

# NEWTON IN THE ISLE

## PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Dave Gibbs, 358 High Road, Newton in the Isle, PE13 5HS  
Tel: 01945 870083 • Email: [parishclerk@newtonintheisle.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@newtonintheisle.org.uk)

### To all Members of the Public and Press:

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the Newton-in-the-Isle Parish Council to be held in Newton Village Hall on **Tuesday 11 July 2023 at 7.30pm.**

*Dave Gibbs*

Clerk

6 July 2023

### AGENDA

*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*

#### **021/23 Apologies**

*To receive and consider apologies from those members not present*

#### **022/23 Chairman's Announcements**

*To receive such announcements as the Chairman may wish to make to the Council*

#### **023/23 Public Forum**

*To receive representations from members of the public regarding issues pertinent to the Council*

#### **024/23 Membership of the Council**

*To consider requests from eligible individuals for co-option to the three vacant positions on the Council*

#### **025/23 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

- a) *To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 9 May*
- b) *To approve the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 7 June*

#### **026/23 County and District Councillors Reports**

*To receive reports from Cllrs S King (CCC), B Barber, S Clark and C Seaton (FDC)*

#### **027/23 Police Matters**

*To receive a report from the Clerk on recent meetings with the Police and issues relating to crime and anti-social behaviour*

### **028/23 Clerk's Report**

*To receive a report on meetings attended and correspondence received*

### **029/23 Members' and Residents' Issues**

*To receive reports from the Clerk and members on matters raised by local residents, and to report on matters raised previously, including the following:*

- a) Abandoned vehicle in Colvile Road*
- b) Accumulation of scrap in Colvile Road*
- c) Dangerous path surface at St James Close*
- d) Former School site*
- e) Appointment of a Village Hall Trustee*
- f) Committee membership*
- g) Vacant properties*
- h) Village bus service*

### **030/23 Amenities Committee**

*To receive a report on actions since the last meeting*

- a) Wildflower meadow*
- b) Planter around village sign*
- c) High Road bench*
- d) Allocation of vacant allotment*
- e) Village Hall Management Committee event in the Playing Field*

### **031/23 Highways Committee**

*To receive a report on actions since the last meeting*

- a) Byway winter closures*
- b) Hedgerow around telephone exchange*
- c) Blackdike bridge*
- d) Local Highway Improvements assessment panel results*
- e) Mossy pavement in Westfield Road*
- f) Village Handyman*

### **032/23 Finance**

*To consider and resolve on the following matters:*

- a) To receive an updated financial statement for the period to the end of June*
- b) To note the following sum received since the last meeting:*

<i>Fenland District Council (concurrent functions grant) .....</i>	<i>£ 1,968.00</i>
<i>Barclays Bank (interest) .....</i>	<i>£ 25.18</i>
	<i>£ 1,993.18</i>
- c) To ratify the following payments issued since the last meeting:*

<i>100761 Auditing Solutions Ltd (audit fee) .....</i>	<i>£ 294.00</i>
<i>100762 ProEdge Construction Ltd (path repair) .....</i>	<i>£ 1,248.00</i>
<i>100763 Newton Village Hall (hall hire) .....</i>	<i>£ 30.00</i>
	<i>£ 1,572.00</i>

d) *To approve the following payments:*

100764	D A Gibbs (salary June and July) .....	£ 895.60
100765	Fenland District Council (street lighting) .....	£ 3,900.98
100766	Newton Village Hall (hall hire).....	<u>£ 10.00</u>
		£ 4,806.58

e) *To confirm the arrangements for the opening of the new NatWest bank account*

f) *To review the Council's fees and charges for services*

**033/23 Annual Parish Meeting**

*To review the recent Annual Parish Meeting and to discuss issues raised*

**034/23 Date of Next Meeting**

*To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of the Council*

*Tuesday 12 September*

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### **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Newton-in-the-Isle Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**Present** - R Moore (in the Chair), Cllr R Bradley, Cllr S Clark, Cllr D Freeman, Cllr C Seaton (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), B Simpson

#### **001/23 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from D Nunn, Cllr S King (CCC) and Cllr B Barber (FDC)

#### **002/23 Election of Chairman for the Municipal Year 2023/24**

Cllr Bradley was nominated by Cllr Clark, seconded by Cllr Freeman and duly elected. He signed his declaration of acceptance, witnessed by the Clerk. Cllr Bradley took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

#### **003/23 Election of Vice Chairman for the Municipal Year 2023/24**

Cllr Freeman was nominated by Cllr Bradley, seconded by Cllr Clark and duly elected. He signed his declaration of acceptance, witnessed by the Clerk.

#### **004/23 Acceptance of Office**

All members of the Council signed their declarations of acceptance in the presence of the Clerk.

#### **005/23 Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman thanked the retiring councillors for their commitment during their terms of office and congratulated District Councillors Barber, Clark and Seaton on their recent election.

#### **006/23 Public Forum**

The issue of trees in Westfield Road was raised. The Clerk confirmed that the Council is aware of the condition of the trees and they will be included in a forthcoming programme of tree works.

#### **007/23 Membership of the Council**

Ms Simpson indicated that she would like to join the Council. She was nominated by Cllr Clark, seconded by Cllr Freeman and duly co-opted. She signed her declaration of acceptance, witnessed by the Clerk.

The Clerk will publish notice of the remaining vacancies in the forthcoming newsletter to encourage further prospective members to come forward.

### **008/23 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council**

- a) Delegation to committees - Members reviewed the existing delegation arrangements to the Planning, Amenities and Highways committees and resolved to continue with the current arrangements.
- b) Terms of reference and membership of committees - Members reviewed and readopted the terms of reference and membership of the Planning Committee, with all members except Cllr Clark. They readopted the terms of reference for the Amenities and Highways Committees, but deferred a decision on the membership until the vacant positions on the Council have been filled.
- c) Standing orders and financial regulations - The Clerk confirmed that the Council has adopted the current versions of the NALC model documents. Members resolved to readopt both documents.
- d) Insurance - The Clerk confirmed that the Council carries insurance cover for all known risks arranged with Zurich Municipal with renewal due on 1 June. The forthcoming renewal will be the final year of the current three-year agreement.
- e) Subscriptions to other bodies - The Clerk reminded members that they currently have subscriptions to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils and to Cambridgeshire ACRE. Members resolved to continue with both subscriptions.
- f) Appointment of a Trustee to the Newton Village Hall charity - Members resolved not to make an appointment at the current time, but to review the situation when the vacant positions on the Council have been filled. Mr Moore offered to notify the Clerk of any relevant matters in the interim.
- g) Appointment of an Armed Forces Champion - Cllr Freeman agreed to accept the role.
- h) Register of assets - The register has been updated to include recent purchases and the total value of assets now stands at £129,874.
- i) Meeting dates - Members agreed to meet on the second Tuesday of alternate months, namely 11 July, 12 September, 14 November, 9 January 2023, 12 March and 14 May. All meetings will commence at 7.30pm.

### **009/23 Minutes of Previous Meetings**

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

### **010/23 County and District Councillors Reports**

County - In Cllr King's absence, there was no report.

District - Cllr Seaton advised members that the pre-election restrictions had curtailed most District Council activity. He confirmed that he and Cllr Clark had been re-elected alongside Cllr Brenda Barber, who won the vacant seat resulting from the recent boundary review. The election of Leader and the appointments of members to the cabinet will take place shortly.

### **011/23 Police Matters**

The Clerk reported that no meetings had taken place with the Police. Residents have reported seeing cars parked in the Village Hall car park late at night. The Clerk requested that people note the vehicle registrations in order that the Police may be notified and action taken, where appropriate.

### **012/23 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported on meetings attended, correspondence received and local issues, including a forthcoming closure of Fen Road, the Local Highway Improvements assessment panel meeting, and a webinar for Rural Housing Week. A resident has expressed concern regarding the proposed positioning of the new signage in Chapel Lane and the Clerk is working with the Highways Project Officer to address these concerns, prior to the installation of the signage next month.

### **013/23 Members' and Residents' Issues**

- a) Abandoned vehicle in Colville Road - awaiting update from Clarion Housing Group.
- b) Accumulation of scrap in Colville Road - awaiting update from Clarion Housing Group.
- c) Dangerous path surface at St James Close - the trees causing the damage to the path have been removed. Further remedial work is anticipated.
- d) Planter around village sign - the planter needs to be removed and replaced. Members discussed various design options and agreed that a more robust construction is preferable. The Clerk will obtain prices from local timber merchants.
- e) Mossy pavement in Westfield Road - the Clerk will arrange for this to be swept shortly.
- f) Fly-tipping in Roman Bank and elsewhere - the Clerk reported that fly-tippers have again been active in Roman Bank, Goredike Bank and the High Road. All fly-tipping is checked for evidence and the District Council has been able to investigate several recent incidents with a view to taking enforcement action.
- g) Former school site - the District Council will write to the owner about the appearance of the site and the need to remove the brambles.
- h) Allocation of vacant allotment - no progress has been made regarding the clearance of the site.
- i) Request from Village Hall Management Committee to use Playing Field for an event - Cllr Bradley agreed to remove the remaining BMX ramps and level the site to enable the event to proceed.
- j) Crime and anti-social behaviour in the village - the Clerk advised members that there had been a number of incidents reported in a short space of time, both in Newton-in-the-Isle and Tydd St Giles. A small group of teenagers was believed to be responsible and the Police will be visiting the village during the hours of darkness to look out for suspicious activity. The Clerk noted that several residents had CCTV footage of a group of young people in the village, but were not willing to share it with the Police.

### **014/23 Amenities Committee**

The contractor has finished pruning the cherry tree in Westfield Road and removed the broken branch from the cherry tree in the High Road. The three dog bag dispensers have been installed. A contractor has been appointed to remove the old bench in the High Road opposite Fen Road and to relay the path in readiness for a new bench.

### **015/23 Highways Committee**

The County Council's Rights of Way Officer has commenced the process of introducing a winter closure on the byways to the west of the village. The Clerk will present the Local Highways Improvement application for the kerb build-out at the junction of High Road and Fen Road to the assessment panel shortly. A number of potholes have been repaired. The surface dressing of Chapel Lane has been completed, but the presence of the contractors' vehicles and machinery in Rectory Road resulted in a number of vehicles driving on the grass verge, causing considerable damage.

### **016/23 Planning**

Members considered the following planning applications:

- a) *F/YR23/0297/VOC - Removal of condition 1 relating to planning permission F/0108/87/F (Continued use of dwelling as residential children's home without its occupancy being restricted to Mr and Mrs Chapman as imposed on previous planning permission No. F/0667/85/F) to remove personal condition - Chartwell House, Goodens Lane, Newton-in-the-Isle*

Members resolved to offer no objection.

- b) *F/YR23/0315/O - Erect up to 2 x dwellings (outline application with matters committed in respect of access) involving the demolition of 3x existing outbuildings - Land East and West of Croft Grange, 307 High Road, Newton-in-the-Isle*

Members resolved to give this their full support. Whilst agriculture is an important part of the local economy, the overbearing appearance of the two substantial steel buildings in an otherwise residential location in the heart of the village is an unwelcome blot on the streetscape. The temperature control machinery required by these buildings gives a constant audible drone in an otherwise silent landscape, accompanied by the odour of onions, affecting the lives of many residents in the vicinity of the site. Heavy goods vehicle traffic visits the site constantly, and it is the only location in the village to attract HGV traffic. The High Road is too narrow for two lorries to pass without venturing onto the grass verge or the narrow pavement, so removing this traffic from our roads would benefit all residents and dog walkers along half a mile of the road. The current appearance of the site and its proximity to the adjoining listed building are of serious detriment to that building and the proposed development would enhance its setting greatly.

- c) *F/YR23/0347/F - Erect a dwelling (2-storey, 2-bed) involving demolition of existing outbuilding - Land East of Fitton House, Fitton End Road, Newton-in-the-Isle*

Members agreed that the proposal represents unsustainable development in the open countryside, outside the core built form of the village, contrary to policies LP12 and LP3.

The proposed dwelling would be out of keeping with surrounding properties contrary to policy LP16 making neither a positive contribution to the local distinctiveness and character of the area, nor enhancing its local setting or improving the character of the local built environment. Permitting this development would set a precedent for further unsustainable development on numerous similar sites fronting onto Fitton End Road.

**017/23 Finance**

- a) Members approved the internal accounts for the 2022/23 financial year.
- b) Members reviewed and approved the Governance and Management Risk Assessment.
- c) Members approved the internal audit report. Three minor procedural matters were highlighted, each of which was already being addressed.
- d) Members reviewed and approved the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23 and authorised the Chairman to sign it.
- e) Members reviewed and approved the Accounting Statements 2022/23 and authorised the Chairman to sign it.
- f) Members reviewed and approved the Certificate of Exemption for 2022/23 and authorised the Chairman to sign it.
- g) Members resolved that the period for the exercise of public rights be from Monday 5 June to Friday 14 July.
- h) Members resolved to re-appoint Auditing Solutions Ltd as the internal auditor for the 2023/24 financial year.
- i) Members resolved not to publish a paper copy of the annual report, but to include information on the Council’s website and the new Facebook page.
- j) The Clerk presented an updated financial statement as at the end of April, showing income of £5,100.00 and expenditure of £11.98, resulting in a surplus of £5,088.02 and total funds held of £39,773.02.

k) Members noted the following sums received:

<i>Barclays Bank (interest)</i> .....	£ 14.97
<i>HMRC (VAT refund)</i> .....	£ 2,646.83
<i>R Kublik (rent)</i> .....	£ 189.20
<i>Newton Village Hall (rent)</i> .....	£ 1.00
<i>Fenland District Council (precept instalment)</i> .....	£ 5,000.00
<i>J McGregor (licence fee)</i> .....	<u>£ 100.00</u>
	<b>£ 7,952.00</b>

l) Members ratified the following payments:

<i>100752 Magpas Air Ambulance (donation)</i> .....	£ 250.00
<i>100753 East Anglian Air Ambulance (donation)</i> .....	£ 250.00
<i>100754 D Freeman (gate hinges)</i> .....	<u>£ 11.98</u>
	<b>£ 511.98</b>



m) Members approved the following payments:

100750	T A Blackamore Ltd (grass cutting) .....	£ 1,885.44*
100755	D A Gibbs (salary April and May) .....	£ 895.60
100756	Zurich Municipal (insurance).....	£ 796.11
100757	CAPALC Ltd (affiliation fee) .....	£ 403.10
100758	Sam Johnson Landscapes (tree work) .....	£ 330.00
100759	Playsafety Ltd (play equipment inspection) .....	£ 111.00
100760	Information Commissioner (registration fee).....	<u>£ 40.00</u>
		£ 4,461.25

\* Approved as £1,597.44 at previous meeting. Additional works added.

n) Members resolved to add Cllrs Bradley and Freeman to the list of authorised signatories for the new NatWest bank account.

### **018/23 Annual Parish Meeting**

The Clerk reported that he had invited a speaker from Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Watch to address the meeting. The event will be advertised in the forthcoming newsletter.

### **019/23 Play Equipment Safety Inspection**

- a) Members considered the report on the recent inspection. The bearing on the roundabout requires lubrication. The Clerk will clarify how to access this. The BMX ramps will be removed. The shelter needs to be cleaned.
- b) Cllr Freeman offered to undertake the regular inspections of the play equipment.

### **020/23 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm.

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### Minutes of a meeting of Newton-in-the-Isle Parish Council Planning Committee held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**Present** - Cllr R Bradley (Chairman), Cllr S Clark, Cllr D Freeman, Cllr B Simpson, D Gibbs (Clerk)

#### **001/23 Apologies for Absence**

None.

#### **002/23 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

- a) Cllr Bradley was nominated as Chairman and duly elected.
- b) Cllr Freeman was nominated as Vice Chairman and duly elected.

#### **003/23 Planning Application**

F/YR23/0403/F - Change of use of land to secure dog exercise area - Land West of 1 Ferry Farm, Ferry Lane, Newton-in-the-Isle.

Members were broadly supportive of the proposal, although the following issues were noted:-

- i. The remote location will increase car usage and traffic levels in Ferry Lane
- ii. The plans submitted show no planting of trees or hedges which would enhance the site both visually and environmentally, provide shade for dogs, and help to offset the impact of increased car usage
- iii. No seating is shown within the exercise area, making it less suitable for elderly users or users with disabilities

Members resolved to offer no objection to the proposal, but hope that the applicant will consider the issues raised above.

#### **004/23 Update on Previous Applications**

F/YR22/0957/F and F/YR22/0958/LB - Convert existing barn, and erect a link extension (to existing dwelling), erect a 2-storey building involving the demolition of existing piggery, to form 2 x annexes (2-storey 2-bed) ancillary to existing dwelling, and erect a first-floor extension to existing outbuilding and a double garage (part retrospective) - Newton House, 217 High Road, Newton-in-the-Isle. Decision pending.

F/YR22/1101/TRTPO - Works to 1no Willow, 1no Silver Birch, 1no Oak and 2no Sycamore trees covered by TPO/13/1966 - Amen Corner, Chapel Lane, Newton-in-the-Isle. Granted.

F/YR22/1153/F - Erect 1 x dwelling (2-storey 4-bed), including formation of a new access - Land West of 241 High Road, Newton-in-the-Isle. Granted.

F/YR22/1252/F - Erect 1 dwelling (3-storey 5-bed) with detached garage - Land North-East of Mulberry Barn, 281 High Road, Newton-in-the-Isle. Granted.

F/YR22/1361/PIP - Residential development of up to 6 x dwellings (application for Permission in Principle) - Land East of 156 High Road, Newton-in-the-Isle. Granted.

F/YR23/0056/F - Erection of 15.545m high (approx) (hub height) wind turbine - Wind Turbine at Land North West of Ivy Cottage, Seaford Farm, Cross Drove, Newton-in-the-Isle. Decision pending.

F/YR23/0144/F - Insertion of roof lights to front and rear elevations and windows at first-floor on side elevations of existing dwelling (to enable loft conversion) and erect porch to front elevation - Heathfield, Fen Road, Newton-in-the-Isle. Granted.

F/YR23/0243/TRTPO - Fell 1x Beech tree and works to 4x Yew and 4x Sycamore trees covered by TPO 13/1966 - Priory House, Chapel Lane, Newton-in-the-Isle. Decision pending.

F/YR23/0297/VOC - Removal of condition 1 relating to planning permission F/0108/87/F (Continued use of dwelling as residential children's home without its occupancy being restricted to Mr And Mrs Chapman as imposed on previous planning permission No. F/0667/85/F) to remove personal condition - Chartwell House, Goodens Lane, Newton-in-the-Isle. Granted.

F/YR23/0315/O - Erect up to 2 x dwellings (outline application with matters committed in respect of access) involving the demolition of 3x existing outbuildings - Land East and West of Croft Grange, 307 High Road, Newton-in-the-Isle. Decision pending.

F/YR23/0347/F - Erect a dwelling (2-storey, 2-bed) involving demolition of existing outbuilding - Land East of Fitton House, Fitton End Road, Newton-in-the-Isle. Decision pending.

### **005/23 Other Planning Matters**

The Clerk advised members that he had attended the public consultation event for the Treading Bank solar farm project. This proposal sits alongside the Tydd Solar project proposed last year, but there is no connection between the two proposals.

<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	028/23	<b>NEWTON</b> IN THE ISLE <b>PARISH COUNCIL</b>
<b>Meeting Date</b>	11 July 2023	
<b>Report Title</b>	Clerk's Report	

### 1. Purpose of Report

To report on meetings attended, correspondence received and local issues.

### 2. Key Issues

#### Meetings attended:

Local Highway Improvements Assessment Panel - 23 May

Treading Bank Solar Farm consultation - 24 May

Fenland Police re anti-social behaviour - 5 July

#### Correspondence received:

Cambridgeshire County Council - Remembrance events guidance, Cambridgeshire Matters newsletter, highway events diary, summer holiday activities and food programme, libraries summer season

Fenland District Council - voter ID data, appointment of Chairman, Vice Chair and cabinet, civic events dates, dog control order consultation, launch of The Fenlander digital bulletin, Back to Nature event for community groups, planning training

NALC - newsletters, bulletins

CAPALC - training programme, monthly bulletin

NHS - Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Integrated Care System stakeholder newsletter

Cambridgeshire ACRE - Staying in Touch newsletter, Fenland cancer support survey

Queen Elizabeth Hospital - new hospital announcement, modernising our hospital newsletter

Renewable Connections Developments Ltd - Treading Bank Solar Farm

Campaign to Protect Rural England - membership invitation

#### Local Issues

LHI/PFHI scheme for Chapel Lane, update on progress

### 3. Recommendations

Members note the report.

<b>Report Author</b>	Dave Gibbs
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# Newton-in-the-Isle Parish Council

## Receipts & Payments Summary as at 30.6.23

Income	Year to Date		Budget	%	
FDC Precept	£	5,000.00	£	10,000.00	50.00
FDC Concurrent Functions Grant	£	1,968.00	£	1,968.00	100.00
Allotment Rents	£	100.00	£	473.44	21.12
Village Hall	£	-	£	1.00	0.00
Grants	£	-	£	-	0.00
Donations	£	-	£	-	0.00
Bank Interest	£	25.18	£	20.00	125.90
VAT Refunds	£	-	£	1,092.76	0.00
Miscellaneous	£	-	£	-	0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>7,093.18</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>13,555.20</b>	<b>52.33</b>

### Expenditure

Clerk's Salary	£	895.60	£	5,685.60	15.75
Fees	£	285.00	£	235.00	121.28
Subscriptions	£	403.10	£	475.00	84.86
Admin Expenses	£	30.00	£	1,500.00	2.00
Insurance	£	796.11	£	720.00	110.57
Drainage Rates	£	-	£	50.00	0.00
Playing Field	£	104.48	£	7,500.00	1.39
Highways	£	1,315.00	£	4,500.00	29.22
Street Lights	£	-	£	3,000.00	0.00
Section 137 Payments	£	-	£	2,500.00	0.00
LHI Projects	£	-	£	2,000.00	0.00
Recoverable VAT	£	330.50	£	-	#####
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>4,159.79</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>28,165.60</b>	<b>14.77</b>

### Summary

Total Income	£	7,093.18	£	13,555.20
LESS Total Expenditure	£	4,159.79	£	28,165.60
<b>Net Surplus or Deficit</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>2,933.39</b>	<b>-£</b>	<b>14,610.40</b>

### Balance Sheet

Balance B/fwd	£	34,685.00
Surplus or Deficit	£	2,933.39
<b>Balance C/fwd</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>37,618.39</b>

### Represented by

Barclays Community Account	£	25,516.68
Barclays Business Premium Account	£	12,101.71
Cash / Cheques	£	-
	<b>£</b>	<b>37,618.39</b>