



NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

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196/20

Minutes of the Council meeting of Newton Parish Council by Internet Conferencing (Zoom) on TUESDAY 12 January 2021 at 7.30pm

Councillors:

Janet Dobson, James Fisher, Margaret Goulder, Rebecca (Penny) Higgs, John O'Hare,
Neil Phillips, Sarah Shaw and Barry Stockton

Also present: Clerk Bill Banner, County Cllr Neil Clarke and Borough Cllr David Simms and four residents

1. **Apologies for Absence:** None
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr James Fisher express a pecuniary interest as landowner of the site used for the storage container.
3. **Chairman's announcements:** Cllr Penny Higgs welcomed attendees to a further zoom meeting necessary because of the Covid lockdown restrictions
4. **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 08 December 2020 for approval:** The minutes were accepted unanimously and will be signed by the chairman in due course.

Standing Orders were suspended at 7.40pm

5. **Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business:** A member of the public informed members that residents were not adequately consulted about the siting of the Storage Container and although the screening has been improved, it was still unsightly and out of keeping with the area and degrades the environment. She requested that it be removed or be made to appear more attractive. A black water tank has also been left there. Another member asked about the builders' digging activity around the large oak tree in Wellington Avenue. She also asked whether any progress has been made about the lack of pavements in the village and also a request to have hedges and verges cut back and road moss removed. Another resident drew attention to the WISE trial initiative by Rushcliffe Borough Council - to help tackle dog fouling littering and fly-tipping (members agreed to invite them to the next meeting). The lack of footpath was also raised, and Cllr Clarke said he would respond later in the meeting. Broken concrete posts (and plastic litter) highlighted were determined to be on land owned by Newton Nottingham LLP

Standing Orders were reinstated at 8.09pm

6. Redrow Homes school proposals:

Following a reply from County Councillor Chairman Kay Cutts, a meeting of councillors decided that the clerk should write to Marion Clay, NCC Director of Education. A response has been received to say that a school would not be provided as part of the housing development at this time. She says that Newton's schooling needs will be provided by East Bridgford Primary school. Members were very unhappy to hear this, particularly as the school had been planned for many years (2009) and part of the Redrow Homes plans – land has been allocated and £2.4 million has been paid by the developers in accordance with the Section 106 agreement. Member have had no reassurance that east Bridgford school has the capacity to take the increasing Newton children numbers.

It was agreed unanimously that letters be sent by the Chairman to MPs Williamson (Education), Jendrick (Environment) and Edwards (MP for Rushcliffe)

It was also agreed that the Press and Redrow Homes are to be kept informed.

7. **Suggested Street Names for the new development:** Members considered the list of street names offered for consideration by Rushcliffe Borough Council and recommended that the list be limited to former aircraft names that visited Newton RAF Station plus Newton Gardens, making 18 in total.

8. **RAF Newton Memorial and Gates:** As the gates will be used as a feature by Redrow Homes, members requested the clerk to ask them for a progress report.
9. **Covid-19: Helping Hands project**
Cllrs Janet was thanked for providing the information to enable the clerk to complete the form requested by NCC. Cllr John O'Hare was thanked for his contribution. It was agreed that this topic be removed from future agendas as the project is outwith the work of the council.
10. **Wellington Avenue: Play Area extension and Friendship Bench proposal:** Cllr James Fisher said that he is to bring details of a proposed scheme to the February meeting. He also said he plans to take some branches off trees to enable extra light in the area.
11. **Storage container:** The resident's concerns were addressed and background to the reason for the storage needs explained by Cllr Neil Phillips. Members discussed site appearance and it was agreed to investigate what could be done to make improvements.
12. **Notice Board:** The need for an additional noticeboard was discussed and it was agreed unanimously to have one fixed in the open space. The landowner's permission is needed, and Cllr Stockton agreed to let the clerk have a sketch of the proposed siting. A purchase cost of about £350 was agreed and the clerk will find out options for the working group to consider.
13. **Incorrect Street Names:** Cllr Goulder gave examples of incorrect street name held by map providers and emergency services and is having corrections made.
14. **Trees removal:** As agreed at the last meeting, the clerk contacted Rushcliffe planners and has heard from Tom Pettit, Design and Landscape Officer, who said that interviews under caution are being arranged. The clerk has heard from Sarah Allsopp of Redrow Homes to say that the enquiry about the proximity of homes to the Oak tree at the end of Wellington Avenue has been resolved.
15. **Request for pathway:** Cllr Clarke reported that he has spoken to Mr Bill Hughes/Simon Waterfield of Newton Nottingham LLP and not been able to persuade them to provide the pathway as requested. He also confirmed the difficulties in resolving the lack of footpaths in Main Street – the verges are being cut by VIA as part of the normal maintenance programme. Cllr Fisher said he will speak to relevant residents about overhanging hedges. Moss on the road will be reported to VIA by Cllr Clarke. The Rights of Way team are aware of the very muddy bridleway – a common problem at this time of year. They will keep the position under review.
16. **Kestrel Play Area:** The clerk informed members that the HAGS engineer has not returned - he will remind.
17. **Planning Applications:** Planning Application 20/03212/REM – reserved matters – 254 plots – Land West of Chapel Lane, Bingham was discussed and noted.
18. **Recent Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions:** None
19. **Finance:** a) Dec payments were approved. b) The nil budget requirement for 2021/22 was confirmed
20. **Councillor's Reports:** Cllr James Fisher asked about the planned A46 footbridge and Cllr Neil Clarke said that architects have been appointed to draw up detailed engineering drawings (option 3 design)
21. **Correspondence:** An email has been received from a resident to ask several questions, some of which have been answered during the meeting. Perceived speeding on Newton Lane to the Business Park will be reported to Newton Nottingham LLP. Council was asked to confirm that the showhouses will be built behind the oak tree and whether the Princess Anne tree will remain in situ.
22. **Reports from Outside Organisations:** None
23. **Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 09 February 2021

The meeting closed at 9.56pm

Signed: Chairman Date