



NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Telephone: 0115 933 5921

E-mail: billbanner1@virginmedia.com

E-mail: clerk@newton-pc-notts.co.uk

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

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Minutes of the Council meeting of Newton Parish Council held in The ATC Building, off Wellington Avenue, NEWTON, NG13 8HA on TUESDAY 01 October 2019 at 7.34pm

Councillors:

Janet Dobson, James Fisher, Margaret Goulder, Neil Grayson, Rebecca (Penny) Higgs (A);
Neil Phillips, Sarah Shaw, Isabel Shouler (A), Yvonne Stephenson

Also present: Clerk Bill Banner, eight members of the public and Borough Cllr David Simms

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs. Penny Higgs and Isabel Shouler – approved. County Cllr Neil Clarke
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Chairman's announcements:** None
4. **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 03 September 2019 for approval:** The minutes were approved unanimously and duly signed by the chairman.
5. **Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business**
Standing Orders were suspended at 7.35pm
Residents raised several matters: seeking confirmation and an update of the plan to have a new school; resurfacing work at Wellington Avenue and side roads and the questioning the delay in having improved road signage. The clerk was asked to follow up with VIA/NCC
Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.50pm
 - 5 a) **Report from RBC Councillor:** Cllr David Simms said he was impressed with the RBC structure and its approach to environmental issues with its carbon footprint focus. He said that the Abbey Road Depot has been sold and replacement development there will have high attention to environmental features and standards, with an ecological priority incl. solar panels. The Depot will be moved to The Arena area. The Borough is keen to replace and increase the number of trees where possible. The Bingham Leisure Centre will provide excellent facilities with a large swimming pool with spectator gallery. The plans will be made public in early December and completion of the project is set at Dec 2021. The matter of a new school in Newton has not yet been decided and resolution is expected in Spring 2020. The long-awaited footbridge costs are now fully-funded and an architect's plan should be available by the end of the year.
 - 5 b) **Battle Close:** This topic was brought forward from item 14. at the request of Cllr Phillips. Cllr Stephenson said she had followed up with Bellway and was awaiting a response. Bellway have been digging at the Dakota area but she has not heard of the result. They are proposing to elevate the pathway, but this would not solve the waterlogging of the land alongside.
6. **Redrow Homes:** Discussion of this item was within the report from Cllr Simms. It was noted that the land transaction will only happen after the detailed planning permission has been obtained.
7. **Wellington Avenue Play Area** –No issues reported. Cllr Shouler is to convene the Working Group of herself, Penny, Neil Phillips and Yvonne to examine the equipment with a view to making proposals at the next meeting for an upgrade. There is a dead tree and the clerk was asked to arrange for its removal.
8. **Kestrel Play Area:**
 - a) Emergency access – the demountable post has been fixed and a substantial coded padlock will be obtained by the clerk. The code will need to be given to First Responders for use in an emergency

b) Memorial tree planting – an appropriate tree is still being sourced and when obtained will be planted this Autumn

c) Play area inspection – the weekly inspection report form including all items has been prepared by Cllr Stephenson and the first member weekly inspection completed by her shows that the gates are still not closing fully despite the recent visit from Hags repairers. The clerk will ask Hags to attend once more under the terms of the extended warranty. The rota of members is Yvonne, Neil Phillips, Neil Grayson and Penny. Members confirmed that the Risk Assessment Report provided by T & C should be completed annually, the next one due being August 2020

9. Planning Applications: None

10. Recent Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions: None

11. Wellington Avenue and Main Street – Traffic calming measures: The work to install the Interactive Speed Signs in Main Street has been done. The Wellington Avenue sign is delayed until the legal papers with the Trenchard Close Residents Company have been concluded by VIA. The clerk was asked to tell VIA that if the signed papers have not yet been received then fresh papers should be sent to TCRC via Urban living

12. Commercial Road – Use by lorries outside of permitted hours (8.00am to 6.00pm weekdays) was further discussed. We await clarification from RBC whether this planning condition was renewed in 2008 and whether the restriction applies only to the tenants in Hangars 1, 2, 3 and 5

13. Tree Planting: The 10 RBC supplied trees are due to be planted on 28 October. No decision was made to order trees under the RBC scheme for 2020 planting

14. Battle Close: This topic was discussed at Item 5 b)

15. Pathways: The proposal to have the pathways cleared in July each year was discussed. The VIA Right of Way team cut vegetation twice each year - approx. in May and October. Cllr Fisher undertook to get a quote from NCC approved contractors

16. Finance: a) The External Audit Report and Certificate 2018/19 was reviewed and accepted b) September payments were authorised c) The half-year budget for 2019/20 was reviewed and the budget for 2020/21 was considered

17. Councillor's Reports: Cllr Stephenson raised the matter of Christmas tree lights and proposed purchasing two sets of solar lights for annual use. By a vote of 5 for and 2 against the purchase was approved at a cost of about £120

18. Correspondence: None

19. Reports from Outside Organisations: None

19. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 12 November 2019

(NOTE: the change of date from 05 November – the following date is 17 December 2019)

The meeting closed at 8.41pm

Signed: Chairman Date