



NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

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184/20

Minutes of the Council meeting of Newton Parish Council By Internet Conferencing (Zoom) on TUESDAY 09 June 2020 at 7.30pm

Councillors:

Janet Dobson, James Fisher, Margaret Goulder, Neil Grayson, Rebecca (Penny) Higgs
Neil Phillips, Sarah Shaw and Isabel Shouler

Also present: Clerk Bill Banner, two members of the public, County Cllr Neil Clarke (L) and Borough Cllr David Simms

1. **Apologies for Absence:** None
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Chairman's announcements:** Cllr Penny welcomed members to the second Zoom meeting which was being recorded so minutes can be checked for accuracy, after which the recording will be deleted. She welcomed the two applicants for the available casual vacancy
4. **Casual vacancy:** The applicants Barry Stockton and John O'Hare made short presentations. They were thanked and told that members will make their decision and let the clerk know by mid-day next day. An Acceptance Form and Declaration of Interests Form will need to be completed before the applicant can take up the role of councillor.
5. **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12 May 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 7.40 pm
A resident asked what support council had provided to vulnerable adults in the village because of Covid 19 and members illustrated instances of help and referred to item 10. on the agenda. There were further questions about park and paths maintenance and Redrow planning progress. Members referred to delays because of Covid 19 and that the reserved matters application was still to be submitted to RBC Planners
Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.57 pm
7. **Councillor working groups agreed:**
Planning: Cllrs Margaret Goulder and James Fisher
Community Building and RAF Memorial: Cllrs Margaret Goulder and Janet Dobson
Play Areas and village: Cllrs Isabel Shouler, Sarah Shaw and Janet Dobson
Communications: Cllrs Isabel Shouler, Sarah Shaw and Neil Grayson
Finance and Assets: Cllrs Janet Dobson and James Fisher
Community – Covid-19 – Cllrs Janet Dobson, Sarah Shaw and Isabel Shouler
Chairman Penny Higgs and vice-Chairman Neil Phillips are permanent ex-officio members of all working groups
8. **Redrow Homes:** The copy requested of the revised drawing of the internal layout of the proposed community building is still awaited – some Redrow staff are still on furlough because of Covid 19
9. **RAF Newton Memorial and Gates:** Cllr James Fisher confirmed that access to the gates is still preventing him from removing them for safekeeping. A verbal quote of £900 (to be confirmed) has been provided to have the gates refurbished. Cllr Neil Clarke suggested an alternative quote be obtained from G Shaw & Sons, who do acid dipping and powder coating. The clerk was asked to investigate funding opportunities to support the gates' refurbishment and for the RAF Newton Memorial. Cllr Clarke offered to make some of his members allowance available to help with fundraising.

The Chairman has asked Redrow whether they would transfer the ownership of the land forming the island at the bottom of Wellington Avenue to the Parish Council, but they have declined to do so.

10. Covid-19: The council has been successful in being awarded £2,500 from the Notts County Council LIS fund to help support the community because of lockdown and school closure. Cllrs Izzy Shouler, Sarah Shaw and Janet Dobson are to prepare action plans for which the money will be needed. These will be presented to council in July.

11. Wellington Avenue:

- a) Tree maintenance: The contractor Aart de Groot is to prune the cherry trees on Tuesday 16 June and Cllrs Margaret Goulder and James Fisher have agreed to make themselves available to see the contractor at the start of the day.
- b) The friendship bench project, and the relevant LIS application, is on hold at present because of Covid-19 priorities. Cllr Janet Dobson has received information about the Friendly Bench at Bottesford (to help counter loneliness and mental health and wellbeing) and details have been circulated to members. Although this scheme is more expensive than originally envisaged, it was felt it could be incorporated into a larger scheme to up-lift the area. Cllrs Isabel Shouler, Sarah Shaw and Janet Dobson undertook to develop the ideas further, involving a suitable play company.

12. Dog Fouling

This problem is seen to be continuous and the provision of a dog bin was proposed for Newton Garden Gates area which is on the route used by many dog walkers. This was agreed unanimously. A suggestion was made to ask local children to do posters about this topic for an Art Competition and Cllr Izzy Shouler undertook to develop this idea.

13. Kestrel Play Area:

- a) Play area –The HAGS engineer was unable to visit in April as planned because of Covid-19 restrictions. The clerk has asked HAGS for a new date. The grass has now been cut by Town & Country (the gate is locked), but no safety inspection has been done this year. The clerk will remind T & C

14. Planning Applications:

- a) 20/01142/FUL – Mrs Alice Rinkert – 6 Fairway Close – Erection of two storey and single storey side extension - Do Not Object
- b) Planning applications subsequently received: None

15. Recent Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions: None

16. Finance:

- a) May payments were approved

17. Communications: Cllr Izzy Shouler exemplified to members the number of times that the PC Newton Facebook page is looked at (557 times for the article about Domestic Abuse) and she recommended more use of the medium.

It was agreed that any information we receive from a bona fide source be copied and pasted on the Facebook page with immediate effect. Cllrs Shouler and Shaw agreed to do this.

If a member wishes to prepare an article from the Parish Council for the Facebook page, as agreed before, at least 5 members are to agree its wording. The clerk agreed to advise Cllrs Shouler and Shaw of the Website access codes

18. Councillor's Reports:

Cllr Neil Clarke reported a number of matters: the waste tips are all open; the County are planning to open a new waste tip shortly; the Leisure Centre at Bingham is proceeding on plan and has a completion date of Dec 2021; in general, more road surface work is planned in this financial year and in particular, Shelford Top road is to have new surface work

19. Correspondence: None

20. Reports from Outside Organisations: None

21. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 14 July 2020 by Internet Conferencing (Zoom). There is no meeting in August. The ATC hope to open their building in September 2020

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm

Signed: Chairman Date