

# NEWTON IN THE ISLE

## PARISH COUNCIL

*Minutes of the Parish Council held on*

*Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020 commencing at 7pm in the village hall four Councillors*

*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*

### **31/20 1 .Present**

Cllr's D Gibbs, G Wilkinson, S Clark, D Nunn,, and P Wilkinson (Clerk).

Cllr's R Moore, E Jones,,Cllr C Seaton (FDC), Cllr S King (CCC) attended via video link

### **32/20/ 2. Apologies none**

### **33/20 3. Public Forum**

No members of the public arranged to visited the meeting

### **34/20 .4 Chairmans Announcements**

Chairman explained the hall had reopened again and welcomed the Councillors to the meeting along with those attending via Zoom , he stated that free WIFI network was now available in the hall.

### **35/20 5. County and District Councillors Reports.**

Cllr King ( CCC) stated that applications for the LHI Bid for 2021/2022 would require submitting, however the final date for submission was still to be announced.

Cllr Nunn queried when the Black Dyke Bridge would be repaired. Cllr King explained that this was part of an LHI Bid submitted by Tydd St Giles Parish Council and he could not confirm a date for the repair to be completed Unfortunately at that point the connection with Cllr King was lost and was unable to continue.

Cllr Seaton (FDC) explained the Transport Committee had received the comments on the bus services from our Parish Council. Following a FDC meeting the previous week the FDC financial situation was shown to have serious difficulties due to Covid 19, that the way forward would be slightly changed. He stated that if any queries could be submitted to him prior to a council meeting it would assist in giving the answer at the council meeting. Councillors agreed that this could be beneficial.

**36/20 6. Police Matters-** No reports had been received. A Zoom group briefing meeting was to be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> September If a Parish Council representative wished to join they should contact email [cambs-pcc](mailto:cambs-pcc@cambs-pcc.gov.uk) beforehand.for details.

It was stated that there were problems with off road bikers in the village the police were aware of the situation. Again serious fly tipping had also occurred in Franks Lane along with the dumping of tree roots near a passing place in Mill Lane.

### **37/20 7. Reports**

#### **a) Highways – Cllr Clark**

Report was circulated prior to meeting.. Hedges were causing an issue,it was agreed that Cllr Gibbs would speak to a resident regarding the overgrown hedge along High Road from Rectory Road corner to Little Ramper.He would also write to the property agent of the house at the junction of Rectory Road and Sutton Road regarding the overgrown hedge . Cllr Nunn to speak to resident regarding his hedge in Mill Lane Query raised on the completion date of the installation of the speed monitor, at present it was locked in the FDC depot, the Chairman would investigate.Cllr Jones queried the progress for the speed limit extension area.

#### **b) Village Hall**

Report was circulated prior to meeting.The hall was re-opened on 6<sup>th</sup> July following a full clean, all hygiene measures were in place following guidelines for Covid 19. The village hall has received a grant from the Government of £10,000 towards the upkeep of the hall during this difficult time.It may enable some monies to be spent on re damp proofing the hall wall.The VHMC had yet to make any decisions.

#### **c) Playing Field**

Report was circulated prior to meeting. The playing field grass was maintained regularly . Wild flower meadow needed attention as the picnic table was not readily accessible.The groundsmen had been asked for a quote to cut the meadow area. New signage installed following some vandalism, and the roundabout had been greased.A volunteer had offered to cut the copse area. A number of trees needed attention, Cllr Wilkinson would follow this up. Goodens Lane entrance trimmed and weeded. No further action on cycle ramp, Cllr Gibbs to look into this along with the installation of the nest boxes .Bark chippings were required for areas of the field.

#### **d) Village Handyman**

Report was circulated prior to meeting. The Handyman had commenced cutting the two grass areas on the High Road, Cllr Moore to check this was achieved regularly.

#### **e) Allotments And Rights Of Way**

Report was circulated prior to meeting. Following some concerns regarding an allotment, some improvements had now started to take place.The Councillors discussed this issue a decision was taken to terminate the present tenancy from September 30<sup>th</sup> 2020, the tenant will be officially notified in writing. The new tenant to commence from October 1<sup>st</sup> 2020.

#### **f) Correspondence**

A number of emails circulated to the Cllrs.  
Street lighting survey received  
Letter re allotment request  
Exemption approval from PK Littlejohn re Audit Commission  
Donation request from MAGPAS air ambulance.  
Planning application query.  
Letter offering £200 grant towards Defibrillator.

#### **38/20. 8 Finance**

Report was circulated prior to meeting.

##### **a) Invoices for Payment and approval**

Three cheques  
Annual Lighting maintenance £2,986.26.cheque no 100671  
Clerks salary £579.16 plus admin cost Jan/July £46.40 cheque no 100674  
Hose and Grease gun for roundabout £ 18.14 cheque no 100672

Invoices for payment approval amounting to £3629.96. Cllrs all approved

- i) *Resolved to approve the payment of 3 invoices total of £3629.96 Cllrs all approved payments*

Councillors also approved a donation of £100 to the MAGPAS Air Ambulance. *cheque no 100675*

- ii) *Resolved to approve the payment of a donation of £100 to the MAGPAS Air Ambulance. Cllrs all approved payment.*

The clerk stated she had received a letter regarding the offer of a £200 grant towards the purchase of a defibrillator. It was briefly discussed and agreed that it should be raised at the Village Hall Management Committee meeting, however no agreement was reached on any match funding by the Parish Council.

Community Account £19,855.52 including Concurrent Grant £1280

Reserve Account £12,046.75

Financial Reports for end of year were circulated

### **b) Approval of Governance Statement**

The Governance Statement for 2019/2020 was checked by the Cllrs and approved

- iii) Resolved to approve the Governance Statement for 2019/2020 this was checked by the Cllrs and all agreed to approved*

### **c) Approval of Accounting Statement**

The Accounting Statement for 2019/20 was approved by the Councillors

- iv) Resolved to Approve the Accounting Statement for 2019/2020 this was agreed and approved by the Councillors*

## **39/20. 9 Review of Allocation of Portfolio Responsibilities**

This agenda item was held over to the next meeting

## **40/20. 10 Items for Decision**

### **a) Allotment Agreement**

Draft copies of the Garden Allotment Agreement were circulated before the meeting.. It was approved and copies would be sent to the allotment holders during August prior to their renewal date October 1<sup>st</sup> this would update the present agreement from October 1<sup>st</sup> 2020. The Agricultural allotment agreement would be prepared and circulated for discussion and approval at the September council meeting'

- v) Resolved to approve the update of the Garden Allotment Agreement. Councillors all approved.*

### **b) LHI Bid 2021/22**

it was agreed that the Bid for the High Road including the chicane be resubmitted as the 2021/22 LHI Bid

- vi) Resolved to approve LHI Bid with the chicane for the High Road for the 2021/22 LHI Bid as previously submitted in the LHI Bid for 2019/20*

### **c) Supporting Vulnerable Residents**

Report was circulated prior to meeting. The number of scams were causing considerable distress to vulnerable residents. It was of some concern that residents should have access to a helpline. The Chairman had suggested that the council formalised its membership of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scam Partnership. Our Emergency Plan sets out the framework to support these residents in a variety of emergency scenarios but we do not currently offer any specific support. He suggested that members consider whether or not to seek to establish an ongoing role in support of the most vulnerable members in our community.

Volunteers would need to be determined to support the most vulnerable.. He again stated that members should consider the potential benefits of a village wide Neighbourhood Watch or Good Neighbour scheme. A query was raised as to the difficulty in finding the

volunteer support. This would be discussed again at the next meeting as an agenda item following a leaflet drop asking for volunteers in different areas.

**d) Street Light Condition Survey**

Report was circulated prior to meeting. The data had only just been received following the council entering a three year contract with Fenand District Council for the managed service contract for routine maintenance from August 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 all lighting was tested carried out by Cable Test Ltd, a number of street lights were highlighted as needing attention.

Clerk to obtain quotations for the replacement of three concrete columns to enable a decision to be made at our next council meeting in September.

PC1 Fen Road junction of Westfield Road

PC2 High Road O/S 162 High Road

PC5 High Road junction with Goodens Lane ( A new LED head was fitted to this light December 2019)

There were also two bracket lights with estimated life of 6-10 years we would like to replace

PC2 Church Lane on the village hall

PC7 High Road on the Old Chapel.

Members to also consider future plans to upgrade the remaining lights.

**41/20 11. Confirmation of date and time of next meeting -**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm

Meeting closed 9.10pm