

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 Amenities Committee held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 13th December 2022

Present - Cllr D Nunn (Chairman), Cllr D Freeman, Cllr G Wilkinson, D Gibbs (Clerk)

017/22 Apologies for Absence

Cllr R Moore.

018/22 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 25th October were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

019/22 Matters for Consideration

- a) Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field - the wildflower meadow will be sprayed and reseeded in the coming months, subject to the receipt of a quotation from the contractor. The BMX ramps will be removed shortly. Members suggested that Mr Horspool be asked to undertake this work if Mr Kublik is unable to complete it.
- b) Children's play equipment - the contractor is due to start the repair work in the week before Christmas.
- c) Trees, arboretum and orchard - a resident has reported that a cherry tree and a prunus tree in Westfield Road are interfering with telephone lines. The cherry tree opposite the old school site also needs attention. Cllr Wilkinson will discuss these trees with Sam Johnson. A plan of the trees in the Playing Field will be prepared shortly. The next phase of the arboretum and orchard will be planted shortly, comprising eight new or replacement trees. Cllr Freeman will photograph the sycamore tree overhanging the gardens for discussion at the next meeting.
- d) Allotments and land holdings - a tenant has chosen not to renew their tenancy of a High Road allotment. A notice will be included in the next newsletter to ascertain interest in the plot. Some fencing of the plot will be required and a second gate from the High Road.
- e) Fences and gates - no matters reported.
- f) Bins and benches - no quote has been received for the replacement of the bench opposite Fen Road. Members asked the Clerk to obtain a quote for this. Members agreed to place dog bag dispensers on the bus shelter, the fence around the children's play equipment and adjacent to the dog bin on the bend in Franks Lane.

- g) Bus shelter - the Clerk will pass the missing corner of the guttering to Cllr Freeman. Members noted that regular cleaning of the bus shelter is now included in the Handyman's list of tasks. Consideration will be given to repainting the shelter in the spring.
- h) Notice boards - the Clerk will order and install the new notice boards.
- i) Defibrillators - the defibrillator by the village sign was recalled, due to a software fault, but has now been upgraded and reinstalled. The Clerk will arrange a first aid course in February or March for interested residents.

020/22 Reports and Recommendations

Members resolved to submit the following recommendations to the January meeting of the Council:

- a) To approve a quotation from the grounds maintenance contractor for the spraying and reseedling with grass of the meadow area.
- b) To approve a quotation for the removal of the bench opposite Fen Road, the relaying of the path to the bench and the installation of the replacement bench.
- c) To approve a budget for remedial works to the vacant allotment in the High Road.
- d) To consider options for works to a cherry tree and a prunus in Westfield Road, a cherry tree at the junction of Goodens Lane and Church Lane and a sycamore tree in the Playing Field.

021/22 Amenities Plan 2023/24

Members considered the following items and resolved to include provision in the budget for 2023/24:

- a) Outdoor gym equipment.
- b) Benches.
- c) Remedial work to trees in the Playing Field.

Other measures to encourage residents to visit and spend time in the Playing Field will also be considered and there will be a public consultation on this at the Annual Parish Meeting.

It was also suggested that the Council might contribute towards the increased energy costs of the Village Hall, using powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act. Further clarification will be required.

022/22 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 14 February.