



North Petherton Town Council

Town Council Office, Small Hall, North Petherton Community Centre
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Town Clerk: Miss Joy Norris

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on Monday 17th March 2025
starting at 19:15hrs in The Small Hall, Fore Street, North Petherton, TA6 6QA

Present:

Chair: Councillor A Bradford

Town Councillors: D Baker, L Dennis, S Habberfield, L Hyde, S Sharman, P Spencer
and J Taylor

In attendance

Somerset Council: Councillor Bill Revans –
Miss J Norris (Town Clerk)

No members of the public attended the meeting.

GP15/2025 Chairs Announcements

There were no announcements.

GP16/2025 Community Time

This agenda item provides an opportunity for members of the public to speak on matters on the agenda or pertaining the work of the Committee.

Cllr Revans

Cllr Revans explained that he will be away for the Council meeting scheduled for 24 March 2025 and would like to take the opportunity this evening to give details of his suggestion to resolve the current problems regarding 30mph signage on the A38 on the southern approach to the town.

Somerset Council are in discussion with Persimmon Homes, the developer responsible for the new signage, but the location has proved fraught with difficulty due to the proximity but unknown precise location of the transatlantic cable.

Councillor Revans has suggested that the 30mph zone is moved to where currently 40mph zone starts thus removing the 40mph buffer zone and including the current layby adjacent to the Rigby Club entrance.

This proposal requires comments from the Town Council, and hopefully support, so will be an Agenda item for formal consideration at the next Town Council meeting.

Cllr Revans reported that there was a new development regarding planning as a recent King's Counsel opinion has suggested a different approach to nutrient neutrality for the County which means that where Wessex Water has upgraded their facilities / sites it may unblock the requirements of the planning system.

GP17/2025 Apologies for absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor L Spelman- Ives.

GP18/2025 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made at this stage of the meeting.

GP19/2025 Minutes

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 17 February 2025.

RESOLVED that the draft minutes of the meeting held on 17 February 2025 be confirmed as a correct record.

GP20/2025 Items for Payment

Consideration was given to invoices received for payment.

RESOLVED to pay the invoices detailed in the table below

Payee	Invoice Date	Invoice No	Net	VAT	Gross	information
Greenslades	28.02.2025	9667	£661.60	£32.32	£793.92	Cemetery maintenance
SALC	14.03.2025	1662	£40.00	£0.00	£40.00	Councillor Training
SALC	14.03.2025	1665	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00	Councillor Training
SALC	14.03.2025	1675	£12.50	£0.00	£12.50	Councillor Training
Greenslades	17.03.2025	9688	£6,168.00	£1,233.60	£7,401.00	Cemetery hedge replacement
Greenslades	17.03.2025	9687	£2,182.58	£436.52	£2,619.10	Cemetery path relayed
GWB Services	28.02.2025	3074	£100.00	£20.00	£120.00	Feb Playground inspections
GWB Services	28.02.2025	3073	£4,214.00	£842.80	£5,056.80	Feb grounds maintenance
Total			£13,413.68	£2,565.24	£16,078.32	

GP21/2025 Youth Provision

An update report from Youth Unlimited has not yet been received.

GP22/2025 Cemetery Entrance

Consideration was given to several matters pertaining to the cemetery entrance.

Discussion during consideration of this agenda item included:

- Providing a parking / turning area could be a substantial capital cost
- Felling the remaining cedar near the chapel will change the look of the cemetery
- The pressing need is to get the fallen tree removed from site

- Use of the fallen tree should ideally be within the cemetery
- Any revenue raised from selling the fallen tree should be used for providing items within the cemetery

RESOLVED

- (i) The vision of a parking / turning area is agreed in principle. The Town Clerk is delegated incur a maximum expenditure of £3,000 with Lyndon Brett partnership to get the project started.
- (ii) The Town Clerk should seek prices to cut down the cedar near the chapel to a height of 12ft, trim the holm oak, and take out the yew next to the holm oak and report on the quotations received to the General Purposes Committee for decision on a recommendation to Council.
- (iii) The fallen tree should be cut into lengths of the maximum length that the contractor can safely and economically handle, the price to include moving the lengths to a place for storage; the root must be removed at the same time and the contractor's price should include a price for its disposal.
- (iv) The Town Clerk is given delegated authority following consultation with the Chair of the General Purposes Committee to accept the best value quotation for the work to treat and move the fallen tree subject to a maximum spend of £2,500.
- (v) That the idea of an open day at the cemetery to provide general information on its operation and possible future plans is supported.

The meeting closed at 20:31hrs