

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

To 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 9 September 2025 at 7.30pm.**

Dave Gibbs

Clerk

4 September 2025

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*

038/25 Apologies for Absence

To receive and consider apologies from those members not present

039/25 Chairman's Announcements

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

040/25 Public Forum

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

041/25 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 8 July

042/25 County and District Councillors Reports

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

043/25 Police Matters

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

044/25 Clerk's Report

To receive a report on meetings attended and correspondence received

045/25 Outstanding Matters

To receive updates on matters raised previously and to resolve accordingly

- a) Accumulation of scrap in Colville Road*
- b) Dangerous path surface at St James Close*

- c) *Vacant properties*
- d) *Allocation of vacant allotments*
- e) *Village bus service*
- f) *Former Colville School site*
- g) *Bird deflectors on overhead power lines*
- h) *Litter bin outside former Woadman's Arms*
- i) *High Road overhanging vegetation*

046/25 Members' and Residents' Issues

To receive reports from the Clerk and Members on matters raised by local residents

- a) *Defibrillator training - request from resident*
- b) *Tree in Westfield Road - damage to telephone lines*
- c) *Thistles and ragwort - land near Black Dyke*
- d) *Bonfire event - opportunity to repeat last year's event*
- e) *Missing street light - junction of High Road and Little Ramper*

047/25 Highways

- a) *To receive an update from the Clerk on highway defects and maintenance issues*
- b) *To receive and consider a data report from the MVAS speed monitoring sign opposite 170 High Road*
- c) *To receive an update from the Clerk on progress towards establishing a Community Speed Watch*
- d) *To agree a date for a tour of the public rights of way in the Parish*

048/25 Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field

To receive an update from the Clerk regarding matters relating to the Playing Field and to resolve accordingly

049/25 Residents' Survey

To consider and agree the process and timetable for distributing and collecting the surveys

050/25 Consultations

To note current surveys and consultations from statutory partners and formulate an appropriate response if required

- a) *Local Nature Recovery Strategy - Cambridgeshire County Council*
- b) *Local Government Reorganisation Option A - Cambridgeshire County Council*

051/25 Finance

To consider and resolve on the following matters:

- a) *To receive an updated financial statement for the period to the end of August*
- b) *To note the 2025/26 Local Government pay settlement*
- c) *To note the confirmation of the completion of the audit for 2024/25*
- d) *To note the following direct debit payments issued since the last meeting:*

HMRC (tax and national insurance)	£ 44.63
North Level District IDB (drainage rates)	£ 57.37

e) *To ratify the following payments issued since the last meeting:*

100832	<i>Idverde Ltd (grass cutting).....</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>358.80</i>
100833	<i>Newton Village Hall (hall hire).....</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>30.00</i>

f) *To approve the following payments which have been verified by the Clerk:*

100834	<i>D A Gibbs (salary August and September inc backpay).....</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>961.40</i>
100835	<i>D Freeman (handyman).....</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>367.50</i>
100836	<i>Idverde Ltd (grass cutting).....</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>358.80</i>
100837	<i>SJA Pest Control (mole removal).....</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>258.00</i>
100838	<i>Newton Village Hall (hall hire).....</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>30.00</i>
100839	<i>TA Blackamore Ltd (grass cutting)</i>	<i>£</i>	<i><u>1,526.40</u></i>
		<i>£</i>	<i>3,502.10</i>

052/25 Policies

To consider for adoption the draft Information Technology Policy

053/25 Date of Next Meeting

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

Tuesday 11 November at 7.30pm

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

Minutes of a Meeting of Newton-in-the-Isle Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 8th July 2025

Present - Cllr R Bradley (Chairman), Cllr A Clark, Cllr S Clark, Cllr K Humphris, Cllr B Simpson, Cllr K Simpson, Cllr A Osborn (CCC), Cllr B Barber (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), 7 parishioners

022/25 Apologies for Absence

Cllr R Moore, Cllr C Seaton (FDC)

023/25 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He observed that the recent incidents involving children killed by fallen trees and gravestones serve as a reminder of the Council's responsibilities regarding public safety.

024/25 Public Forum

A resident asked why the issue of vacant properties is included on the agenda when the Council has no remit for housing. The Clerk explained that this applies solely to social housing and the Council lobbies Clarion Housing Group to bring vacant properties back into use at the earliest opportunity.

A number of issues with the updating of the village website were highlighted and greater use of social media to showcase the work of the Council was suggested. The Chairman acknowledged these issues, but explained that it is sometimes difficult to find the time to undertake this work.

An update on the plan to extend the High Road 40mph speed limit to the east of the village was requested. The Clerk reported that the application has been submitted by the developer.

Speeding was discussed at length. The Clerk explained that the MVAS data is shared with the Police and also analysed through the Council's own data analysis to identify patterns and help to target repeat offenders. Enforcement activity is targeted at those parishes that have an active Speed Watch group and the Council is now working on establishing a group to work with the Police on this.

025/25 Minutes of Previous Meetings

- a) **RESOLVED** - that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 13th May be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

- b) RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10th June be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

026/25 County and District Councillors Reports

County - Cllr Osborn explained that he has been in discussion with the Diocese of Ely regarding the future of St James' Church. He is hoping to obtain more information to clarify the nature and scale of the works required to bring the building back into use. He has also noted that the roadside drains in the village need to be cleared of debris before the winter and will be speaking to Highways about this.

District - Cllr Barber reminded Members that the deadline for applications for grants for businesses is approaching.

Cllr S Clark reported that there were a large number of nominations for the Pride in Fenland awards, making the task of selecting the winners more difficult than ever. The awards evening was an enjoyable celebration of voluntary activity and two residents of Tydd St Giles received awards.

027/25 Police Matters

The Clerk reported that he has not had an opportunity to meet Sgt Lee Lombardo yet. Cambridgeshire Police has re-established a policy of designated officers with a local remit. The neighbourhood officer for Newton-in-the-Isle will be PC David Lovitt.

028/25 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received, including two meetings with the Probation Service.

Correspondence included traffic orders for closures of Roman Bank on 28th July, Mill Lane and Cross Drove on 8th August, and Fen Road and High Road on 27th and 28th August, a County Council appeal for food waste recycling volunteers, a District Council announcement of the community centres supported by Net Zero Villages grants, the election of the new Chair and Vice Chair of the District Council, the publication of a new edition of Local Councils Explained by the National Association of Local Councils, Cambridgeshire ACRE's Affordable Homes; Thriving Villages event, Anglian Water's water main replacement programme and notification of the movement of abnormal loads from Conrad Energy.

029/25 Outstanding Matters

- a) Accumulation of scrap in Colvile Road - Members noted that the situation is getting worse, with several vans now present. The Council continues to lobby Clarion Housing Group to intervene.
- b) Dangerous path surface at St James Close - Awaiting a visit from Clarion Housing.
- c) Vacant properties - Members continue to monitor several vacant properties around the village. It was noted that some properties are being sold rather than refurbished.
- d) Allocation of vacant allotments - The Community Payback team have gathered up the concrete, metal and other rubbish on the site. Cllr Bradley will remove it.

- e) Village bus service - no further progress.
- f) Former Colvile School site - The planning application has not been submitted yet.
- g) Bird deflectors on overhead power lines - The Clerk has spoken to UK Power Networks and they are investigating.
- h) Replacement doors for Village Hall - The new door has been fitted.
- i) Litter bin outside former Woadman's Arms - The District Council will relocate the bin shortly.
- j) Planning Committee terms of reference - Members resolved to adopt the updated terms of reference with the amendments agreed at the Council's May meeting.
- k) Village Hall valuation - The Clerk has received the valuation undertaken by the Village Hall charity's insurers, showing a total rebuild cost of £410,664+VAT, which is now reflected in the charity's insurance policy.

030/25 Members' and Residents' Issues

- a) Wildflower meadow - Members discussed the meadow, its appearance and contribution to the biodiversity of the site. A question on the future of the meadow is included in the forthcoming survey. Members resolved to retain the meadow pending feedback from the wider community.
- b) High Road vegetation - Cllr Bradley reported that he had attempted to contact the landowner but had not been successful. The landowners on both sides of the road need to be reminded of their responsibilities.

031/25 Highways

- a) The large pothole at the southern end of Fen Road has been marked but not repaired. The surface dressing of the High Road into Tydd St Giles is almost complete. The lining has been renewed except where parked cars prevented this. Surface dressing of Colvile Road is planned for next year. Work was scheduled for Little Ramper, but appears not to have taken place.
- b) The timescales for applications to the 2025/26 Local Highway Improvements and 20mph speed limit schemes have been confirmed. Proposals will be considered by the County Council's Highways and Transport Committee at a meeting on 14th October, with design feasibility work taking place from then until June 2026, followed by delivery hopefully by the end of December 2026.
- c) Members discussed the data report from the MVAS speed monitoring device located at the east end of the High Road. The Clerk noted that the 85th percentile speed was only 42mph, showing that the majority of drivers obey limits, but a small minority continue to drive well in excess of the limit. The MVAS will be relocated elsewhere in the village shortly.
- d) The Clerk reported that he has spoken to the Speed Watch Coordination Officer about starting the process to set up a Community Speed Watch in Newton-in-the-Isle. Several residents have volunteered to join the group, enabling the process to commence.

032/25 Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field

The Clerk provided an update regarding issues relating to the management and maintenance of the Playing Field. They noted the following and resolved accordingly.

- i) Probation Service Community Payback - The Payback team has carried out some tidying of the Playing Field and spread the piles of woodchip on the path through the copse.
- ii) The dyke behind the properties in Goodens Lane - It was not possible for the Community Payback team to clear the rubbish from the dyke, due to access and safety concerns.
- iii) Bricks, concrete and metal around the perimeter of the field - This has been gathered together by the Community Payback team and needs to be removed from the site.
- iv) New field drain - Quotes for the work are needed. One contractor visited the site, but has not provided a quote.
- v) Carousel bearing - No progress
- vi) Soft play surfacing - Awaiting completion of the carousel bearing repair.
- vii) Teen shelter - The Handyman will paint the shelter shortly.
- viii) Moles - The contractor is working to remove the moles.
- ix) Signage - To be purchased shortly. The Handyman will install the signs.
- x) Grass cutting - The new contractor is gradually improving the site.
- xi) Arboretum - One dead tree still to be replaced when a suitable replacement can be located.

033/25 Annual Parish Meeting

Members reviewed this year's Annual Parish Meeting. They felt that the choice of speaker was good, but the attendance was disappointing. Cllr B Simpson reported that she had received 17 entries for the dog fouling poster competition and a winner would be selected for printing.

034/25 Residents' Survey

- a) Cllr Humphris briefed Members on the recent work of the working group. Members considered the latest draft of the survey and provided feedback.
- b) Members resolved to delegate a budget of £500 to the working group to approve the final design to be printed before the next meeting.

035/25 Consultations

Members considered the following consultations and resolved accordingly:

- a) Local Government Reorganisation - Members agreed that East Cambridgeshire was more akin to Fenland than Huntingdonshire in terms of landscape, farming, soils, road conditions etc.
- b) Public Rights of Way Hierarchy - Members asked the Clerk to arrange a tour of the public rights of way in the Parish.
- c) Grimsby to Walpole Stage 2 consultation - Consultation event at Tydd St Giles Community Centre on 19th July.

- d) Great Collaboration climate and environmental survey - The Clerk will respond.

036/25 Finance

- a) The Clerk presented an updated financial statement as at the end of June, showing income of £15,316.13 and expenditure of £2,630.31, resulting in a surplus of £12,685.82 and total funds held of £44,400.86.
- b) Members reviewed the quarterly financial reconciliation.
- c) Members noted the following sums received:

<i>Barclays Bank (interest)</i>	£ 105.21
<i>Fenland District Council (concurrent functions grant)</i>	£ 1,968.00
<i>Fenland District Council (recycling credits)</i>	<u>£ 142.92</u>
	£ 2,216.13

- d) Members noted the following payment issued by direct debit:

<i>Information Commissioner (registration fee)</i>	£ 47.00
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- e) Members approved the following payments:

100824	<i>D A Gibbs (salary June and July)</i>	£ 893.96
100825	<i>D Freeman (handyman)</i>	£ 352.05
100826	<i>Idverde Ltd (grass cutting)</i>	£ 717.60
100827	<i>Newton Village Hall (hall hire)</i>	£ 90.00
100828	<i>Fenland District Council (street lighting)</i>	£ 7,619.66
100829	<i>CAPALC Ltd (affiliation fee)</i>	£ 416.61
100830	<i>CAPALC Ltd (training)</i>	£ 50.00
100831	<i>Newton Village Hall (transfer of recycling credits)</i>	<u>£ 142.92</u> *
		£10,282.80

* *Members resolved to transfer the recycling credits to the Village Hall charity.*

037/25 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 9th September at 7.30pm.

Agenda Item No.	044/25	
Meeting Date	9 September 2025	
Report Title	Clerk's Report	

1. Purpose of Report

To report on meetings attended and correspondence received.

2. Key Issues

Meetings attended:

National Grid Grimsby-Walpole consultation - 19 July
 Diocese of Ely Festival Churches webinar - 23 July
 Neighbourhood Police Officer - 25 July

Correspondence received:

Cambridgeshire County Council

Roadworks and events bulletins
 Traffic order for the closure of Fen Road - 1 September to 24 October
 Traffic order for pre surface dressing works in Colvile Road - 1 October onwards
 Cambridgeshire Matters newsletter
 Local Area Energy Plan
 Local Nature Recovery Strategy
 Dr Bike bicycle health checks
 Local Government Reorganisation Option A

Fenland District Council

The Fenlander newsletter
 Local government reorganisation update
 Travel Buddies project expands
 Electoral canvass begins
 Chairman's Civic Reception invitation
 Chairman's Coffee Morning invitation
 Children's Safety Zone events successful
 New water feature in Wisbech Park
 FDC supports flying flags
 Workwell Fenland promotion
 Golden Age Fair, Wisbech St Mary - 26 September
 £400 fine and criminal record for allowing waste to be fly-tipped

National Association of Local Councils - Events update, Chief Executive's bulletin

CAPALC - Bulletin, awards, conference, local government pay award, training, NALC/ACRE flooding survey

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority - Members newsletter

Cambridgeshire ACRE - Staying in Touch newsletter, community buildings advice service, Macmillan community cancer project, AGM

NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough - Integrated care newsletter

Anglian Water - Water main replacement

Report Author	Dave Gibbs
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Cambridge CVS - Support Fenland update, Doddington survey

Green Energy Switch - Free home energy visit, LEAP free appliance scheme, free EV charger installation


Helen Symmons - new audit requirements for 2026

Queen Elizabeth Hospital - Modernising our hospital newsletter

Cambridge Children's Hospital - Appointment of construction partner

3. Recommendations

Members note the report.

Agenda Item No.	046/25(b)	
Meeting Date	9 September 2025	
Report Title	Tree in Westfield Road	

1. Purpose of Report

To inform Members of issues relating to a Copper Beech tree on the roadside verge in Westfield Road and to resolve accordingly.

2. Key Issues

There is a large Copper Beech tree located on the roadside verge opposite 7 and 8 Westfield Road. Little is known of the history of the tree, but from the size of it, it can be assumed that it was planted by the developer when the houses in Westfield Road were constructed 60 years ago. There is another Copper Beech of similar age nearby.

The tree is in good condition, but it has outgrown its location. It was planted adjacent to a telegraph pole that carries the phone lines to all 14 properties in Westfield Road and the lines now pass through the branches of the tree. There have been several incidents of phone lines being damaged by the tree, including one in August that brought the matter to the Council's attention. The tree overshadows the properties opposite and No 13 behind it and there is a risk that the roots may affect this property.

The tree does not belong to the Parish Council. It was planted on Highway land, so should be the responsibility of the County Council, but it does not feature on their records. It is the County Council's policy to deny ownership of such trees. The developer was a limited company that ceased trading many years ago. In effect, the tree belongs to nobody.

The tree appears to be in good health and could live for at least another hundred years, potentially doubling in height and spread in this time. Mature beech trees do not respond well to pollarding or other significant canopy reductions, leaving two options:

- a) The Council could turn a blind eye to this matter, recognising that it has no liability for this tree.
- b) Alternatively, the tree could be felled at the Council's expense.

Felling will be complicated due to the size and the proximity to the phone lines, but this situation will become steadily worse and more costly with time. The tree is already having a negative impact on the quality of life of several residents and this impact will increase over time.

To facilitate an informed debate, a quote for the felling of the tree has been obtained and all residents of Westfield Road have been consulted. The consensus from the consultation was that the tree was planted in the wrong place and should now be felled. Detailed feedback from the consultation will be provided at the meeting.

Report Author	Dave Gibbs
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Immediately adjacent to the Beech, there is an ornamental Prunus of some variety. It is not clear whether this was planted or has self-seeded, as there were a number of similar trees nearby that have been removed in recent years. This tree has also reached the telephone lines, although it could be reduced in height to create clearance, however this would be a short-term measure that would need to be repeated every few years. The proximity to the Beech has resulted in a one-sided form for this tree, with minimal leaf growth and some dead wood where overshadowed by the larger tree. Removal of this tree is an option.

The removal of both trees would create a wide open verge and residents were asked for suggestions relating to the future use of this space. Residents' responses will be reported to the meeting.


Photographs of the tree are included as appendices to this report.

3. Recommendations

- a) Members consider whether or not they wish to fell the Beech tree.
- b) If the tree is to be felled, Members consider whether to fell the adjacent Prunus tree.
- c) Members consider how to make use of the site for the benefit of residents of Westfield Road.





Agenda Item No.	047/25(b)	
Meeting Date	09 September 2025	
Report Title	MVAS Speed Data	

1. Purpose of Report

To update members on the data from speed monitoring in the village.

2. Key Issues

The following raw data has been taken from the MVAS speed monitoring device:

High Road East with a speed limit of 40mph

Monitoring period 03-07-2025 to 16-07-2025 (12 days)

Number of vehicles - 15,492

Minimum speed - 5mph

Maximum speed - 75mph

Average speed - 35.68mph

85th percentile speed - 42mph

Number over speed limit - 20.35% - 3,153 vehicles

Number over prosecutable limit (10%+2 above limit) - 6.18% - 958 vehicles

Number over disqualification limit (30mph above limit) - 0.03% - 5 vehicles

Highest speeds recorded:

Friday 11 July	20:29	Arriving	75mph
Wednesday 09 July	19:49	Departing	74mph
Friday 11 July	18:42	Departing	74mph
Sunday 06 July	20:19	Arriving	73mph
Sunday 13 July	11:16	Departing	71mph
Monday 14 July	05:20	Departing	69mph
Saturday 12 July	09:45	Arriving	67mph
Saturday 12 July	17:06	Arriving	67mph
Saturday 12 July	08:42	Arriving	66mph
Saturday 12 July	18:50	Departing	66mph
Monday 14 July	03:06	Departing	66mph
Friday 04 July	21:33	Departing	65mph
Friday 11 July	20:23	Arriving	65mph
Monday 14 July	13:03	Arriving	65mph
Tuesday 15 July	10:42	Arriving	65mph
Monday 14 July	17:31	Departing	64mph
Tuesday 15 July	05:14	Departing	63mph
Monday 07 July	05:53	Departing	62mph
Friday 04 July	06:37	Departing	61mph
Friday 04 July	12:11	Departing	61mph
Sunday 06 July	10:31	Arriving	61mph
Monday 07 July	18:22	Arriving	61mph
Tuesday 08 July	12:43	Arriving	61mph
Thursday 10 July	14:28	Departing	61mph
Friday 11 July	00:00	Arriving	61mph


Continued overleaf...

Report Author	Dave Gibbs
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Saturday 12 July	05:37	Departing	61mph
Saturday 12 July	11:08	Departing	61mph
Saturday 12 July	11:25	Arriving	61mph
Saturday 12 July	16:03	Departing	61mph
Saturday 12 July	21:48	Arriving	61mph
Monday 14 July	04:26	Departing	61mph
Wednesday 16 July	04:29	Departing	61mph
Friday 04 July	03:21	Departing	60mph
Sunday 06 July	13:55	Departing	60mph
Monday 07 July	18:41	Departing	60mph
Tuesday 08 July	06:08	Arriving	60mph
Wednesday 09 July	18:39	Arriving	60mph
Thursday 10 July	05:21	Arriving	60mph
Tuesday 15 July	14:16	Departing	60mph
Tuesday 15 July	23:31	Departing	60mph
Friday 04 July	08:48	Departing	59mph
Friday 04 July	09:23	Departing	59mph
Saturday 05 July	07:28	Departing	59mph
Sunday 06 July	04:56	Arriving	59mph
Wednesday 09 July	09:35	Arriving	59mph
Wednesday 09 July	13:26	Departing	59mph
Wednesday 09 July	21:23	Arriving	59mph
Saturday 12 July	18:06	Arriving	59mph
Sunday 13 July	11:27	Departing	59mph
Sunday 13 July	23:22	Arriving	59mph
Tuesday 15 July	05:08	Departing	59mph
Saturday 05 July	05:39	Departing	58mph
Monday 07 July	18:46	Arriving	58mph
Tuesday 08 July	05:08	Arriving	58mph
Tuesday 08 July	14:13	Departing	58mph
Tuesday 08 July	17:27	Arriving	58mph
Thursday 10 July	07:58	Departing	58mph
Thursday 10 July	22:07	Arriving	58mph
Friday 11 July	21:57	Arriving	58mph
Sunday 13 July	12:38	Arriving	58mph
Monday 14 July	07:50	Departing	58mph
Monday 14 July	13:45	Arriving	58mph
Tuesday 15 July	06:32	Arriving	58mph
Saturday 05 July	09:31	Departing	57mph
Saturday 05 July	20:21	Arriving	57mph
Monday 07 July	04:29	Departing	57mph
Tuesday 08 July	16:14	Arriving	57mph
Tuesday 08 July	18:08	Arriving	57mph
Wednesday 09 July	04:47	Arriving	57mph
Wednesday 09 July	14:48	Arriving	57mph
Thursday 10 July	05:42	Departing	57mph
Thursday 10 July	06:59	Departing	57mph
Thursday 10 July	14:57	Departing	57mph

3. Recommendations

Members note the report

Agenda Item No.	048/25	
Meeting Date	9 September 2025	
Report Title	Playing Field Progress Report	

1. Purpose of Report

To provide an update on actions agreed at the September 2024 meeting and subsequent meetings relating to the Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field.

2. Progress on Actions

- i) Bricks, concrete and metal around the perimeter of the field - This has been gathered together by the Community Payback team and needs to be removed from the site.
- ii) New field drain - Quotes for the work are needed.
- iii) Carousel bearing - The carousel has been removed to be dismantled to clarify the remedial work required. The hole has been filled with soil to make it safe for the duration of the works.
- iv) Soft play surfacing - Awaiting completion of the carousel bearing repair.
- v) Teen shelter - The Handyman has painted the shelter.
- vi) Moles - The contractor has completed the initial phase of work to remove the moles, but there are still moles present. The contract has been extended.
- vii) Signage - To be purchased shortly. The Handyman will install the signs.
- viii) Grass cutting - The new contractor has made significant progress in improving the site, with the grass now cut to the specified length. The annual cut of the wildflower meadow and the copse will take place later this month.
- ix) Arboretum - One dead tree still to be replaced when a suitable replacement can be located.
- x) Orchard - Several of the fruit trees were vandalised overnight on 12 July. One tree was cut down, another badly damaged and the apples were removed from several more.

3. Recommendations

Members note the progress on the agreed actions.

Report Author	Dave Gibbs
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Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Have your say!

The Local Nature Recovery Strategy for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough region is now open to public consultation, where you can have your say on the strategy that has been developed and view the local habitat map that sets out the priority areas for nature recovery in the region. The consultation will run for 8 weeks, ending Thursday 11 September.

The consultation is available here: <https://yourvoice.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/lnrs/consultation/> with a link to the survey at the bottom of the page. This link also provides access to the full draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy document as well as other supporting documentation and the local habitat map.

Why is the strategy important?

Everything we do, from the water we drink, the air we breathe and the food we eat is dependent on the natural world, yet England is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has one of the lowest proportions of land designated for nature in the UK.

Local Nature Recovery Strategies are an England-wide approach to targeting nature recovery. They set out priorities and actions to support nature recovery, inform sustainable land use planning and shape how nature-based solutions are delivered.

Further information

Printed versions of the survey and documentation will also be available at all 33 libraries within the region, as well as available to download. You can find your nearest library [here](#).

The team at Cambridgeshire County Council will be available via localnaturerecoverystrategy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk to help answer any questions you may have.



County Council launches second phase of engagement into Local Government Reorganisation, asking residents to share their views



People in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are being given a further opportunity to have their say in shaping the future of local government.

The Government wants to change the current structure of local authorities across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough by 2028, through a process known as Local

Government Reorganisation (LGR). LGR will replace all seven of the county, city and district councils that currently exist. The new unitary councils that would succeed these current authorities would be responsible for all the local government services in the geographic areas they cover, except for those provided by Town and Parish Councils.

The County Council's recent annual Quality of Life survey highlighted that just under two thirds (63%) of those residents who took part knew nothing about Local Government Reorganisation, with just under half (46%) having never heard of LGR.

Today (Wednesday, 3 September), an information campaign about Local Government Reorganisation launches with a second phase of engagement running until Friday 3 October, which invites views on the preferred option being developed by Cambridgeshire County Council – known as 'Option A'.

Option A shares Cambridgeshire and Peterborough between two new council areas – one in the North, building upon areas currently covered by Peterborough City Council, Huntingdonshire and Fenland District Councils, and one in the South, which builds upon the areas currently covered by Cambridge City Council, East Cambridgeshire and South Cambridgeshire District Councils. These new authorities would also incorporate the responsibilities and resources for their areas currently held by the County Council.

Of the three preferred options being developed by local councils in response to the Government, Cambridgeshire County Council's leadership believes that Option A best meets the Government's criteria. It balances the needs and services for both urban and rural communities, whilst delivering reduced duplication, greater accountability and financial sustainability. It would also support devolution and economic growth across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, by creating two strong and equal partners in the devolution arrangements led by the Mayoral Combined Authority.

Cambridgeshire County Council's Chief Executive, Dr Stephen Moir said: "Almost 3,000 residents and 186 stakeholders contributed to the initial phase of engagement about Local Government Reorganisation. The responses received told us about the key priorities for residents and those of many of our partners and stakeholders, including town and parish councils, businesses and the community and voluntary sector. It was clear that council size, high quality, accessible and responsive services, democratic accountability and value for money were all important."

"We believe that the creation of two well-balanced councils, each supported by one of the geographic county's two major cities and offering financial resilience and sustainability, will achieve fairer outcomes for all our communities and create more

equal, more empowered and more efficient local government for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in the future.

“Option A will also enable stronger alignment with the identities of our local areas, and the daily patterns of people’s lives, in areas such as travel, access to the NHS, jobs, education and training. It will respect the role of town and parish councils, and support more localised services and democratic accountability. This option will also create new councils large enough to deliver quality services and infrastructure, which are better able to withstand future financial shocks.

“We’ve used the County Council’s approved guiding principles of size, sustainability, safety, simplicity, and synchronicity to shape this option. These principles will help to strengthen services and minimise disruption as we move into the next phase of local government for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.”

Following this second and more detailed stage of engagement, a preferred option will be discussed by the Full Council on Tuesday 21 October, prior to a submission being made to the Government in November.

For more information on LGR, head to Cambridgeshire County Council’s website:

<https://yourvoice.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/your-future-councils/>

Cambridgeshire County Council’s Full Council meeting on 21 October will be live streamed on our YouTube channel.

Contact Information

Cambridgeshire County Council communications team

01223 699281

communications@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

In an emergency or serious incident Cambridgeshire County Council communications team can be contacted out of hours on: 07833 480 348

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www.twitter.com/CambsCC or Instagram

www.instagram.com/cambridgeshirecountycouncil or visit

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Newton-in-the-Isle Parish Council

Receipts & Payments Summary as at 31.8.25

Income	Year to Date		Budget		%
FDC Precept	£	13,000.00	£	26,000.00	50.00
FDC Concurrent Functions Grant	£	1,968.00	£	1,968.00	100.00
Allotment Rents	£	100.00	£	573.44	17.44
Village Hall	£	-	£	1.00	0.00
Grants	£	-	£	-	0.00
Donations	£	-	£	-	0.00
Bank Interest	£	105.21	£	300.00	35.07
VAT Refunds	£	-	£	1,349.98	0.00
Miscellaneous	£	142.92	£	-	#####
Total Income	£	15,316.13	£	30,192.42	50.73

Expenditure

Clerk's Salary	£	1,832.55	£	6,210.00	29.51
Fees	£	287.00	£	260.00	110.38
Subscriptions	£	-	£	550.00	0.00
Admin Expenses	£	393.17	£	500.00	78.63
Insurance	£	681.35	£	685.00	99.47
Drainage Rates	£	57.37	£	60.00	95.62
Playing Field	£	1,464.05	£	20,000.00	7.32
Highways	£	393.75	£	1,000.00	39.37
Street Lights	£	6,349.72	£	6,000.00	105.83
Section 137 Payments	£	-	£	500.00	0.00
LHI Projects	£	-	£	8,000.00	0.00
Recoverable VAT	£	1,528.34	£	2,000.00	76.42
Total Expenditure	£	12,987.30	£	45,765.00	28.38

Summary

Total Income	£	15,316.13	£	30,192.42
LESS Total Expenditure	£	12,987.30	£	45,765.00
Net Surplus or Deficit	£	2,328.83	-£	15,572.58

Balance Sheet

Balance B/fwd	£	31,715.04
Surplus or Deficit	£	2,328.83
Balance C/fwd	£	34,043.87

Represented by

Barclays Community Account	£	3,273.20
Barclays Business Premium Account	£	30,770.67
Cash / Cheques	£	-
	£	34,043.87

From: [SBA](#)
To: ["parishclerk@newtonintheisle.org.uk"](mailto:parishclerk@newtonintheisle.org.uk)
Subject: Data logged – notification of exempt status
Date: 19 August 2025 15:05:34
Attachments:

Dear Mr Gibbs,

CA0189: Receipt of documents – notification of exempt status, 2025

This is an automated message to notify you that we have received and logged the notification of exempt status for the year ended 31 March 2025 submitted to us for Newton in the Isle Parish Council. By notifying us that Newton in the Isle Parish Council has claimed exemption there is no review to be performed and consequently no auditor certificate and report, or any other closure documentation, will be issued by us for this reporting year.

If you did not submit your notification of exemption by the specified submission deadline and were sent chasing letter(s), you will receive an invoice for those chaser charges calculated in accordance with the fee scales set by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Limited which are available to view [here](#).

Unless we receive any correspondence from local electors during the period for the exercise for public rights that requires us to contact you, you will not hear from us again this year, except to chase any outstanding fees.

Kind regards,

SBA Team
For and on behalf of PKF Littlejohn LLP
T +44 (0) 20 7516 2200
sba@pkf-l.com
For and on behalf of

PKF Littlejohn LLP

15 Westferry Circus
London E14 4HD
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Newton-in-the-Isle Parish Council

Information Technology (IT) Policy

1. Purpose

This policy defines how Newton-in-the-Isle Parish Council manages its use of information technology, in line with the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities (2015) and the 2025 edition of the Practitioners' Guide. It ensures the council's digital operations are transparent, secure, and compliant with data protection laws.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all **councillors, employees, volunteers, and contractors** who access or manage the council's IT resources, including but not limited to:

- Desktop and laptop computers, tablets, and smartphones
- Email and cloud-based systems
- Council website, social media, and digital publication tools
- Video conferencing and messaging platforms
- Personal devices used under Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) provisions

3. Governance and Oversight

IT Oversight: The Clerk is the designated Data Protection Officer (DPO) and IT Systems Administrator. The Council is responsible for implementation, security, and compliance.

4. Data Protection & Security

All processing of personal data shall comply with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018.

Privacy Policy: All data collection, processing, and subject rights are governed by the council's Privacy Policy, available on the council website. All users must familiarise themselves with it.

Access and Storage: Data is stored securely, with access granted only to authorised personnel based on necessity.

Retention: Personal data will be retained in accordance with the council's Data Retention Schedule and securely deleted when no longer needed.

Security Controls:

- Password protection and multi-factor authentication where applicable
- Regular updates and anti-malware software
- Backups of essential data in secure locations

5. Use of Personal Devices (BYOD)

Authorised Use Only: Councillors and staff may use personal devices for council business only if explicitly authorised and subject to compliance with this policy.

Security Requirements: Devices must be protected by strong passwords, encryption (where possible), and up-to-date antivirus software.

Access to council data on personal devices must be controlled and subject to regular review.

Data Separation: Council data must be kept separate from personal data using dedicated apps or storage areas.

6. Use of Personal Email Addresses

Prohibited Practice: The use of personal email accounts for council business is strictly prohibited. All council correspondence must be conducted through official council-provided email addresses. Emails from council-owned domains must not be forwarded to personal email addresses.

Monitoring and Compliance: Any breaches will be investigated, and appropriate measures taken in line with the council's disciplinary or governance procedures.

Email Retention: All council emails will be stored in compliance with the GDPR and Freedom of Information requirements.

7. IT Infrastructure & Support

Asset Register: Maintained for all council-owned hardware and software.

Maintenance: All devices must be regularly updated and checked for compliance with this policy.

Training: Users will be given training on IT systems, cybersecurity, data handling, and transparency responsibilities.

8. Monitoring and Review

Annual Review: This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if legislation or requirement changes.

Audits: Periodic internal audits will check for compliance with security and transparency requirements.

9. Data Breach Process and Protocols

The Parish Council is committed to responding promptly and effectively to any data breaches to minimise risk and comply with UK GDPR requirements.

10. Definition of a Data Breach

A data breach is a security incident that results in the accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to, personal data. Examples include:

- Loss or theft of devices containing personal data
- Unauthorised access to council email accounts or files
- Sending personal data to the wrong recipient
- Malware or ransomware attacks compromising council systems

10.1 Reporting a Breach

Immediate Notification: Any councillor, employee, or contractor who becomes aware of a data breach must report it immediately to the Clerk (Data Protection Officer).

Initial Response: The Clerk will assess the severity and scope of the breach and determine if mitigation steps are required (e.g., changing passwords, disabling access, enabling 2FA).

10.2 Investigation

A full investigation will be conducted by the Clerk or designated officer within 72 hours of the breach being discovered.

The breach will be logged, including:

- Date and time of breach
- Type and volume of data affected
- Cause and extent of the breach
- Actions taken to address the breach

10.3 Notification Requirements

If the breach is likely to result in a risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals, the council must notify the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) within 72 hours.

- * If the breach poses a high risk to the individuals affected, those individuals must also be informed without undue delay, outlining:
 - The nature of the breach
 - Likely consequences
 - Measures taken to mitigate the risk
 - Contact information for further support

10.4 Remediation and Review

- The Clerk and Council will ensure lessons are learned and policies, procedures, or training are updated as necessary.
- Technical fixes or security upgrades will be prioritised to prevent recurrence.
- Breach logs will be reviewed periodically to identify systemic issues.

11. Approval and Adoption

This policy was adopted by Newton-in-the-Isle Parish Council on 9 September 2025 and will be reviewed annually or following a significant incident or legislative change.