



# NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk's address: 25 The Green, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Nottingham, NG12 2LA

Telephone: 0115 933 5921

E-mail: [billbanner1@virginmedia.com](mailto:billbanner1@virginmedia.com)

website: <https://www.newton-pc-notts.co.uk/>

**Minutes of a Council meeting of Newton Parish Council**  
**held in The ATC Building, off Wellington Avenue, NEWTON, NG13 8HA**  
**on TUESDAY 22 May 2018 at 7.30pm**

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## Councillors:

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

**Also present:** Clerk Bill Banner, six members of the public and Borough Cllr Nigel Lawrence and County Cllr Neil Clarke (L)

### 1. Election of Chairman and vice-Chairman for 2018/19 and signing of the formal acceptance of office:

Chairman David Simms informed the meeting that he would not be standing for chairman

**Chairman:** Cllr Yvonne Stephenson proposed Cllr James Fisher. This was seconded by Cllr. Neil Phillips. There were no other nominations. It was resolved unanimously that Cllr James Fisher be duly elected as Parish Council Chairman. Cllr Fisher was not in attendance but has indicated that he will accept the position.

**Vice-Chairman:** Cllr Janet Dobson proposed Cllr Isabel Shouler. This was seconded by Cllr Yvonne Stephenson. There were no other nominations. It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Isabel Shouler be duly elected as Parish Council vice-Chairman. Cllr Shouler accepted the position and in the absence of the new chairman, took the chair.

### 2. Apologies for Absence: Cllr James Fisher - approved

### 3. Declarations of Interest: None

### 4. Chairman's announcements: Vice-Chairman Cllr Isabel Shouler took the chair and thanked former chairman David Simms for his leadership and Council achievements in his period in office. She thanked him for proposing her for Chairman, but other commitments meant that she felt unable to accept at this time. She also thanked him for his commitment to improving services to Newton residents, particularly the children.

Members were informed that the VAT refund claim of £1408.57 for the period April 2015 to March 2018 has been received

### 5. Membership of Standing Working Groups

- i) **Finance and Assets:** Cllrs Neil Phillips and Janet Dobson    ii) **Planning:** Cllrs Margaret Goulder; Sarah Shaw and Janet Dobson  
iii) **Community Amenities:** Cllrs Margaret Goulder, Sarah Shaw and Neil Phillips  
iv) **Play Area:** Cllrs Penny Higgs and Yvonne Stephenson    v) **Communications Officer:** Cllrs Penny Higgs and Yvonne Stephenson  
The Chairman and vice-Chairman are permanent ex-officio members of these groups

### 6. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 April 2018 for approval: A correction was agreed to minute 15 - Battle Close, in that there is no firm agreement from Bellway to remedy the problem. On 14 May, we received an e-mail from Bellway to say "that trial holes were to be made, scheduled week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> May, in the POS area immediately north of Dakota Road to try and establish if the area is saturated as a result of any water main leakage". They continue: "With regards to the other areas, Meadfleet have kindly supplied us with a copy of the handover letter issued December 2015 but as we're having difficulty determining where the numerous numbered areas referred to within the letter relates to on site, we're currently seeking clarity on this". Subject to this amendment, the minutes were accepted unanimously and duly signed by the chairman.

### 7. Clerk's report on Matters and Actions arising from the Minutes: Nothing to report

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

*Standing Orders were suspended at 7.45pm*

A resident complimented the council on the much-improved website

*Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.48pm*

### 9. RBC Town & Parish Council meeting – 02 May 2018 - Trees, Plastic & Balloons – Cllr Margaret Goulder informed members of the recent decision by the Borough Council to reduce single use plastics and ban the use of helium balloons and Chinese lanterns on RBC land and property. All Parishes are asked to adopt a similar policy.

After discussion, members unanimously agreed to adopt a similar policy of, where possible, a reduction in the use of single use plastics, helium balloons and Chinese lanterns on Parish Council property.

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Over the next three years, native trees are to be made available by RBC, cost free, limited to two per householder and ten per parish council. Members were concerned to ensure that all appropriate trees in Newton are protected and the clerk was asked to contact the RBC tree preservation officer to request TPOs on the two mature oak trees at the end of the parade ground.

**10. Community Hall** – No further development – this continues to be on hold

**11. Venue & Dates of future meetings:** Members considered a change of venue to ATC Building and to the first Tuesday each month. This was approved for the next meeting – set for Tuesday 03 July 2018 – at which meeting the dates for the next 12 months will be agreed

**12. Play Area** – The chairman advised members that the work is about 75% done and should be finished by the end of this week. There are some snagging/workmanship problems to be resolved. A safety inspection certificate from an external organisation needs to be obtained before the park opening. The chairman proposed that the opening of the play park be at 11.00am with the ribbon being cut at the formal opening at noon, so leaving time for people to get to the Streetfest opening at 1pm. This was approved by a vote of seven for and one against. Cllrs James Fisher and Penny Higgs will attend to the snagging details in the absence on holiday of Cllr Shouler. Signage was discussed and a “No Dogs” and a “Please do not park vehicles here” sign will be obtained. Other appropriate signage will be explored – the agreed Council “house” colours to be white letters on an apple green background

*During this item Cllr Neil Clarke arrived (8.25pm)*

**13. Planning Applications: 18/00923/FUL** – Mr & Mrs Curtis, 23 Fairway Crescent – two storey side extension: Do Not Object

**14. Recent Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions:** None

**15. Wellington Avenue – Lorries and Speeding:** The clerk informed members of the correspondence with Mr Bill Hughes about a large sign being made for display to direct lorries exiting the Business Park to use the commercial road. Cllr Clarke informed members 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 clerk informed members that the two NCC-Local Improvement Applications for interactive speed monitors for Wellington Avenue and Main Street have been approved at £9000 each. The clerk will pursue.

**16. Finance:** Payments were authorised

**17. Newton Pathway** – The clerk reported that the NCC Right of Way Team has confirmed that they will help with the cost of extending the hardcore pathway from the existing work to the south end towards the A46. The job is planned in the Autumn after harvest-time and Cllr James Fisher has volunteered to assist in the completion of the work

**18. Website and GDPR – Request for link to PO – policy required about links:** After discussion, members agreed to approve the request to link to postofficenearme website on the basis that it offers a service to new residents. Links to bona fide sites providing a similar service would be accepted, but commercial advertisements are not to be accepted. GDPR requirements come in to force on 25 May and the clerk said that the initial requirement for a Parish Council to appoint a Data Protection Officer has changed and it is not now a requirement. He said he felt sufficient work has been done to secure personal data of staff (i.e. the clerk) and resident e-mail addresses held have been provided by them. The recently-set-up Newton Parish Council e-mail addresses for the clerk and councillors are to be used particularly involving any data not in the public domain.

**19. Battle Close – land drainage:** The matter was discussed under item 6 and there are no further developments to report

**20. Travellers – draft response to Government Consultation:** A draft response has been prepared by Cllrs Fisher and Goulder and handed to the clerk to submit online on the Government UK website

**21. Council communications:** Members agreed that Cllr Stephenson should bring to the next meeting wording templates for future use where appropriate. The use of Facebook/Social Media by the Parish Council is to be on the next Agenda.

**22. Councillors' Reports:** Cllr Lawrence mentioned the forthcoming East Bridgford Show (30 June) and recommended attendance. Cllr Clarke said that the long-awaited signing of the Section 106 agreement by Newton Nottingham LLP has not yet been done, but felt that this was getting much nearer to completion

**23. Reports from Outside Organisations:** None. By a vote of 6 for and 2 against, it was agreed to continue the Meadfleet sub-group with Cllr Shaw as chair. Local residents will be asked to join the group and a vice-chair appointed.

**24. Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 03 July 2018

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

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

Minutes 22 May 2018