

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 Wednesday 8th February 2023

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

023/22 Apologies for Absence

None.

024/22 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th January were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

025/22 Matters for Consideration

- a) Highway maintenance - the Clerk reported that the combination of a very hot dry summer, followed by heavy rainfall before Christmas and a cold snap in January had resulted in extensive damage to the road surfaces. The Dragon Patcher is being used to address minor defects, but there is still a backlog following the Christmas break.

Members noted that the surfaces of Goredike Bank and Cross Drove are particularly uneven.

- b) Highway improvements - the Clerk confirmed that he had submitted the Local Highway Improvements application for 2023/24 for a kerb build-out at the junction of High Road and Fen Road.

The combined Local Highway Improvement and Privately Funded Highway Improvement project to extend the 40mph speed limit into Mill Lane, Fen Road, Rectory Road and Chapel Lane was due to be delivered in January, however a delay in the legal paperwork and public notices prevented this. A new date will be announced shortly.

Members considered the possibility of relocating the village entrance signage to Little Ramper to mark the start of the village. A site visit is required to consider this in more detail. Village gateways were suggested as a possible future LHI bid.

- c) Footpaths and public rights of way - the byways to the west of the village are in an extremely poor condition, due to excessive use by off-road vehicles. Cllr Bradley will arrange a meeting with the County Council's Rights of Way officer to discuss possible solutions.

- d) Roadside verges - the verges in Rectory Road, Franks Lane and Chapel Lane have suffered from vehicle incursion during the recent wet weather. Remedial work may be required when the weather improves.

The Clerk reported that he and Cllr Jones had examined the seven passing places in Mill Lane. Three of them require scraping to level the surface. Five of them will require infilling with a suitable material. Two have a tarmac surface. Members agreed to find a contractor to undertake the work.

- e) Signage - a number of signs are becoming unstable due to rust in the supporting posts at ground level. All signage needs to be checked.

The Clerk reported that signage at the junction of Brewers Lane and High Road had been uprooted from the ground and thrown into the dyke. A group of young people was seen committing other acts of vandalism nearby on the same day.

Cllr Jones asked about the new National Cycle Route signage. The Clerk will investigate this.

- f) Drains - nothing to report.
- g) Street lights - the Clerk advised members that High Road PC1 outside 156 High Road was not working and will be reported. Members noted that the contractor appears to be taking longer to attend to faulty lights than the response times set out in the contract.
- h) Speed monitoring device - the MVAS will be relocated to Goodens Lane shortly.
- i) Parish handyman - the Handyman will start work on grass cutting in March.

026/22 Reports and Recommendations

No matters were raised.

027/22 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 12 April.