



# NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of a Council meeting of Newton Parish Council**  
**held in The ATC Building, off Wellington Avenue, NEWTON, NG13 8HA**  
**on TUESDAY 03 July 2018 at 7.30pm**

148/18

## Councillors:

Janet Dobson, James Fisher (Chairman), Margaret Goulder, Rebecca (Penny) Higgs  
Neil Phillips; Sarah Shaw (A), Isabel Shouler (vice-Chairman), David Simms (A), Yvonne Stephenson

**Also present:** Clerk Bill Banner, one members of the public and Borough Cllr Nigel Lawrence)

### 1. Chairman and vice-Chairman for 2018/19:

Chairman James Fisher and vice-Chairman Isabel Shouler signed the formal acceptance of office forms.

### 2. Apologies for Absence:

Cllrs Sarah Shaw; David Simms and County Cllr Neil Clarke – all approved

### 3. Declarations of Interest:

None

### 4. Chairman's announcements:

Chairman Cllr James Fisher thanked members for their support in electing him as Chairman to the Parish Council.

### 5. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 22 May 2018 for approval:

were accepted unanimously and duly signed by the chairman.

### 6. Clerk's report on Matters and Actions arising from the Minutes:

Nothing to report

### 7. Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business

*Standing Orders were suspended at 7.32pm*

A resident, Mrs McGowan, brought in the findings from the metal detecting done at the new play area by her husband, Jim. Members expressed interest and thanked Mr & Mrs McGowan for the artefacts

*Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.35pm*

### 8. Venue and Dates for future meetings:

The venue of the ATC Building and Tuesday evening dates proposed were agreed.

### 9. Community Hall –

No further development – this project continues to be on hold

### 10. Newton Play Area –

Cllr Isabel Shouler confirmed that the Opening is on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July 11.00 am to 1.00pm, with ribbon cutting by Cllr Kay Cutts at noon.

\* The money in the Newton Play Area Bank Account (about £300) will be used to help fund the celebrations.

\* Most of the snagging work has been done though there are a few of minor items will be dealt with before Sunday (eg: removing staples, securing loose bolts, attention to the new turfs and cleaning down). The paint finish on the Spinami is not satisfactory and the green paint needs to be touched up. The timber is different than quoted for, but we have been assured it will still carry a 15-year guarantee.

\*Hags have not supplied the ROTSA Safety Certificate and this needs to be obtained before the park opening. The clerk undertook to chase for this.

\*There is a disagreement with HAGS concerning the provision of a face painter and a photographer, so Council will engage local people to do these jobs at a cost of about £340 and tell HAGS that this will be deducted from the final bill as this service is included in the contract. HAGS have said verbally that there will be a £1500 charge for the events cancellation planned for the June opening date.

\* Cllr Shouler recommended that a suitable letter of complaint be sent after the opening to say how disappointed Council is with both the lack of a HAGS contract manager and a lead foreman from the contractors MAC from day one, after having been promised a replacement. The project was not properly managed, and Cllr Shouler has had to spend much time with the workmen to ensure the work was done satisfactorily.

- \* A name for the area was discussed and it was decided unanimously to call it The Kestrel Play Area.
- \* Signage was discussed, and the clerk undertook to provide a suggested wording and lay-out, so a board can be ordered soonest. The agreed Council "house" colours will be white letters on an apple green background
- \* Members agreed unanimously that a formal letter of complaint be sent to the MD of HAGS.
- \* The scrape marks damage to the private driveway in Hampden Drive was discussed and it was resolved that this is a private matter between HAGS, their contractors and the residents concerned.
- \* The clerk advised that £46,000 has been paid to HAGS to enable WREN to release that amount of funding to the Parish Council (now received). He was asked to hold off paying any more of the invoice until a reply is received from the HAGS MD.
- \* Reasonable payment to Mr Paul Stephenson was approved for his attention to the matting and subsequent watering.
- \* A maintenance check form will be produced by the clerk for use weekly by volunteer members.
- \* It was agreed to appoint Town & Country to do the grass maintenance (2 cuts per month) and play equipment inspection (1 x per month) for the time being and Council will discuss the provision of a more permanent contract at our meeting in October, when competitive pricing will be discussed.
- \* For Emergency Services, it was agreed that the nearest access is via Hampden Road.
- \* A "Please take your litter home" sign will be obtained.
- \* The provision of the two picnic benches outside the designated play area was discussed and the extra costing of £1200 was approved, it being acknowledged that Hags had supplied full benches in error, so the purchase price at £1200 is a good buy.
- \* Insurance was discussed, and it was agreed unanimously to proceed with adding material damage cover at the quoted annual cost of £133.07 incl. IPT
- \* It was confirmed that two signs have been obtained as agreed at the last meeting: "No Dogs" and a "Please do not park vehicles here"

11. **Annual Parish Meeting – survey:** Cllr Penny Higgs reviewed the findings and it was agreed by 5 for with 2 abstentions that the clerk should write to Mr Waterfield to request the removal of the fence, replacing with a permanent demarcation line, picking up the "One Newton" theme. Mr Waterfield will be asked to liaise with the Resident Company
12. **Recent Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions:** A subsequent application that arrived today was discussed.  
18/01468/REM- Mrs Charlotte Henson – Reserved matters submission for 733 residential dwellings – Land west of Chapel Lane, Bingham.  
As the response date is 19 July members will investigate the details further, but initially Do Not Object, provided the proposed footbridge from Newton is accommodated and that the rights of way to Bingham is not changed.
13. **Wellington Avenue – Lorries and Speeding:** There is a perceived improvement in the reduction of lorries using Wellington Avenue and members were shown a picture of the large sign erected by Mr Bill Hughes to direct lorries exiting the Business Park to use the commercial road. A note from Cllr Clarke was read out to confirm that a similar large notice is to be fixed by NCC at the corner of Newton Road and Main Street to direct incoming lorries to the commercial road.  
The two NCC interactive speed monitors for Wellington Avenue and Main Street will be installed in due course. Members asked to be involved with the positioning of the signs.
14. **Newton Pathway –** The NCC Right of Way Team has been asked to cut back the overgrown hedging and vegetation over part of the pathway. This has not yet been done and Cllr James Fisher will continue to press for this work to be done.
15. **Battle Close – land drainage:** Despite dry weather, water is still apparent - Bellway are aware of the problem and Meadfleet are dealing with it.
16. **Travellers – draft response to Government Consultation:** The draft response, prepared by Cllrs Fisher and Goulder, has been submitted online on the Government UK website by the clerk
17. **Trees:** The TPO listing was reviewed and accepted
18. **Website:** After discussion, members agreed to provide a short personal profile for use on the website, but declined to have photos of themselves displayed
19. **Finance:**
  - a) Payments were authorised;
  - b) The clerk confirmed that the audit papers for 2017/18 have been submitted to the external auditors PKF Littlejohn and a response is expected shortly. The statutory notice dated 19 June 2018 inviting the public to examine the accounts within a six-week period has been displayed.

*At this point Borough Councillor Nigel Lawrence left the meeting*

- 20. Council communications:** Cllr Stephenson bought a draft Communication Guidelines for members to consider and discuss at the next meeting.
- 21. Councillors' Reports:** Streetfest: Cllr Yvonne Stephenson said that the event was a great occasion and succeeded in its aim to bring together the communities in Newton and support a local charity. A full report will appear in the next newsletter. Plans to repeat the event in 2019 are already being made.
- 22. Correspondence:**
- a) It was decided to extend the permission granted to the ATC to use the village open spaces to practice manoeuvres
  - b) members agreed to the NCC request to leave verges in Newton uncut to encourage the ecology & wildflowers
  - c) The request from the Children's Air Ambulance request to accommodate a textile recovery bin was declined at this time as there was no obvious place to house one.
- 23. Reports from Outside Organisations:** A report on a recent Meadfleet Liaison Group meeting was made by Cllr Stephenson. She said that plans were agreed to put in a weir in the balancing pond and other work including two DANGER signs. Pallets have been set in the woodlands, near to the bunker, to encourage small beasts
- 24. Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 04 September 2018

The meeting closed at 9.34pm

Signed: Chairman ..... Date .....