

# NEWTON IN THE ISLE

## PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020 meeting commenced at 7.17pm following the Parish Assembly

All members are reminded that they will need to declare any personal or prejudicial interest and reason before an item discussed at this meeting under the Model Code of Conduct Order 2001 No 3576.

### **Present**

Cllr's D Gibbs, R Moore, J Hoyles G Wilkinson,, S Clark and P Wilkinson and Cllr C Seaton and one resident..

### **13/20 Apologies**

Cllr's D Nunn, E Jones, J Hoyles and Cllr S King.

### **14/20 Chairmans Annoucements**

Cllr Gibbs stated that he had attended the FDC meeting 'London Bridge' to discuss the protocol following the death of the Monarch or a leading Royal. Cllr Gibbs would prepare a briefing note with details of the procedure.He stated that Newton church would take the lead in preparations which would include a book of condolences for the public to sign. Church opening times would be discussed when the situation arose however the Councillors may be called upon to assist with manning the church..

### **15//20 Minutes of Previous Meetings**

- a) Minutes of the Council meeting held on 14th January 2020 were approved as a true record and signed.
- b) Matters arising – Cllr Gibbs to arrange the circulation of the pub survey.

### **16/20 County and District Reports**

Apologies for no County report as Cllr King was unwell.

Cllr C Seaton, FDC stated that he hoped the Council would agree to the new lighting proposals. The Chairman stated that the Council had still not received the latest street lighting survey Cllr Seaton would investigate.

Coronavirus, Cllr Seaton explained that Cllrs would have a role to play, that it may be an enormous amount to organise , FDC would try and keep councils informed. CCC had increased their Council tax due to Social Care increases,however FDC had remained at the same level, but an increase may be required in 2021

A meeting regarding the plans for the Wisbech Incinerator was to be held at 6pm on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March at the Queen Mary Centre Wisbech.

### **17/20 Police Matter**

Police report received for February 2020, no reports of crime in the village.The Police and Crime Commissioner Election was to be held on 7th May.2020

## **18/20 Reports**

**a) Highways** Potholes throughout the village were reported while monitoring continued on a regular basis. Street lighting repairs all up to date.

Cllr Seaton left the meeting at 8.08pm.

**b) Village Hall** Cllr Moore stated that the event arranged for National Village Hall week was well attended with a display of old photographs. The Village Hall Management Committee were in the process of organising VE Day Celebrations. Snagging continued on the refurbished kitchen. The final Sunday lunch of the season was well attended and a regular fundraiser.

**c) Playing Field** Cllr Wilkinson stated play equipment was all in order. Fruit trees and bulb planting had been completed with the help of volunteers. Nest boxes were ready to install, although a decision was still to be confirmed on the siting of the barn owl box. A number of tasks to complete including the tidying of the wildflower meadow and copse area. Vandalism of signage had again occurred in the field, Cllr Wilkinson suggested more robust signage this was agreed, he would arrange this. A pedestrian gate not implemented yet, Cllr Moore to investigate further. BMX track to be commenced following completion of other tasks

**d) Streetscape.** Nothing to report due to adverse weather.

**d) Handyman Report** Nothing to report due to the recent bad weather.

**e) Allotments and Public Rights of Way.** – Black Dyke bridge was causing concern with deteriorating deck boarding a possible danger to riders and pedestrians. Cllr Gibbs stated that Tydd St Giles Parish Council were in the process of submitting a LHI Bid to repair the bridge.

Allotment query, the Cllrs would extend the allotment agreement for the tenant agreeing that extra time to improve the condition of his allotment should be allocated due to the adverse weather conditions. The agreement would be extended to September 30<sup>th</sup> 2020 when it would be reassessed. The clerk would write to the tenant

**f) Emergency Plan** - Nothing further to report. .

**g) Correspondence** A number of emails previously sent to Cllrs (see report).

The planning application submitted for the school site had been rejected.

LHI Bid presentation deadline for the 2021 Bid was from April 1<sup>st</sup> – May 31<sup>st</sup> 2020

## **19/20 Finance Report**

The clerk previously circulated the Financial report showing outstanding invoices and the expected carryforward at the end of March.

CAPALC annual subscription £316.94 with an additional £50.00 for the Data Protection Membership Scheme *Total £366.94 cheque no 100663*

Election charges May 2019 £247.08 cheque no 100662

Hall Hire for March PC meeting £20.00 cheque no 100659

- 1) *Resolved to approve payment of three invoices including the Data Protection Membership Total of Expenses £634.02 including the Data Protection Membership payment. Councillors all agreed and approved.*

**Community Account** including a Vat refund of £888.75 and deducting the three cheques amounting to £634.02 leaves **£13495.49 in the Community Account**

Invoices not yet received from FDC for street lighting mantanace and repairs £4698.98, including this deduction would leave an estimated **carryforward of £8796.51.**

**Reserve account £12,043.52** including unallocated funding and interest of 4.22 for March. Funding has been set aside over the previous two years for the Street Light upgrade amounting to £6043.52 . This has not been used as lighting contract has again changed.

## **20/20 Items for Decision**

### **a) Street Lighting Update**

Cllr Humphrey had proposed that the new street lighting be more beneficial for smaller councils. The Cllrs agreed to accept the Street Lighting Agreement this should commence in April 2020/21

*ii) Resolved to accept the new Lighting Contract with FDC. The Cllrs agreed to accept the Street Lighting agreement approved and agreed by all Cllrs.,*

### **b) Adoption Financial Regulations**

Cllrs were circulated with the new update copies of the Financial Regulations prior to the meeting. The Cllrs agreed to adopt the updated Financial Regulations

*iii) Resolved to approve and adopt the updated Financial Regulation Cllrs all approve and agreed.*

### **c) Adoption Standing Orders**

Cllrs were circulated with new update copies of the Standing Orders. prior to the meeting. The Cllrs agreed to adopt the updated Standing Orders.

*iv) Resolved to approve and adopt the updated Standing Orders. Cllrs all approve and agreed.*

### **d) Adoption of Risk Assessment**

Cllrs were circulated with copies of the Risk Assessment. prior to the meeting. The Cllrs agreed to adopt the Risk Assessment, proposed by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr Clark all Cllrs approved and agreed.

*v) Resolved to approve and adopt the Risk Assessment. Cllrs all approve and agreed.*

### **e) LHI Bid 2020/21**

The Chair stated that we had not been successful with our 2020 Bid , the chicane was not thought necessary. on the High Road.

## **21/20 AOB**

The Woodmans Arms Public House was now for sale. A query had been received on the time bird scarers were allowed to operate, the time it ceased would be checked.

Meeting closed 9.45.