*Prior to the meeting, the public in attendance were allowed 15 minutes to discuss items on the agenda with members of the Council.*

**291) Apologies for Absence**

Councillors Mrs Hore-Ruthven, Armour and District Councillor Mrs Baker

**292) Declarations of Interests**

None

**293) To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2007 as a true and correct record.**

Councillor Mrs Johnson requested that the following be added to minute number 280  
“ Tarmac will now accept agenda items from the Parish Council”

Councillor Mrs Johnson pointed out that minute number 284 should be amended to read: “ a decision was postponed until Councillor Mrs Hore-Ruthven was available for comment”

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Councillor Mrs Johnson, seconded by Councillor Higgins and agreed that subject to the above amendments, the minutes be approved. A vote was taken, All in favour.

**294) To approve and sign the minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2007 as a true and correct record.**

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Councillor Higgins, seconded by Councillor Brice and agreed that the minutes be approved. A vote was taken, All in favour.

**295) Financial Reports**

To approve the monthly expenditure of £1179.00

To approve the monthly bank reconciliation for January and February 2007

To approve the budgetary control report for January, February and March 2007

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Councillor Higgins, seconded by Councillor Barnes and agreed that the above financial reports be taken on block and approved. A vote was taken. 2 in favour, 3 abstained.

**296) Removal of Debris at Bourton Combe**

Debris from the ditch had still not been removed. District Councillor Burden was advised and agreed to make further enquiries.

**297) Footpath / Cycle path Update**

Councillor Mrs Johnson advised the Council on the official planning application and asked that the Parish Council write a letter of support. Councillors discussed the possibility of the cycle path avoiding the play area.

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Councillor Mrs Johnson, seconded by Councillor Brice and agreed that the Council would write to North Somerset Council and Mr Adrian Leonard offering strong support of the path. It was agreed that the council would ask North Somerset to consider rerouting the path down the left hand side of the footpath pitch in order to avoid the children's play area. A vote was taken, All in favour.

**298) Proposal of change to X1 bus service.**

Councillor Brice advised Council that the X1 service between Bristol and Weston-super-Mare does not stop in Flax Bourton at present. However, the bus schedules had recently been changed and the service would be stopping at a new leisure facility in Hewish. It was therefore agreed that the Parish Council should write to Councillor John Crockford-Hawley the Executive Member of Strategic Planning and Transport, to request that the schedule also include a stop within Flax Bourton. A vote was taken, All in favour.

**299) ROWs. List of repairs, Flax Bourton Rounds Booklet, Maintenance of hedgerows.**

Councillor Johnson advised the Council that extensive repairs were needed along footpaths and metal kissing gates were also required. Mr Adrian Leonard of North Somerset Council would be asked to attend the Footpath Users group meeting whereby funding would be discussed. The Flax Bourton Rounds Booklet had been produced detailing 6 Parish Walks.

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Councillor Mrs Johnson, seconded by Councillor Brice and agreed that the Footpath users Group would report back to Council after a meeting with North Somerset was held. A vote was taken, All in favour.

Council members discussed the extensive amount of debris that had been left on roads following the massacre of hedgerows by North Somerset Council contractors.

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Councillor Mrs Johnson, seconded by Councillor Mrs Crawford and agreed that the Council write strong letter of complaint, ask for the debris to be cleared and be reassured that such a situation would not reoccur. A vote was taken, All in favour.

**300) MOD Fuel Depot Update – Health and Safety Issues**

Councillor Higgins updated the Council and confirmed that letters had been sent on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2007 and 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007, showing evidence of the decommission and the illegal irregularities on the deemed consent. Parishioners, Mr Rob Waycott and Mrs Jane Moss had worked extremely hard obtaining information for the Council and it was unanimously agreed to write a letter of thanks from the Council.

The objections had been put to the Oil and Pipeline Agency by Mr Roger Willmott of North Somerset Council, and a meeting is to be held with the planners shortly.

Health and Safety also raised concern and it was agreed that the Council would write to the Health and Safety Executive and the Fire authority to highlight the issues.

District Councillor Burden confirmed that he had also informed elected members of the Heath & Safety concerned and had provided them with pictures of the site.

Councillor Mrs Crawford proposed a vote of thanks to Councillor Higgins for all his hard work. A vote was taken, All in favour.

**301) May 2007 Elections.**

Councillor Higgins reminded members that the Closing date for nominations was NOON on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2007 and was concerned that time was running out to advise the electorate.

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Councillor Higgins, seconded by Councillor Mrs Crawford and agreed that a flyer be printed and distributed to all villagers, advising them of their right to stand for election. Councillor Mrs Crawford offered to design the flyer and the Clerk would arrange printing.

**302) Village Orderly**

The Clerk had drawn up a proposed Job Description and Contract for the Village Orderly position.

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Councillor Barnes, seconded by Councillor Higgins and agreed to advertise the post by issuing a flyer to all residents and to obtain a quote for advertising the post in the Mercury newspaper. The position would offer a rate of pay between £5.85 and £7.00 per hour depending on experience.

**303) Open Forum.**

The Clerk advised Council of correspondence that had been received:

- North Somerset Agricultural Society had written providing details of forthcoming events. Katie Hutchins would be invited to the next meeting.
- Councillor Barnes updated the council on the Phone Mast and confirmed it belonged to British Rail and did not require planning permission.
- Councillor Barnes advised members that the Sports Pitch was very nearly ready. It required cutting and feeding and should be suitable for play in approximately 4 – 8 weeks.
- Councillor Barnes advised members that the warranties from Persimmon were in the process of being provided and urged the Clerk to chase the solicitors on the final transfer paperwork
- The Clerk advised members that she had repeatedly asked North Somerset Council to repair the slow down sign on the A370 and would keep chasing re the damaged bus shelter at Station Road.
- Councillor Brice raised concerns about mud the highway from the forthcoming Horse trials and Belmont Farm and the Volkswagen Rally at The Showground. The Clerk confirmed she would make North Somerset Council aware of these concerns.

There, being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting.

Signed.....Chair      Dated.....

Date of next meeting: 10<sup>th</sup> April 2007