

NEWTON IN THE ISLE

PARISH COUNCIL

spelling a number of complaints regarding the grass verges being damaged through tractors.

**Minutes of the Parish Council held on
Tuesday 10th November 2020 commencing at 7pm
attending via a Video Conferencing link**

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

51/20 .Present

Cllr's D Gibbs, G Wilkinson, S Clark, R Moore, D Nunn and C Seaton (FDC) and Cllr S King (CCC) and P Wilkinson (Clerk).

52/20/ Apologies Cllr E Jones

53/20 . Public Forum- Nothing to report

54/20 Chairmans Annoucements - Back in lockdown due to Covid 19 nothing to report.

55/20 Minutes of Previous meeting

Minutes of September 8th meeting were approved and accepted as a true record.to be signed at next meeting

56/20 County and District Councillors Reports

Cllr Seaton FDC .Stated that FDC was still functioning during the pandemic. A consultation Strategy Plan was being considered, Fenland District were commencing on a Cycle and Walkway Strategy to make safe routes through villages, and look at the possibility of main road dedicated cycle routes.

Cllr Clark stated that the Hub at Fenland was still providing a helpline during Covid 19.

Cllr King CCC stated that he was still pushing for the A47 to be duelled for inclusion in 2022, as this had not been included in the list for 2021.

Cllr King was also pleased there had been a positive reaction to the repairs to Black Dyke bridge. LHI Infrastructure meeting was to be held later in November to discuss possible increased funding for LHI Bids,Cll King would have more information next March , he would contact our Chair on the progress.regarding our present LHI Bid

Cllr King stated that Cambridgeshire County Council were struggling with their budget due to Covid 19 and were unsure if the Government would reimburse any expenses for the present period therefore the CCC would have to consider other means of savings

Cllr Clark stated a contracted company had caused a number of accidents through mud being left on the roads following completion of work, a number of complaints had also been received including damage to the grass verges. The Parish Council would write to the company based near Cambridge to register their concerns. Highways were called to one incident and placed markers and warning signs to prevent further incidents. Cllr King would speak to Highways and suggested other villages experiencing the same problem also write to the company.

Cllr King left the meeting at 7.35

57/20 Police Matters

Chair had attended an online meeting, a meeting was scheduled to be held monthly on line to update Parish Councils on issues. Restructuring was also to take place with a number of PCSOs being made redundant or retrained. Front desk service to be closed for both Wisbech and March stations as most issues were now dealt with by phone. Information would be circulated to make public aware of how to contact the police. and to make sure that non urgent crimes were reported
Cllr Chris Seaton left the meeting at 7.45

58/20 Reports All previously circulated

a) *Highways* - hedge still causing concern at junction of Chapel Lane and Sutton Road. Fly tipping again in Brewers Lane and faulty street lights reported. Pot holes marked and Dragon Patcher to complete task. Speed Monitor had now been erected on the High Road

b) *Village Hall* - no activities due to lockdown.

c) *Playing Field*

Wildflower meadow still not cut awaiting grounds contractor to complete work Tree work awaiting completion. Complaint from PCC regarding branches in graveyard, these have been moved further into the playing field ready for chipping. at weekend

d) *Streetscape* - awaiting tree surgeon to look at trees and give a quote. Street Pride have been litterpicking, numbers of helpers reduced.

e) *Allotments and Rights of Way*. -Allotments being monitored, all new agreements signed and allotment rents paid. Black Dyke bridge repairs completed, Cllr King thanked for his support in getting work completed quickly.

f) *Emergency Plan* – on hold as Cllr Jones was absent, this to be held over as an agenda item for January, it was stated that consideration should be given to storage facility for equipment

g) *Correspondence* - a number of emails received along with a letter of acknowledgement for work on Black Dyke Bridge.

Letter from Rights of Way Officer regarding a gate to be erected at Mr Shippeys orchard preventing access of illegal vehicles across Newton footpath 5. The Councillors agreed to the gate providing the public had a right of way. Clerk to write to the Rights of Way Officer confirming approval.

Letter of thanks received from Bowls Club.

59/20 Finance

Copies of report and budget previously circulated.

Income Half year precept £6,500 and allotment rents £241.04, Vat refund of £855.63.

Payments

LHI BID 2019/20 Local Highway Improvement Scheme £392.59 cheque no `100678

Hall hire July £20.00 cheque no 100679

Clerk salary £605.84 July/August/September. Cheque no 100680

Dog Bins £499.20 awaiting installation of final bin. payment of £499.20 approved on completion of work.

TA Blackmore Grounds maintenance charge £1,200 cheque no 100683

TA Blackmore charge for Wildflower meadow £200 approved for payment on completion of work

Royal British Legion Wreath Donation was agreed £75 00. Proposed by Cllr Nunn seconded by Cllr Clark all agreed. cheque no 100684

i) Resolved to approve payment of the five cheques and approval for the two further cheques on completion of work at the stated sum. All Cllrs approved.

Community Account . Total £31,859.40

Reserve Account £12,048.42 including £1.67 interest.

Quote for field maintenance for 2021 included cutting pathway in wildflower meadow £1,240.

Cllrs all agreed.

ii) Resolved to approve quote for field maintenance for 2021 included cutting pathway in wildflower meadow £1,240. Cllrs all approved.

The highway speed signage extension Cllr Gibbs would again contact Highways regarding this issue. expected cost £3,350 to be paid by Parish Council

60/20. Items for decisions

a) *Playing field maintenace* – Wildflower Meadow was in the process of being dealt with by our maintenace contractor and should be completed shortly.

b) *Street light survey* . - Five street lights are in the process of an upgrade. One street light has been repaired but this was one that was awaiting upgrade

c) *Supporting Vulnerable People* – Held over until January 2021

d) *Emergency Plan* Held over until January 2021

e) *Councillor Vacancy* As no applicants were forthcoming the Parish Council were now in the position to Co opt a Councillor, this will be dealt with as soon as posible

Following the letter of resignation received from Cllr Hoyles. It was agreed to send a card to acknowledge his many years of service.

61/20. Date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 12th January 2021 at 7pm