

**Minutes of the Meeting of Nicholforest Parish Council**  
**7.00 pm on Monday 22nd May 2017 at Nicholforest Village Hall**

**Attendees**

Cllr J Sisson (Chair), Cllr C Dunn, Cllr K. Robinson, Cllr D. Hammond, Cllr E. Smith, County Cllr Val Tarbitt, Clerk Mrs Norma Wright

Members of the Public; 3 Residents from Bushfield attended also

**Apologies for Absence**

Cllr K Ireland, Cllr D. Shepherd, Cllr G Noble, Cllr D. Carlyle

**Minutes**

**Resolved;** the Minutes of meeting held on 20th March 2017 be signed by Chairman as a true and correct record.

**Declarations of Interest & Requests for Dispensations**

None

**Annual Elections**

**Chairman** J. Sisson was retained; proposed by Cllr C Dunn and seconded by Cllr K Robinson

**Vice Chairman** C Dunn was retained; proposed by Cllr D Hammond and seconded by Cllr K Robinson

**Report on the activities of the Parish Council**

4.1 Road repairs complaints; Cllr J Sisson asked for a request for improvements to the Church entrance and Kerbstones to be made to Gareth Scott at the Council; **Update** ; The roads are now in a good state of repair now but the Crossroads are in a terrible state ; - **Update**; Recent repairs have been made to the Crossroads and the pavements outside the Church have been upgraded also.

4.2 Website Construction; New Footpath maps have now been added to the website

4.3 Broadband upgrade; Cllr D. Hammond was going to meet with Paul Cretney regarding Kershopefoot

**Planning Matters**

6.1 Bridge Inn, Penton; New signage; no comment from the PC

**Correspondence**

7.1 Letter regarding Tree planting plans opposite West Mains Farm from Edwin Thompson Estate agent received, 3 members of the Public attended to complain about the loss of view this plan will cause the residents of Bushfield, a letter is to be written to Brian Fox of the Forestry Commission and Edwin Thompson to raise the complaint for the residents and the PC support for them and concerns for Footpaths and Right of ways already in place on the site and ask for possible re-site of the Trees.

7.2 Complaint received by Cllr V Tarbitt about the state of the roads around Kershopefoot, Cllr V Tarbitt was dealing with the complaint so no reply needed from the PC.

7.3 Letter of complaint received from the Nicholforest Art Group whose Annual Exhibition of works became impeded by the POP UP bar which is currently running in the Village Hall whilst the Local Pub is being refurbished after discussions a better outcome will be made for the Exhibition next year if the bar is still running.

### **Financial Matters**

- 8.1 The Clerk's timesheet and costs of £504 were agreed to be paid by the Council to Norma Wright
- 8.2 Asset Register – nothing to add this year
- 8.3 BDO form submitted after external PL Gauntlet audit £50
- 8.4 Website – ongoing costs – application for Transparency Grant to be made by Clerk
- 8.5 Other spend; Calc Membership £160.14; Money for a new exit and hardstanding for the Church was discussed and Cllr V Tarbitt suggested applying for a Community Grant at the Local Elections.
- 8.6 It was agreed that the Halifax account should be written off out of the accounts as the account was closed years ago by the Halifax as they said the money was refunded.

### **Village Matters**

- 9.1 Hedge cutting; Hedges have now been trimmed to a satisfactory level.
- 9.2 Cllr D Hammond has been contacted by the Campaign for Borders Rail for support to reinstate the Railway Lines in our area, it was agreed to agree in principle and await the feasibility study which is due in the Autumn.
- 9.3 Cllr J Sisson asked if Grant funding is available for hardstanding and a new exit for the Grave yard at Nicholforest Church, Cllr V Tarbitt suggested applying for a Community grant.

### **Councillor Matters**

10.1 Cllr V Tarbitt visited Kershopefoot and thought the Cul de Sac needed better lighting and would see if there could be an improvement; Cllr V Tarbitt had asked for a new light for the resident concerned possibly on her actual property.

10.2 Cllr D.Hammond asked for the village Post Box to be reinstated as soon as possible; Cllr DH has found a site for it on a grass verge.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

Suggested date of the next meeting to take place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 7pm,.

The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

