



NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

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182/20

Minutes of the Council meeting of Newton Parish Council

By Internet Conferencing (Zoom)
on TUESDAY 12 May 2020 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, two members of the public and Borough Cllr David Simms

1. **Election of Chairman and vice-Chairman for 2020/21:** By a closed vote given to the clerk before the meeting and confirmed at the meeting, members voted as follows:

Chairman: 5 votes for Cllr Penny Higgs; 4 votes for Cllr Yvonne Stephenson

Vice-Chairman: 5 votes for Cllr Neil Phillips; 4 votes for Cllr Isabel Shouler

Cllr Penny Higgs duly took the chair

2. **Apologies for Absence:** None

3. **Declarations of Interest:** None

4. **Chairman's announcements:** Cllr Penny thanked members for voting her into office and in turn thanked Cllrs James Fisher and Margaret Goulder for their period in office and for their work with helping to influence planning decisions being made by Redrow. This was council's first use of internet conferencing because of Covid -19, so it was hoped to be successful

5. **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 March 2020 for approval:** The minutes were accepted unanimously and will be signed by the chairman in due course.

6. **Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business**

Standing Orders were suspended at 7.37 pm

A resident asked for information about the Newton Memorial. It was noted that this is to be discussed under item 7 later in the agenda. Another resident asked about the village displaying more large poppies for the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain in September. This will be discussed under item 18. Correspondence

Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.39 pm

7. **Redrow Homes:** Since the last meeting, the clerk had been in touch with Alex Kenny of Redrow Homes who said that, as requested, they have made several changes to the internal layout of the proposed community building, but "we need to be mindful that the building must be built to a cost specified within the S106". The clerk has requested a copy of the revised drawing and this is awaited. The clerk had also contacted Andrew Pegram of RBC Planning to determine what indexation applies to the S106 sum of £575,000 and whether the £250,000 held by the Borough Council from Phase 1 development has been included in the amount of money available. In the event of a shortfall, the Parish Council may need to raise funds to bridge the difference.

8. **RAF Newton Memorial:** Cllr James Fisher confirmed that access to the gates has prevented him from removing for safekeeping. Quotes to have the gates refurbished will be obtained. Redrow have been asked to accommodate the gates as part of the memorial in their development plans. Insurers have agreed to add to the Parish Council insurances for £1K. The location of the memorial is still to be agreed with Redrow and it was agreed for the Chairman to ask whether Redrow would transfer the ownership of the island at the bottom of Wellington Avenue to the Parish Council.

9. **Covid-19:** The activity statistics had been made available to members before the meeting. Comments were made that after the initial interest, activity had gone quieter. A discussion on the opportunity to apply for funding from NCC followed and whether

the Parish Council was doing enough to help counter loneliness and mental health and wellbeing. It was agreed to form a sub-group of Cllrs Isabel Shouler, Sarah Shaw and Janet Dobson to review the needs of Newton residents so council can apply for funding required to meet that need. The clerk will circulate the Notts CC information e-mail and application form.

10. Wellington Avenue:

- a) The friendship bench project is on hold at present because of Covid-19 restrictions. The Local Improvement Scheme Application was submitted to Notts CC before 28 Feb. deadline – this was for 50% (max) of a total estimated cost of £6000. Cllr Janet Dobson suggested she contact Bottesford Parish Council to talk about their Friendship Bench and available funding

11. Dog Fouling

This problem is seen to be getting worse. Provision of dog bins were considered but members agreed that more important is for offenders to change their behaviour. Cllr David Simms will discuss with the RBC dog warden with a view to him walking the most affected areas. Posters are available and members agreed that they should be obtained and fixed at appropriate places.

12. Kestrel Play Area:

- a) Play area –The HAGS engineer was unable to visit in April as planned because of Covid-19 restrictions. The clerk will ask HAGS for a new date. The grass has not been cut by Town & Country as the gate has been locked. Cllr Stephenson undertook to have the access gate unlocked so that the maintenance can be done.

13. Planning Applications:

- a) 19/02914/FUL – Bingham Leisure – Noted – Cllr David Simms informed the meeting that the application has been approved
- 20/00903/FUL – Peter Isaac – 83 Trenchard Close - Two storey side extension - Do Not Object
- b) Subsequently received: Anne Ronson -33 Trenchard Close - Two storey side extension - Do Not Object

14. Recent Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions: None

15. Battle Close: Cllr Stephenson informed members that the job has been done by Bellway, but the ground has been left very hard. It needs rotavating and grass seeding.

It was agreed to remove this item from next month's meeting agenda

16. Finance:

- a) March and April payments were approved
- b) Year-end Accounts Annual Return 2019/20 were approved for signing
 - i) Section 1 - The Annual Governance Statement
 - ii) Section 2 – The Accounting Statements

17. Councillor's Reports:

- a) Cllr Neil Phillips congratulated the villagers of Newton for responding well to the arrangements for VE Day's Celebrations and for raising an excellent sum for charity (just over £700) Sarah Andrews was particularly thanked together with Cllr Yvonne Stephenson who championed the day. A thanks you letter to Nigel in Bingham, who supplied the flour, was suggested and approved
- b) Cllr Neil Phillips thanked outgoing chairman James and vice-chairman Margaret for their council work over the last twelve months
- c) Cllr James Fisher asked that the clerk reminds RBC planners about the £27,000 S106 allocation for Main Street, Newton road traffic improvements arising from the house development that has started on Shelford Road, Radcliffe-on-Trent

18. Correspondence: A resident has written to complain about late night car racing on the Industrial Estate. Cllr Fisher has spoken to him as it seems to have been on the A46 which is outside the parish council's responsibilities
A further resident (who attended the meeting) made a plea for poppies to be displayed at the Battle of Britain 80th Anniversary in September. Members agreed to the request and set a budget of £220 for the clerk to make the order

19. Reports from Outside Organisations: None

20. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 09 June 2020 by Internet Conferencing (Zoom). The ATC hope to open their building in September 2020

The meeting closed at 9.08 pm

Signed: Chairman Date