

NEWTON IN THE ISLE

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council held on Monday 15th January 2018 at 7.00pm in the village hall.

Present

Cllr's D Gibbs(Chairman), R Moore , D Smith, R Sloan, S Clarke J Kooreman, Cllr S King (CCC), and P Wilkinson (Clerk).

41/18 Apologies - Cllr J Hoyles prior meeting, Cllr C Seaton (FDC), Cllr M Humphrey (FDC)

42/18 Public Forum – No residents attended.

43/18 Chairman's Announcement

A wreath was laid on behalf of the Parish Council at the Remembrance Service. Cllr Gibbs had also attended the ACRE Conference which included a number of interesting workshops. The Chairman expressed regret that Rodney Clarke a past member of the Parish Council had passed away on 18th December

44/ a Minutes of the previous meeting - Were approved and signed as a true reflection, nominated by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr Clark

Minutes from the Planning meetings were also accepted as a true record and signed.

44/ b. Matters arising – Speedwatch training was to take place in Tydd St Giles, any interested party should contact Cllr Gibbs. A replacement road sign preventing heavy lorries using Chapel Lane was due to be installed.

The new Police Inspector was in post his name had yet to be confirmed.

No further information received regarding the future of the Woadmans Arm Public House.

The Parish Council would send a letter of good wishes to Wendy Johnson landlady for many years of the Woadmans Arms.

45/18 County and District Reports

Cllr King explained the Wisbech Access Strategy Consultation period had now closed. He also stated that he had attended a meeting with residents in Leverington regarding the continued speeding along the Sutton Road, Cllr King was awaiting outcome of suggested speed reductions.

Cllr King also explained that a movable speed monitoring device was now available tracking speed, date and time, the data could be downloaded and sent to the police. The purchase price was between £4,000 and £5,000, stating it may be advantageous to consider sharing the purchase with another Parish or as part of an LHI Bid.

46/18 Police Matters

Police reports previously circulated including a report of criminal damage to a motor vehicle and a continued problem with Hare coursing. Fly tipping was also still causing problems, 83 tyres in Fen Road had now been removed. A lorry had since tipped rubble across the Fitton End Road at night, this had been moved to the road edge ready for removal. Some evidence had been found which may assist with a conviction.

47/18 Reports

47 a) Highways

A number of potholes and blocked drains causing flooding had been reported.

Street lighting faults in St James Close and at 310 High Road had been reported and repaired.

Scheduled roadworks due in Mill Lane on 8th-10th Jan and 12th -14th Feb also in Fen Road 31st Jan-2nd Feb

LHI Bid

Increase in cost, the total projected figure was now expected to be 12,421.00 an increase on the initial assessment., this would be discussed in Agenda 8c.

47/b. School site

A developer had been appointed by the owner of the school site to consider options for redevelopment proposals. The Council would look into the Playing Field Trust documentation to explore the possible sale of the small rectangle concrete area of the former playground. Following discussion, it was decided that a public consultation should be conducted in March to establish support and ideas for the redevelopment of the site before any further action could be considered.

47/c Village hall

Sunday lunches proved popular and profitable. Christmas activities were successful with something to suit all tastes. Coffee mornings and afternoon teas continue with a Valentine quiz in February. Geoff Wilkinson had been appointed as the new Booking secretary. New watercolour classes were to commence shortly

47/d Correspondence

A number of emails sent on to Cllrs (see report)

Planning applications

Two planning applications received by the Planning committee

Ref: F/YR17/1167/0, Erection of a dwelling at Land South of Churchill Lodge Roman Bank.

Ref; F/YR17/1196/0. An application for the erection of up to 3 x dwellings involving the formation of a new access at Land East of Fra Jen Fitton End Road.

48/18 Finance

47/ a. Approval of payments

Income half year Concurrent Grant £640

Invoices received for payment

Acre Annual Membership £55.50 cheque no 100586

Clerk Salary to December £515.75 cheque no 100587

Hall rent for meetings £70.00 cheque no 100588

- i) *Resolved to approve payment of 3 cheques total amounting to £641.25 All Councillors approved payments*

Community Account stands at £9689.87

Reserved account stands at £5194.22 including 91p interest, £3500 earmarked for Cat2 lighting.

A quote received for Grounds Maintenance £1,152 for 16 cuts, an increase per cut of £2

- ii) *Resolved to approve T. A. Blackamore Annual Grounds Maintenance of £1152 for 16 cuts Councillors approved quote*

Two quotes for resurfacing part of play area received from Play Maintain -

Option 1 - 150mm green Wetpour around steel ring and renew with EPDM Wetpour, £431.00

Option 2 - cut entire green Wetpour and renew, £699.00

- iii) *Resolved to approve Option One 150mm green Wetpour around steel ring and renew with EPDM Wetpour at a cost of £431.00 plus vat. Agreed and approved by Councillors*

It was also agreed to purchase a new noticeboard with the £500 set aside following requests included in the Village Plan, Cllr Gibbs would contact Highways for approval at a High Road/ Fen Road Site.

48/b Donations

Kinderley School had requested a donation to buy books for their newly updated library. It was agreed to donate £200 under Section 137.

- iv) *Resolved to approve a donation under S137 to Kinderley School for £200. cheque no 100889. All Councillors present approved and agreed the donation*

48/c Precept and Budget 2018/19

Next year our expenditure would include an extra cost of £3,000 for the annual maintenance of the street lights now the responsibility of the Parish Council, the total cost had yet to be confirmed by FDC.

Due to a possible increase in the total cost of the LHI Bid to £12,421, and the available sum allocated within the bid being £10,000, The Parish Council contribution should be capped at 19.5%. If it were necessary for the Parish Council contribution to be increased from £1,200 to £2,450 a proportion of this extra contribution would only be considered if the total cost of the LHI Bid were to be between £10,000 and £12,450

v) *Resolved to approve an increase in the Parish Council contribution to £2,450 towards the total cost of the LHI Bid for 2018/19 if the total cost were to rise to £12,421. If the total cost were to remain at £10,000 or less the Parish Council agreed to cap the contribution to 19.5%. All Councillors approved and agreed providing the Bid was successful.*

Draft copies of the 2018/19 budget were circulated prior to the meeting. The carry forward was expected to be around £4521, this would be clearer at the next meeting when all expenses had been submitted. With increased expenditure of £4,500 and a continued upgrade of street lighting along with any highway issues it was considered prudent to increase the Precept to £13,000, an increase of £2,500

- v) *Resolved to approve the increase in the Parish Precept to £13,000 for the forthcoming year 2018/19. Councillors agreed and approved the decision.*

Reserve Account stands at £5194.22 with £3500 earmarked for Cat 2 lighting, leaving £1694.22. Discussion on reserves to keep in line with the Reserve Statement would be discussed at the next meeting

49/18 Items for Decision

49.a. Allotment vacancies/Policy

It was agreed to update the Allotment Agreement ready for new allotment tenants. Allotment applicants on the list would be approached and any vacancies would be advertised following the approval of the new agreement at the next meeting.

b) Play equipment inspection completed by Cllr Sloan no problems reported.

c) Cllr Moore to complete Play equipment inspections for January and February

d) Freedom of Information/ Data Protection /Publication Policy circulated and approved

- vii) *Resolved to approve the Freedom of Information/ Data Protection /Publication Policy, Councillors agreed and approved the Policy.*

50/18 Any Other Business

BT Tower lights had failed to function, Cllr Gibbs contacted BT to report fault which had since been repaired. Following an approach to landowners regarding the possible location for a footpath along the High Road to Rectory Road it was found that this option was not considered feasible. Cllr Gibbs would contact the resident who raised the issue.

51/18 Date of next meeting: Parish Assembly change of date to Monday 12th March at 7pm

Meeting closed 9.10pm

