

NEWTON IN THE ISLE

PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Dave Gibbs, 358 High Road, Newton in the Isle, PE13 5HS
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Minutes of a Meeting of Newton-in-the-Isle Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 14th September 2021

Present - Cllr R Moore (Chairman), Cllr R Bradley, Cllr S Clark, Cllr D Freeman, Cllr G Wilkinson, D Gibbs (Clerk)

118/21 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr E Jones, Cllr D Nunn, Cllr S King (CCC) and Cllr C Seaton (FDC)

119/21 Chairman's Announcements

There were no announcements.

120/21 Public Forum

No members of the public were present.

121/21 Minutes of the Previous Meetings

- a) RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13th July 2021 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.
- b) RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 27th July 2021 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

122/21 County and District Councillors Reports

In the absence of Cllr King, the Clerk presented his report. The Highways and Transport Committee has approved the introduction of civil parking enforcement across the county, with each district to determine how this will be delivered. Once introduced, parking enforcement will no longer be a Police role. The deadline for Local Highways Improvement bids is 30 September

Cllr Clark reported that the nominations period for the Pride in Fenland awards had opened and encouraged the Council to consider potential candidates for nomination.

123/21 Police Matters

The Clerk reported that he had attended the monthly meeting with the Neighbourhood Sergeant. There has been a Covid outbreak amongst the Wisbech Police which has affected staffing levels in recent weeks. Previous enforcement work on e-scooters has been successful, with a significant decrease in offences. A number of Community Protection Warnings and Notices have been issued to those responsible for anti-social behaviour on motorbikes.

124/21 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received.

125/21 Members' and Residents' Issues

- a) Abandoned vehicle in Colville Road - the Housing Officer has visited, but the van has not moved. The Clerk will report it to the District Council.
- b) Accumulation of scrap in Colville Road - the Housing Officer has visited, and some of the items have been moved, but the problem remains. Members asked the Clerk to contact Clarion.
- c) Dangerous path surface at St James Close - the Clerk has notified Clarion and the situation will be monitored. Members asked the Clerk to ascertain whether the Community Payback team could assist in clearing vegetation from the car park behind the bungalows.

126/21 Allotments and Public Rights of Way

Cllr Nunn reported that one of the High Road allotments has remained largely unused again this summer. The County Council's Rights of Way Officer does not believe that installing a gate on PRow 166/10 provides a significant benefit.

127/21 Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field

- a) Cllr Wilkinson reported that the wildflower meadow had been cleared and that the contractor would return to spray again shortly. The Head Gardener from Peckover House has offered to visit to discuss options for the future management of the site.
- b) The dead tree in the copse will be removed shortly.
- c) Cllr Wilkinson agreed to attend to the issues raised in the RoSPA inspection of the play equipment. Cllr Bradley will arrange the cleaning of the shelter.
- d) The new pedestrian gate adjacent to the School House has not been installed. The Clerk will contact the contractor.
- e) Work on the construction of the BMX track is ongoing.
- f) Seven trees have been purchased for planting in the memorial arboretum. A planting day will be announced shortly.

128/21 Highways

- a) The Privately Funded Highway Improvement application to extend the 40mph speed limits at both ends of the village is being processed.
- b) Members resolved to join with other parishes in expressing their concerns regarding the assessment process for Local Highway Improvement applications.
- c) Members resolved that the Local Highways Improvement application for 2022/23 will seek to identify measures to enhance safety on the bends in Chapel Lane. A financial contribution of £1,000 has been offered, with the possibility of increasing this sum, if necessary.

- d) The County Council has installed blue arrows to clarify the line of the National Cycle Route through the village.
- e) The alder tree overhanging the road adjacent to the former Woadman's Arms public house will be cut down shortly.
- f) The new dog bin has been installed at the Fitton End Road junction with Brewer's Lane.

129/21 Finance

a) The Clerk presented an updated financial statement as at the end of August, showing income of £8,468.30, expenditure of £8,696.89, leaving a shortfall of £228.59 and total funds held of £40,369.98.

b) Members approved the following payments;

100705	<i>Newton Village Hall (Room hire)</i>	£ 50.00
100706	<i>E G Robinson (Handyman)</i>	£ 80.00
100707	<i>R W Landscaping Ltd (Wildflower meadow)</i>	£ 800.00
100708	<i>PKF Littlejohn LLP (Audit)</i>	£ 240.00
100709	<i>Mark 1 Fencing & Son Ltd (Fencing)</i>	£ 900.00
100710	<i>Sam Johnson Landscapes (Tree removal)</i>	£ 840.00
100711	<i>D Large (Tree removal)</i>	<u>£ tbc</u>
		£ 2,910.00

- c) Members considered the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel and resolved not to receive any allowances.
- d) Members discussed the provision of defibrillators in the village and resolved to install a second defibrillator outside the Village Hall.

130/21 Planning

Members considered the following planning application:-

F/YR21/0894/F - Erect a single-storey extension to rear of existing dwelling - Newton Hall, 242 High Road, Newton-In-The-Isle.

They resolved to support the application.

131/21 Annual Report to Residents

Cllr Wilkinson reminded members to send him content for the annual report.

132/21 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 9 November.