



# NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

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204/21

## Minutes of the Council meeting of Newton Parish Council by Internet Conferencing (Zoom) on WEDNESDAY 05 May 2021 at 7.30pm

### Councillors:

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

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

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** None
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 3. Election of chairman and vice-chairman for 2021/22:** Cllr Penny Higgs and Cllr Neil Phillips were nominated and seconded to be Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively and being unopposed duly elected.
- 4. Review of Working Group members:** The new groups are:  
Planning: Cllrs James Fisher, Sarah Shaw and Barry Stockton-Tate  
Community Building and RAF Memorial: Cllrs Margaret Goulder, Janet Dobson and Barry Stockton-Tate  
Play Areas and village: Cllrs John O'Hare and Janet Dobson  
Communications: Cllr Penny Higgs and John O'Hare  
Finance and Assets: Cllrs James Fisher and Barry Stockton-Tate  
Chairman Penny Higgs and vice-Chairman Neil Phillips are permanent ex-officio members of all working groups.
- 5. Chairman's announcements:** Cllr Penny Higgs thanked members for being re-elected and the clerk for arranging this evening's earlier than planned meeting by Zoom. After 6<sup>th</sup> May, Councils are not able to have virtual meetings and with the rule of 6 applying until 21 June, the next meeting of the council will be Tuesday 22 June to be held from 7pm to 8pm so it can be followed by the Annual Parishioners Meeting.
- 6. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13 April 2021 for approval:** The minutes were accepted unanimously and will be signed by the chairman in due course.  
*Standing Orders were suspended at 7.45pm*
- 7. Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business**  
A resident enquired why the start of work by VIA to create a footpath at Newton Lane/Main Street had not begun as announced... the reason was given that a protected species had been found in the area (newts), so the work is delayed. The resident also told members of the many plastic spiral tree guards that were spread about the verges in Newton Lane – being deteriorated plastic, extensive litter-picking was needed. A request for the developer to use bio-degradable young tree protectors in future was made. Cllr Neil Clarke agreed to make enquiries at Notts CC. Another resident enquired about having extra councillors – he was advised that there is a casual vacancy at this time and it is unlikely for Council to have more than 9 members until the size of the village justifies it.  
*Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.56pm*
- 8. Redrow Homes - Community building and school provision:**  
Community Building - Cllr Margaret Goulder said she has reminded Redrow again about costings but had no reply. The clerk has been assured that the freehold will be passed to the parish council in due course.  
Members sought reassurance about the wellbeing of the gates and the clerk was asked to enquire about their safekeeping.  
School provision: More news about school provision is expected in June.

**9. Wellington Avenue:**

a) Redrow Homes and NNLLP have been informed of the recent increase in HGV traffic and have taken action with their suppliers/tenants. Members wish to urge Redrow to get the promised signs displayed as soon as possible. Cllr Goulter will provide the clerk with the email address of the Redrow MD so he can be contacted.

b) Cllr Dobson had circulated outline plans prepared by Alan Colaluca of NCC to convert the play area into a cycle track for children. Members liked the idea and Cllr Dobson will get costings. She will also liaise with the Trenchard Close Company about how much extra land is needed. The clerk will enquire of the Local Improvement Fund about getting a grant. It was suggested to use £50K as the outline costing.

**10. Kestrel Play Area:** Hags have done some repairs, but the engineer is returning Thursday 13 May to complete work on a gate that do not close properly, and some other repairs highlighted by the Independent Inspection Report. John O'Hare agreed to meet him on site.

**11. Street Parking:** Inconsiderate parking was seen to be less of an issue, and it was agreed to remove from future Agendas.

**12. Bridleway:** The temporary shutting for 6 months this summer was discussed. NCC the Rights of Way team has confirmed that Redrow Homes are able to do this. There is an undertaking to reinstate in good order after the construction work nearby has been completed. The clerk was asked to enquire in what way the bridlepath will be improved when reopened

**13. Planning Applications:** 21/01096/FUL - 11 Battle Close – create porch and study room – No objection.

21/01247/REM - Land East and West of Chapel Lane Bingham - Noted

21/00945/REM – Shelford Road Farm, RoT – 86 dwellings – Noted

**14. Recent Rushcliffe Borough Council Decisions:** None

**15. Finance:**

a) Payments arising in April were approved.

b) Year-end Accounts Annual Return 2020/21 were approved for signing

i) Section 1 – The Annual Governance Statement

ii) Section 2 – The Accounting Statements

**16. Councillor's Reports:** Congratulations were expressed to Penny and Neil for a further 12 months appointment.

Cllr Simms advised that RBC plan to be a carbon-neutral authority.

**17. Correspondence:** The annual litter pick was discussed. Cllr Stockton-Tate agreed to make arrangements with Streetwise, to include local residents, and hold it on Saturday 12 June at 10.00am, using outside the ATC Building as the base. It was suggested that a team could remove the unwanted plastic tree guards in Newton Lane.

**18. Reports from Outside Organisations:** None.

**19. Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 22 June 2021 (at the ATC Building - to include the Annual Council Meeting).

The meeting closed at 8.57pm

Signed: Chairman ..... Date .....