

NEWTON IN THE ISLE

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council held on Monday 4th September 2017 at 7.00pm in the village hall.

Present

Cllr's D Gibbs, J Hoyles, D Smith, S Clark, C Seaton (FDC), S King (CCC), Will Sutton (FDC Portfolio for Planning) and P Wilkinson (Clerk). Mr R Moore, Mr R Sloan and Mrs K Illingworth. Resident Mrs M Gibbs, Mr R Hepworth, Mrs A Hepworth, Mr S Peasey, Mrs C Peasey and Mr D Pritchard and Mrs A M Marshall.

22/17 Apologies

Cllrs J Kooreman and Cllr M Humphrey.

23/17 Assessment Process for Co-option

The Chair explained the procedure, as no election was required the Council were set the task of filling the vacancies by Co-option

Three candidates had shown an interest submitting statements previously circulated to the Cllrs. The Cllrs were asked if they had any queries they would like to put to the candidates. The Cllrs were then asked to make their decision by vote. Chair stated that all three candidates were very strong, it was a very difficult decision as only two could be offered places he hoped that the unsuccessful candidate would consider standing again at the next opportunity. Following the vote two candidates, Rodney Sloan and Roger Moore were appointed as Co-opted Cllrs.

24/17 Public Forum – Residents raised a number of concerns regarding antisocial behaviour in the Goodens Lane area, The Chair advised that the issues be reported to the police on 101 when they occurred. Roddens Antisocial Officer had also been informed of problems relating to a property, investigations were progressing to locate suitable accommodation. The residents would be kept informed of any further progress. A query was also raised on housing on the old school site, it was pointed out that this was a private site and not owned by Fenland District Council

Concerns were also raised over flooding occurring in Goodens Lane during heavy rainfall due to blockage in the drains. The situation would be monitored.

25/17 Chairman's Announcements

A number of meetings to attend, also mentioning Tydd Pumping Station Open Day on Sept 9th The Parish Council would write to thank Cllr Sloan for all the work she had undertaken for the Council.

26/17 Minutes of the Previous Meeting - Were confirmed and signed as a true record

26/17a. Matters arising

Roundabout still stiff, Cllr Gibbs would contact Richard and Kevin for assistance.

27/17 Police Matters

The Councillors were concerned that lack of information was given on any of the crimes committed in the village. The Chair would discuss this matter with the Inspector.

28/17 District and County Councillor Reports

Cllr King reminded the Council that the LHI Bid Application closure date had been changed to October 15th, Cllr Seaton stated that it had been a quiet period during August and had nothing to report

29/17 Reports

- a) Highways – repair work carried out on the High Road , pot holes outside the church had been reported and were awaiting repair. Mill Lane waiting resurfacing. Cllr Hoyles stated that Catlings Lane was in need of maintenance. Highways had again contacted BT regarding the hedge at Fen Road /Mill Lane which was causing a hazard to traffic. More traffic may travel through the village during the next few weeks due to road repairs at Tydd Gote Bridge. Cllrs Gibbs and Clark would monitor the traffic flow.
- b) Old school site – Flood map needed updating as no flooding had been reported for 700 years. The map was to be discussed with FDC regarding planning consent. The owner of the old School site would be kept informed of any relevant new information.
- c) Correspondence circulated prior to meeting. Concerns raised by residents dealt with.
- d) No new planning applications received, information on an appeal made for self-storage units at Land south of Newberry Roman Bank.
Cllr Will Sutton FDC (Portfolio for Planning) queried if Council were satisfied with the online facility to receive planning applications. Cllrs agreed.
- e) Allotment holders had all been notified of the 20% approved rent increase from October 1st.

30/17 Finance

- a) No matters arising from the Approved Governance Report received from the External Audit Commission, copies circulated prior to meeting–
 - i) *Resolved to approve Annual Governance Report. All Councillors approved*
- b) *Finance Budget update*
Received Audit Commission invoice from PKF Littlejohn £120 including £20 VAT Cheque no 100577 was received and paid in July
Resolved to approve retrospectively payment of invoice PKF Littlejohn £120 including £20 VAT Cheque no 100577. All Councillors approved

Community account stands at £6544.29 no outstanding invoices

Business Saver or Reserve account stands at £5193.31 including the £3500 for the remaining Cat 2 street lights (2).

c). Re adopt Standing Orders

Previously circulated, these had been updated in line with new regulations.

d) Re adopt Financial Regulations

These were previously circulated and approved

- iii) Resolved to approve Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, All Councillors approved*

31/17 Discuss items for Decisions

- a) Councillors responsibilities – Cllr R Moore – Emergency Planning and Rights of Way. Cllr R Sloan took on responsibility for Allotments.*

b) Play Equipment Inspections- These were completed by Cllr D Smith with everything in order apart from the roundabout as discussed in agenda item 26/17a.

c) Play equipment checks to be carried out by Cllr D Gibbs for September/October.

d) LHI Bid Approval

Proposed that a bid be submitted for allowing the widening of the pavement outside 190 High Road and the watercourse piped (as agreed by Drainage Board) under culvert, 25 tons of top soil to be added to infill provided by Parish Council and area landscaped .Both Steve Nicholson and Adam Cobb felt it was feasible within budget restraints.

- iv) Resolved to approve LHI Bid 2018 for improving and widening the walkway on corner at Goodens Lane/High Road junction. All Councillors approved*

e) Street Lighting Proposal

Cllr King stated proposal

- FDC would continue to fund the energy and maintenance costs for the existing lighting stock for the next 10 years.
- FDC would carry out the management of the lighting on our behalf free of charge for a period of 10 years.
- FDC would arrange and manage the various replacement programmes for both FDC and PC funded works, free of charge
- Repairs maintenance and energy in future to be funded by Parishes at an estimated cost of between £47 and £67 per column per annum.

Newton in the Isle has 41 lights, the actual cost had to be confirmed. Contract expected to be ready April 2018. The Council had a number of concerns among which was the expected life of the lamps. A vote was taken to proceed with the tendering process, a majority voted for the preliminary proposal. A Final decision would be taken when the proposal and details had been confirmed,

f) Planning Committee meetings – arranged to meet in the village hall as a cost of £10 per meeting.

Next meeting arranged for Monday 6th November at 7pm

Meeting closed at 8.40pm