

Newton Parish Council

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115/16

Minutes of a Council meeting of Newton Parish Council held in the Car Colston Village Hall, Car Colston, on WEDNESDAY 25 January 2017 at 7.30pm

Councillors:

Alex Carlyle, Janet Dobson, James Fisher,
Tony Forward, Mrs Margaret Goulder, Sarah Shaw,
Isabel Shouler, David Simms (A), Michelle Topping

Also present: Clerk Bill Banner, County Councillor Kay Cutts (later in the evening), and six members of the public including Mr Lee Sycamore and Ms Alex Raynor who came to present to Council at item 7 – Play Area

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr David Simms, who is in hospital, and members send their best wishes for a speedy recovery. Vice-chairman Cllr Alex Carlyle took the chair
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr James Fisher declared an interest in item 14 - Telephone Box
3. **Chairman's announcements:** None
4. **Minutes of the full Council meeting held on 23 November 2016:** these were accepted unanimously and duly signed by the chairman.
5. **Clerk's report on Matters arising from the minutes:** Nothing to report that is not to be covered by the Agenda.
6. **Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business**
Standing Orders were suspended at 7.36pm to allow a resident to comment on the quality of the grounds maintenance work and another resident to comment on the inaccessibility of the redefined bridal way. Cllr Fisher undertook to speak to the landowner on this matter. Standing orders were resumed at 7.42pm
7. **Play Area:** Mr Lee Sycamore provided an up-date of the progress made since he last spoke to Council in September 2016 when site B was decided together with an outline of the play equipment needed. A funding application for £14K was submitted to NCC's SLC in December 2016 and the result of that bid should be known by April. A further application is being prepared for submission to WREN by 22 February 2017 for £50K and the decision on that should be known in May. The land owner Simon Waterfield has agreed, by e-mail, a 25year lease and we await the draft from his solicitors. Once we know that the funding is secured, five suppliers will be asked to submit their specifications and equipment illustrations for the play group working group to consider before a Council decision. If all goes to plan, it is hoped that the play equipment will be ready for use late summer 2017. An article on the present position will be produced by Lee for website and notice board use.
Following the presentation, Alex Raynor from RCAN informed members of the supportive role that RANC can play in helping groups to access funding and she encouraged referrals on this matter. Areas of expertise include:
Rural intelligence: Utilising primary links with rural communities to provide research, information and consultancy over a wide range of rural issues alongside events management, marketing, design and web services.
Community planning: Specialists in whole community consultation and design statements.
Community support: Working directly with rural residents and groups to bring about real change in communities.
Transport and access: Removing barriers to jobs, services, learning and leisure through activities, influence and advocacy.
Health: Promoting and supporting healthy rural communities through projects, education and promotion.

Economic regeneration: Supporting rural businesses and business people and encouraging enterprise and innovation for long term community growth.

Environment: Helping communities to plan for a changing climate and respond to future challenges.

Regional rural policy influence: Advocating on behalf of rural communities at policy level.

The Chairman thanked both Lee and Alex for attending and up-dating members

8. Community Hall provision: The chairman reviewed the present situation:

The owner of the former airfield building 29, Mr Simon Waterfield, has confirmed offering a 5year-certain lease at a peppercorn rent. This would be a minimum occupancy period as there is no plan to end the lease after 5 years. After that time, a rolling 3 months' notice would apply.

The Council has received indicative quotations for the work entailed to prepare the space for occupation and has funds to pay for the upgrade. The work would take about 6 weeks to complete.

Some members were concerned about security and ease of access and felt that to spend up to £25K to secure a rent-free provision over 5 years had merit but wished to explore "need" from the residents before authorising the spending of this amount of money. It was agreed that a questionnaire be prepared and delivered to all homes, with a prompt return date in time for the next Parish meeting. Cllrs Fisher, Forward, Shaw and Topping agreed to form a working group to bring this about.

Cllrs Michelle Topping and Tony Forward agreed to proceed to obtain the balance of work quotations.

The request to the 1936 (Newton) Squadron ATC for occasional use of their building in Newton for Community activities has been refused: The building is MOD property, owned by Crown Estate, and holds military weapons systems in the building. The use of the site for anything other than cadet usage is prohibited.

9. Finance: Banking authorities & cheques to be signed

Cheque signatories: A couple of members still need to visit the bank with ID so the paperwork can be sent off by the local bank.

The following payments were approved and cheques signed:

Cheque	Payee	For	Amount
54	Streetwise	Three months Play Equipment inspection	£198.00
55	W A Banner	Reimbursement of expenses	£217.10
56	Car Colston Village Hall	Oct/Jan bookings	£ 60.00
57	JSBC Ltd	Clerk extra hours to Dec	£240.00

10. Grounds Maintenance: Four quotations were sought for the village grass mowing work. One contractor did not wish to quote, one did not respond and two quotes were received. It was agreed unanimously to ask P M Winter to undertake the work for the next 12 months. The clerk was asked to notify both contractors of the decision.

11. Planning applications:

- a) 16/02864/VAR - Mr Simon Waterfield – re-submission - Land at Former RAF Newton Wellington Avenue Newton Nottinghamshire

Amendment and removal of conditions 9,19, 40, 41, 42, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 22, 26, 47 to planning permission 15/00583/VAR to allow the replacement of 50 live work units with 50 residential units, removal of the "commercial only" internal road and reduction in level of affordable housing

The re-submission clarifies the position of the community centre and village centre, the realignment of the internal access road to the south of the avenue of TPO trees and the change of square junctions to roundabouts.

This was a re-submission with a deadline response date of 05 January 2017. As there was no appropriate Public Council Meeting, a meeting of members considered the plans and unanimously decided to object – this decision, together with rationale as before, was advised to RBC in time for the Borough Planning meeting of 12 January 2017. This decision was confirmed by Council.

- b) 16/02967/FUL – Mr Mark Goodman – Two storey and single storey rear extension – 114 Trenchard Close,

Newton – in view of the timescale required by RBC, a meeting of Councillors decided DNO and this was advised to RBC to meet the timescale set. This decision was confirmed by Council.

12. Recent Borough Council decisions: None

13. Air Training Corps Squadron request to use public land for training purposes was unanimously approved. The clerk undertook to ask the ATC Officer Commanding that neighbours be advised as they might be alarmed on a dark evening if they see furtive figures in camouflage, practicing concealment skills and doing exercises/ sporting activities.
14. Telephone kiosk – The Main Street residents request to help fund its purchase and add to the Parish Council insurances was discussed. It was agreed unanimously to reimburse the local group's expenditure of £1000 and take over responsibility for the kiosk and add to the Council's insurances. It was acknowledged that its maintenance will in future be the responsibility of the Council and in the immediate future it should be thoroughly cleaned and secured. Its future use was discussed and it was agreed to explore its use for a defibrillator and perhaps for a library of books to be kept there for resident's use. Cllr James Fisher will advise payee for the cheque for £1000

Cllr Fisher did not participate in the discussion of this item

15. Newton Bridleway – the NCC route correction was noted. The route has not yet been cleared for easy access and Cllr Fisher undertook to speak to the landowner and report at the next meeting.
16. Letterhead logo – it was agreed that the clerk will ask a graphic artist to produce options for consideration.
17. a) Signage – the clerk was asked to report the missing Main Street sign and pursue the Newton Lane sign promised by Highways England
b) Directional finger post – Cllr James Fisher offered to straighten the sign
c) Speeding in Wellington Avenue – it was noted that this problem has been reported to Notts County Council – the provision of automated lighting has been considered but the cost/benefit analysis has not prioritised this cost.
18. Councillors' Reports:
Cllr Kay Cutts informed members of the recent decisions of Notts County Council to increase the 2017/18 Council Tax by an extra 2% to fund adult social care.
She mentioned that from the Local Growth Board meetings, it was pleasing to note that people were shopping locally. She also referred to changes proposed to charge passengers to use the currently free Medilink bus service.
The vice-Chairman was delighted to receive a cheque for £500 from Cllr Kay to help with the play equipment project costs and expressed his thanks on behalf of the Council

19. Reports from Outside Organisations: None

20. Date of Next Meeting: **Wednesday 22 February 2017**

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed: Chairman Date