

NEWTON IN THE ISLE

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 11th September 2018 at 7.00 pm in the village hall.

Present

Cllr's D Gibbs (Chairman), J Hoyles, S Clark, R Moore, G Wilkinson, Cllr S King (CCC) and P Wilkinson (Clerk) and three residents.

87/18. Apologies

Cllr C Seaton (FDC), Cllr M Humphrey.

88/18 Public Forum

A number of residents attended

- A resident expressed concern regarding surface road water causing some flooding specifically in gardens on the High Road from 160 -168. This may be caused due to the road drainage gullies being blocked. Highway work was expected to take place shortly which may alleviate the problem. However, it was explained that house owners were responsible for any problems on their properties. Cllr Gibbs would raise the issue of the gully blockage with the Highways Department before the surface dressing commenced.
- A number of street lights were not working, these had been reported by both a Cllr and clerk. Repair time was estimated to be between four and six weeks.
- The Road surface was also cracking in Colvile Road adjacent to the bungalows, Cllr Clark would investigate

89/18 Chairman's Announcements

No applicants were forthcoming for the vacancy of a Co-opted Councillor, a notice would be placed in the next newsletter to try and encourage some response. The Chairman and Clerk had been invited to attend an annual Parish and Town Council Round Table meeting with Steve Barclay MP to discuss three main issues concerning the parish. Policing would be one of the issues.

90/18 Minutes of meetings

a) Minutes of meeting 10th July were approved and signed as a true record with one amendment which should read *Wisbech 20/20 Vision* and not twenty/twenty vision as stated

Matters Arising. Cllr Wilkinson had obtained prices for a noticeboard, information was circulated with a site plan. Cost £464 with additional cost to concrete in place. Noticeboard to be sited on the High Road near seat opposite the Fen Road junction. Cllr Clark proposed approving purchase of noticeboard and site, seconded by Cllr Moore and approved by Cllrs.

i) Resolved to approve and install noticeboard at cost of £464 on High Road and the Fen Road junction. All councillors agreed.

b) Minutes from the Planning meeting 10th July were also accepted as a true record and signed. The application has since been approved by FDC

c) Minutes of Street Lighting meeting 31st July also accepted and signed as a true record.

Matters Arising The lighting proposal agreement was accepted, Councillors awaiting final agreement for signature

91/18 Police Report

Only draft copy of monthly review received with no reports for the village. Our PCSO was now on long term sick leave.

92/18. County and District Councillors Reports

Cllr King (CCC) stated he had attended a seminar regarding the A14 which would be designated as a motorway when completed. Speeding monitoring cameras in Cambridgeshire were to be digitalised, cost to be met from policing budget.

Changes in the community bus and car scheme were causing some concern . Cambridgeshire County Council were to continue funding public transport until next April when it would be reviewed. Query as to why the Fact community bus ran at the same time as the public transport bus. Cllr King to investigate.

93/18 Reports

a) Highways/ LHI Bid.

A number of issues broaching overgrown hedging, Cllr Clark in contact with land owners. Highways have been approached on an overgrown hedge in Black Dyke ownership was unclear, also a hedge at junction of Chapel Lane was causing concern Cllr Gibbs would write to the owners.

LHI Bid for 2019 to install movable traffic calming measures has been submitted. It was suggested that part of our contribution towards the present LHI bid for 2018 be carried forward to next year if the present bid was deemed untenable. Still awaiting outcome regarding total costing.

b) The Old school site was overgrown and needed attention. Cllr Clark to contact owner.

c) Village Hall

Children's summer activities well supported. Sunday lunches to commence in October running monthly until March 2019. Christmas events were also in hand. A selection of books had been donated to the village hall for residents use. The Hall committee had decided to work towards the Hallmark Quality Standard.

d) Correspondence

Members Services- railway update / PAS Press release

Rural Services Network News

Rural Bulletin

Pas Planning Peer Challenge review report

CAPALC Bulletin

Lighting agreement – Parish Obligations

North Level District Internal Drainage Board Data Protection Regulations

Email from resident interested in Gritting Training (passed to Cllr Moore)

Invitation for Chair/Clerk to attend Annual Parish & Town Council Round Table each council to provide their top 3 issues that impact their community.

e) Lighting Update

Clarification for councils agreeing to remaining with FDC they would be provided with a revised service level agreement. Clerk has written to acknowledge Councillors intentions to remain, now awaiting the final agreement

c) Residents' Concerns

Potholes and lighting both reported

Hedge at corner of Colville Rd obstructing pathway. Cllr Gibbs to investigate

94/18 Finance

a) Annual Governance Report – not yet received, agenda item for November meeting.

b) Finance Budget Update

Business / Reserve a/c – including interest of £4.75, total £9508.79

Community a/c, two outstanding invoices for approval

Village Hall rent for planning meeting 31st July and 11th Sept Council meeting £30

Printer inks for printing village report £153.94 including vat £25.66 leaving £8218.24.

ii) Resolved to approve payment of two invoices Village Hall £30 cheque no 100604

Printer inks for printing village report £153.94 including vat £25.66 cheque no 100605. Cllrs approve payment of both cheque's amounting to £183.94

Councillors agreed to transferring £2500 lighting upgrade and £1000 of lighting maintenance from the Community a/c to the Reserve account until required enabling a small amount of interest to accumulate.

iii) Resolved to approve transfer to Reserve account of £3500 from Community account for future lighting projects All councillors approved

On present trend around £2127 is expected as a carry forward to April 2019.

Received CAPALC agreement for General Data Protection Membership Scheme at a cost of £25. Cllr Gibbs queries if this was necessary. Clerk to investigate.

95/18 Decision Items

a) Allotments.

Cllr Clark declared a pecuniary interest as an allotment holder and took no part in the discussion.

Inquires received for both Roman Bank and Sutton Road allotments, both were declined due to parking and no water supply. However, Mr Kublik agreed to take on the tenancies. Allotment holders would be reminded of the agreement for use of allotment land when sending out invoices.

Following discussion that some allotments used for agricultural be transferred to Agricultural Holdings with an increase in the rent of 20%, this was agreed, however Cllrs were not in full agreement, a vote was taken with three approving a 20% rise and one suggesting the rent should be higher, it was approved to increase agricultural holding rents by 20% There would be no increase in garden allotments at present. The agricultural allotment holders to be notified and to sign the new agreements. Next year the length of tenancy would be reviewed for agricultural plots along with a rent review for all allotment holders.

iv) Resolved to approve change of use of some allotments to Agricultural Holdings and to increase the allotment rent for agricultural holdings by 20% from October 2018. Majority of Councillors approved change of use and increase.

b) Village Trees

Cllr Moore has surveyed a number of trees in the village and had received a quote for £2033

However it was thought that some trees were not the responsibility of the Parish Council and further investigation was necessary. The council would determine who was responsible for the other trees identified. A cherry tree in Westfield Road was to be pruned at a cost of £370 along with an overhanging branch on the High Road causing traffic problems at a cost of £80.

v) Resolved to approve the pruning of a cherry tree in Westfield Road at a cost of £370 and the removal of an overhanging branch on the High Road £80, Cllrs all agreed.

The clerk would write to the landowner regarding a tree overhanging the village hall car park in need of some attention.

c) Village Handyman

Cllr Moore stated that a number of tasks needed attention, a handyman prepared to undertake these tasks would keep the village looking tidy. A number of tasks could be assigned. An annual budget of £500 a year with four hours a month was suggested, this could vary with the seasons, a possible cost of no more than £10 an hour. Councillors agreed to the scheme, proposed by Cllr Clark seconded by Cllr Hoyles and agreed by the Cllrs. Cllr Moore to investigate further and report back at the next meeting.

d) Parish Charity -To be carried forward to next meeting

e) Emergency Plan

A number of volunteers had come forward, now awaiting training to be organised, Cllr King would contact Cllr Moore with details. Highways would provide some equipment. Cllr Moore sought permission to site another grit bin on the corner of Rectory Road. Cllrs also agreed to £100 being spent on personal equipment where needed.

- Resolved to approve the sum of £100 to be spent on Emergency Plan equipment for personal use. All Cllrs agreed.

f) Annual Report – draft report circulated before the meeting, contacts for reporting faulty lighting and potholes to be included. Clerk to print report for circulation with the village newsletter. Report accepted by Cllrs

g) Playing field

Clerk had received a verbal quote for the cost of cutting the area, if the wooden ramps were replaced with grass. This would need to be completed by hand machine and depending on size, cost estimated to be around £10 per cut. Final decision to be made in March 2019. It was also agreed to retain the poppy meadow and support a wildflower meadow, further details at November meeting.

Clerk to query cost of removal of vegetation from dyke by grounds maintenance. Following discussion on the dyke and the cost of removal of vegetation the Council would write to remind residents that the disposing of garden refuse in the dyke and the use of weed killer were not permitted on Parish land. Final discussion at next meeting when costings received.

Cllr Gibbs stated that a number of favourable comments had been received regarding the poppies growing throughout the village.

h) Playing field inspection

Cllr Clark stated that the cable runway rubber tube was damaged and ramps were slippery.

i) Councillor to check play equip - Cllr Wilkinson Sept /Oct

j) Monthly meetings

Further discussion to be considered as to whether more meetings were required

96/18. Confirm date next meeting - Tuesday 13th November at 7pm

Cllr Gibbs reminded Cllrs that Tydd Pumping Station was to be open at the weekend. 10am – 4pm

Meeting closed at 9.55pm