

[No. 02]

Minutes of the first meeting of Newton Parish Council held at East Bridgford Methodist Church on Thursday June 25, 2015 at 7.30pm.

Lucas Morgan (chairman)
John Fearn Alex Carlyle
Margaret Goulder (v/chairman) Isobel Shouler
David Simms Michelle Topping (A)

Also present the Clerk Mike Elliott, Rushcliffe Borough Council member Coun. Nigel Lawrence and three members of the public.

The chairman welcomed Coun. David Simms to his first meeting.

As an introduction and at the request of the chairman, all members present gave a short resume about themselves and their aims as a councillor.

1] APOLOGIES Coun. Michelle Topping.

2] DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS There were none

3] MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MAY 28 2015 were accepted as circulated and signed by the chairman.

4] CASUAL VACANCIES

The council currently had two vacancies and the clerk said these were currently being advertised. The date after which the council could co-opt is July 10 and the item would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

5] CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The chairman gave thanks to those involved in the move to split the former Shelford and Newton council and in the exercise to create the new individual Newton council.

The question of the council website was raised and Coun. Fearn said he was happy to continue to be responsible for it. The council accepted the domain charge in the region of £25 a year with the name newtionparishcouncil.com.

6] ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING STREET SIGNS

The clerk was to attempt to progress the provision of new name directional road signs for Main Street/East Bridgford Lane junction and Newton lane, requested by the former parish council.

7] WELLINGTON AVENUE PLAY AREA

The council agreed to ask Rushcliffe Borough Council's Streetwise wing to continue to undertake regular checks on the play equipment if the contractors engaged

to undertake general maintenance work are not qualified to make those inspections. The specification for the general work was agreed as presented by Coun. Goulder.

8] TOWN AND PARISH FORUM

Coun. Goulder presented a report on her attendance at the recent Rushcliffe Borough Council Councils forum and said she had been slightly disappointed at the usefulness of it. The information presented had not been of particular interest. But she had met a Notts County Council officer Mr Neil Bettison who the clerk was now to contact in regard to an offer he had made to assist in the work of the council.

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9] PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA

The council agreed that there should in future be a regular item on the agenda to allow public participation in the meeting and that a 15-minute slot be provided towards the end of the meeting, Planning and Environment

10] CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in regard to the Electoral Review of Nottinghamshire they were carrying out and their draft recommendations which showed Newton moving from the Radcliffe ward to the new Bingham West instead. Members said they would not oppose the suggestion.

11] PLANNING MATTERS

Rushcliffe Borough Council planning decisions

15/0101/ADV. Richard Eccles, Newton Lane. 4 roundabout advertising signs, consisting of two tubular metals posts, secured into the ground plus a composite advertising plate attached to the posts. Refuse.

Coun. Lawrence gave a report on the development of Newton and included comments on the situation regarding funding under the Section 106 system. He confirmed there was money in the first section of the development towards the provision of a community hall, with an amount being stipulated to be made available. There will be similar provision in the second phase of the development and it was suggested the two amounts be put together to meet the cost of one Centre.

12] FINANCE

The clerk reported that the accounts given to Rushcliffe Borough Council had now been paid.

He reported on two more accounts which the council agreed be sent to the Borough for clearance, being: Shelford Parish Council £8 for hire of hall May 28 for council meeting and Elliott News £135 11p for office admin in April including postage, phone, photocopying.

The chairman proposed that the press and the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

The council agreed that the Clerk's contract and salary should remain unchanged at spinal column point 17 on the NALC scale for a period of 12 months"

13] ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING JULY 23. Nothing was put forward.

Letter from Cllr David Simms

Newton parish council meeting 23 July 2015.

(1) Please give my apologies as I am on holiday

Please place on the agenda for discussion

(2) I understand that the green space to the front of the new housing developments Bellway/David Wilson is under maintenance order and the land must be allocated/given to either a contractor (currently mead fleet) or the local council (David Wilson legal department has provided me with this information)

I believe it is imperative that the council should have the first refusal for the allocation of this land, I believe that it will increase the councils influence over the parishes affairs and enables us to manage the land effectively and efficiently whilst passing any savings on to the local residents that pay the charge, also it will be very useful for the council to have control/ownership of the land in order that the community may benefit not a private company.

I would ask the council to consider that we make representations immediately to the relevant authorities and show our intentions

(3) I understand from the last meeting that there is a parcel of land allocated to the parish formally the David Wilson show home car park including adjacent grassed area and that £250,000 is allocated for a community building.

Having done some preparatory work on costings and approximate measurements of land I would conclude that this land would be ideal for a relevantly reasonable sized parish hall and that costs could be kept within this budget it should be noted that the hall already would have a car park.

I believe that if we were to push forward and develop the hall utilising the land and monies allocated, it would be of benefit to the parish as it would provide a Community focal point and establishing a community ethos also it would provide legitimacy to this newly formed parish council

I would ask council to consider this proposal and if in favour a subcommittee is formed to push the project forward quickly.