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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 12 November 2019 at 7.30pm

Councillors:

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

Also present: Clerk Bill Banner, seven members of the public and Borough Cllr David Simms and County Cllr Neil Clarke

1. Apologies for Absence: None

2. Declarations of Interest: None

- Chairman's announcements: None, other than to thank resident Paul Stephenson for his help with the planting of the trees provided by RBC
- Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 01 October 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 7.33pm

A resident raised the problem of potholes, particularly a large one in Main Street. Cllr Neil Clarke undertook to report this because the side of the road was said to be giving way. Residents were reminded that they can report a pot-hole by means of the NCC website. Cllr Clarke said that the resurfacing of Wellington Avenue was planned for completion in financial year 2020/21. The corner of Trenchard Close has also been reported for resurfacing work.

The Wellington Avenue play area mowing contractor was observed not to pick up leaves. The resident was informed that the contractor is engaged to do this task once a year – about this time. The clerk will remind the contractor Mrs Archer, mother of Jack, said that her agreement with the Bingham house builders to have a road named Archer Place in his memory has been rejected by Rushcliffe Borough Council. She was recommended to speak to Cllr John Stockwood, Mayor of Bingham Town Council, as the road accident was in Bingham

Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.55pm

- 6. Redrow Homes: The chairman had no further news to report from Redrow. Cllr Clarke said he had a meeting with the NCC Education Director about the provision of a school in Newton. As schools are normally allocated per 1000 houses, an annexe sited in Newton to St Peter's School at East Bridgford was being considered, sharing the same headteacher but with its own building, classrooms, teachers and facilities to comply with the Section 106 Agreement. Cllr Clarke also stated that in signing the S106, the developers are legally obliged to fund 50% of the build costs, the County Council paying the other 50%. Cllr Simms said that it was hoped that Redrow detailed plans were to go to the RBC December Planning Committee
- 7. Wellington Avenue Play Area -Cllr Shouler said that as the original play area footprints were still there the Council could consider wider improvement options, such as provision of a basket-ball court or tennis facilities. A Community Garden / Sensory Garden was an option. Council could consider handing back to the Trenchard Close Residents Company To make the area more appealing, trees could be cut back to reduce the canopy and extra trees planted. It was agreed that she and Cllr Fisher meet up with Mr Paul Stephenson to study the possibilities and make recommendations for consideration by Council. For major changes, need will have to be established in order to access funding. A suggestion was made that a Residents Gardening Club could be formed to help develop the area to look more like a park, with a herb or sensory garden. The latest inspection report shows that two wooden play items need repair and the clerk will get quotations to have the work done.

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- 8. Kestrel Play Area:
- a) Emergency access the demountable post has been fixed with a substantial coded padlock. Cllr Stephenson undertook to give the code to the Emergency Services
- b) Memorial tree planting a reasonably sized Spanish Oak has been sourced but conditions are too wet to lift just now
- c) Play area inspection –Cllr Stephenson reported that the low-lying area was waterlogged at present this situation was anticipated at the construction stage and the dip in the land needs to be gradually filled. The HAGS engineer is due to visit shortly to remedy the gate closures. A councillor will be available to meet him. HAGS say that the damage to the seat is not from wear and tear and will quote to supply a replacement
- 9. Planning Applications: None
- 10. Recent Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions: None
- 11. Wellington Avenue and Main Street Traffic calming measures: The invoice for the work to install the Interactive Speed Signs in Main Street has been received and paid by means of the LIS funding grant. The Wellington Avenue sign is delayed until the legal papers with the Trenchard Close Residents Company have been concluded by VIA. The clerk has been assured that all the requested information is with NCC Legal Dept.
- **12. HGVs out of business hours** residents observe that that lorries continue to use Wellington Avenue. Cllr Clarke said that he was assured that the long- awaited signs are due shortly. It was agreed to review the position after they have been installed.
- 13. Tree Planting: The 10 RBC supplied trees were planted on 28 October. Cllr Stephenson suggested that a large cut Christmas tree (12 ft) be acquired and erected in a prominent position. Cllr Fisher and The Trenchard Close Residents Company agreed to share the cost. Sunday 01 December was agreed as the date to erect it.
- 14. Battle Close: Cllr Stephenson said that Bellway's representative has replied to her and to say that there is no water leak at the mound and would seek approval to improve the drainage.

 The waterlogging off Battle Close was discussed once more. Bellway has suggested raising the level of the pathway. This was thought to be an inadequate remedy. It was agreed that as Cllr Stephenson was in correspondence, she will seek written acknowledgement of the problem, proposed remedial action for both areas and agreement to resolve.

 If the remedial action does not deliver a satisfactory outcome, Council can write officially about a more fundamental remedy.
- 15. Pathways: The proposal to have the pathway and bridleway side-cleared in July each year was approved. The clerk will seek to engage an appropriate contractor and a budget of £250 was agreed
- 16. Finance: October payments were authorised
- **17. Councillor's Reports:** Cllr Simms said the RBC Local Plan Phase 2 has been approved. Cllr Clarke said that he will report to VIA the damaged sign he observed in Main Street
- 18. Correspondence: None
- 19. Reports from Outside Organisations: None
- 20. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 17 December 2019

(A request to move the meetings effective from February 2020 to the second Tuesday each month was considered and agreed by members, subject to room availability – to be checked by the clerk)

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed: Chairman		Date
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