

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 Highways Committee held in the Village Hall on Thursday 5th January 2023

Present - Cllr D Nunn (Chairman), Cllr S Clark, Cllr E Jones, D Gibbs (Clerk)

017/22 Apologies for Absence

Cllr R Bradley.

018/22 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 12th October were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

019/22 Matters for Consideration

- a) Highway maintenance - members reported a number of faults, including a pothole at the High Road/Franks Lane junction, rusty sign pole at the High Road/Goodens Lane junction, missing lines at the Fen Road/Goredike Bank junction, and the general condition of Goredike Bank from Fen Road to Cross Drove. The Clerk will investigate and report these issues. Cllr Clark is checking and reporting missing white lines at junctions.

The Clerk circulated photographs of the tarmac surface under the gravel on Roman Bank, suggesting that the road surface is wider than previously thought. He will discuss this with the Local Highways Officer.

- b) Highway improvements - the combined Local Highway Improvement/Private Funded Highway Improvement scheme to extend the 40mph speed limit into Fen Road, Mill Lane, Rectory Road and Chapel Lane is due to commence this month.

The deadline for submission of the LHI application for 2023/24 is 6 January. The agreed project is a realignment of the entrance to Fen Road to slow vehicles driving west along the High Road and turning into Fen Road. The Clerk has used data from the MVAS speed monitoring device to demonstrate the speeds of drivers turning from High Road into Fen Road. Members proposed a financial contribution of up to £2,000 towards the scheme if successful.

Members asked the Clerk to ascertain the cost of village gateway installations and to discuss with the Local Highways Officer the realignment of the existing bend chevrons for traffic entering the village from Tydd St Giles to improve visibility.

- c) Footpaths and public rights of way - nothing to report.

- d) Roadside verges - verges in Rectory Road and Mill Lane have suffered from vehicle incursion during the recent wet weather.

Members discussed the passing places on Mill Lane. It was suggested that the Council might undertake repairs to make these more usable. The Clerk will ascertain approximate costs.

- e) Signage - nothing to report.
- f) Drains - the drains in Franks Lane, Brewers Lane and Fitton End Road were all missed in the recent survey and will now be reported. The Clerk asked members to look for other outlying drains in need of attention.
- g) Street lights - The Clerk advised members that Church Lane PC4, reported as not working, had been replaced with an LED head without any prior consultation. Goodens Lane PC3 was also reported as faulty and will now be checked to see if it is working. High Road PC7 on the Old Chapel is not working and will be reported.
- h) Speed monitoring device - the MVAS is currently located in Fen Road to gather data to support the LHI bid. It will be relocated to Goodens Lane shortly.
- i) Parish handyman - the Handyman has accepted the new role description and will start work on grass cutting in March.

020/22 Reports and Recommendations

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

- a) To approve the contribution of up to £2,000 for the LHI application for 2023/24.

021/22 Highways Plan 2023/24

Members proposed that the repairs to the passing places in Mill Lane be included in the budget for 2023/24 and that consideration be given to village gateway installations, subject to clarification of the cost.

022/22 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 8 February.