



Newton and Biggin Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25th January, 2018 at 7.30pm in Newton Village Hall

1. Present D. Carter (Chair), I. Davies, R. Crane, A. Davies, F. Preston, 3 members of the public, L. Hunt (BC), A. Warwick (CC).
2. There were no apologies.
3. D. Carter declared an interest in item 7a re: defibrillator training and did not take part in the discussions.
4. The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd November. These were briefly outlined by the chair, approved and signed by the chair.
5. Any matters arising were covered under the agenda.
6. The minutes of the meeting held on 14th December. Item 4 the date was changed from 12th October to 23rd November. The chair outlined the minutes and they were approved and signed by the chair.
7. Matters arising
 - a) The clerk had been asked by a resident about the defibrillator and first aid training. It was agreed that another training session would be arranged when the development at The Leys completed and the new houses occupied.
 - b) LH was asked about the allocation of affordable housing at The Leys development and whether preference would be given to local people. It was felt more would be known nearer the time. To be an agenda item in March.
 - c) DC and ID agreed to revise the Emergency plan which is out of date.
8. The lack of superfast broadband in The Hollies. This item was brought forward so the resident present could discuss it with members. LH explained the process that BT had taken to bring superfast fibre broadband to the village. The resident gave LH a list of names, addresses and landline numbers of those residents in The Hollies who were experiencing problems. BT were due to go out to Newton the following week to sort out the problems. LH agreed to pass on the details and it was hoped this would all be resolved next week. The resident had also attended a meeting at the Town Hall about Neighbourhood Watch. The local PCSO Sharon Bailie-Crabtree was going to have more of a presence in the village. Following a spate of burglaries in Newton a Property Marking Event by the Police had been arranged for Saturday 10th February 2-5pm in Newton Village Hall. NW now use facebook as a way of keeping people informed. AW informed members that a man who had been kicking doors in around Coton Meadows and burgling had been apprehended. A similar occurrence had happened in The Hollies but nothing taken.
9. Item 8 Minutes 14th December. The clerk had queried why the tax rate had reduced from 301.06 to 299.63. A decrease equivalent for Band D properties of 0.47%. The reduction was due to an increase in council tax discounts compared to last year.
10. The clerk had tried to pay in the cheque made out for cash at her bank but it had been refused. It was agreed the cheque would be scrapped and a new one for £100 raised addressed to her to be used for petty cash.
11. Insurance renewal for 2018. The clerk had contacted Came and Co. about the price for a new 3 year agreement as the current one runs out in June. A ballpark figure of £470 had been given (the fee for 2017/18 was £402.45). Came and Co would be sending us more information about the renewal at the end of March.
12. Village Hall Committee update. One meeting had been held. A special meeting was arranged for 8th February to discuss possible developments to the Village Hall. ID had drawn up rough plans as it was felt while the roof being replaced any extensions or other works could be done at the same time as well as addressing outdoor storage problems. When the



Newton and Biggin Parish Council

preferred course of action decided the proposals could be put to the Parish Council who had already allocated some money for the roof. Then planning permission and funding could be sought and proper plans drawn up. LH told members that the Parish Capital Spending Fund opens in February (Martin Green at RBC), It was suggested energy efficiency could be incorporated (solar panels and insulation). DC commented that the LED lights that the Parish Council bought had already made savings.

13. FP had spoken to some residents at The Leys about replacement lights. He had not had any objections so far. It was agreed type TRT Aspect 1 LED lanterns would be used. (The same as the other replacement lights in the village). They come in 27w, 19w, and 14w. It was not decided what wattage would be used. The clerk was asked to contact RBC about this as they currently own the lights and the land they are on. RBC had already stated they were happy for the Parish Council to pay for replacement ones.
14. The Jenaway Charity. AD had contacted Lloyds Bank in Andover. The Jenaway Charity gives financial relief to the poor but had a small balance and had been inactive for approx. 5-6 years. Lloyds had closed the account but still held the money. It was planned to move the funds into the Elkington and Sherriers Charity which is active. To be kept an agenda item.
15. A police property marking event planned for Saturday 10th February 2-5pm in Newton Village Hall.
16. Nominations for the Royal Garden Party. It was unanimously agreed that Judith Leggatt (former Chairman) be nominated for this. DC proposed and AD seconded.
17. Newton Lane, Rugby – LEAP
Lioncourt, the developers of the new residential development adjacent to The Leys, have asked the Parish Council whether it wishes to adopt the Public Open Space, including the play area, on the new development.
The Section 106 Agreement to which the planning permission is subject, requires the developer to fund maintenance for 21 years following adoption. This is unacceptable to Lioncourt which has sought to negotiate a compromise with Rugby Borough Council (the Local Planning Authority). Newton and Biggin Parish Council has been party to these negotiations.
Accordingly, it was RESOLVED THAT – the Parish Council would adopt the Public Open Space, including the Play Area, in accordance with the plan that forms part of these minutes on the basis of the agreement reached between Lioncourt and Rugby Borough Council – ie that Lioncourt would fund the maintenance of the green open space for 6 years following adoption and the play area for 11 years. The sum involved is currently approximately £21,000 but would be index linked.
Furthermore, upon adoption, Lioncourt would be responsible for meeting the Parish Council's legal fees.
18. Litterpick. This was planned for Sunday 22nd April. The clerk was asked to organise the equipment borrowing from RBC and for the rubbish to be collected from the Village Hall. This could be leafletted at the end of March.
19. Progress report – Five Arches Project
ID reported that the ponds on the northern bit had been dragged using a digger. In the wetland area to the south a lot of tree felling had taken place. 2 bills had been received for work there – for £390.00 and £2,987.00 (inc vat).
Volunteers had offered to help but it was not possible at present as it is currently having the heavy work done. When bulbs and wildflowers needed planting volunteers could help. ID had written an article for a wildlife magazine about it but would only be slotted in where there was space. A grand opening planned for the Spring – no date set as yet.
20. The proposed information pack for new residents of Newton still work in progress.
21. The Sale of the Stag and Pheasant pub had gone ahead. A temporary landlord currently running it. The new landlady due to start soon.



Newton and Biggin Parish Council

22. Correspondence

- a) Letter from Mr. Harris re: 2 The Leys
Following complaints by Mr. Harris to WCC the residents of 2 The Leys had started taking down trees/hedges that were blocking a public area. WCC had turned down his request to supply a litterbin and bench there. Mr. Harris asked if we would support his suggestion to put a wooden planter there. It was agreed the Parish Council cannot support anything being put there because as a vision splay the area should be kept clear, especially as the new children's play area access point will be constructed opposite as part of The Leys field development. The clerk was asked to write to Mr. Harris explaining this.
- b) Letter from a resident re: the new ARRIVA bus service. No timetable had been put up, the route had changed, the bus pick up place in town had moved and the return bus was unreliable. The clerk was asked to write back to the resident thanking her for informing us, the Parish Council was sorry to hear about the poor communication she had experienced and that AW (CC) would look into the communication problem. AW agreed to organise a meeting between the Parish Council and Janet Neale at WCC to advise on the wording to use when putting our case forward for the Transport Funding for the Section 106 agreement.

23. Planning

- a) R18/0083. Richard Utley, Unit 1 Europark – installation of new electrical substation – there were no observations.

24. Financial report. There was currently £32,974.44 in the bank. With cheques to be raised at the meeting and cheques not cashed totalling £3,731.29 a balance of £29,243.15 would remain.

25. Bills for payment

E.on electricity for January	24.81
H. Miles – salary for December	168.48
Forestry and landscaping Ltd – 5 Arches Project	390.00
Forestry and landscaping Ltd – 5 Arches Project	2,987.00
D. Carter - M & S voucher for Sarah Palmer	50.00
H. Miles – petty cash	100.00
Total	3,720.29

26. Matters to be discussed at the next meeting

The Jenaway Charity
Allocation of Affordable Housing at The Leys
Insurance renewal

All members were advised they could put forward Agenda items by contacting the clerk up to a week before the next meeting.

27. Date of the next meeting – 15th March at 7.30pm.

28. Date of Annual Parish Meeting – 26th April.

There being no further business the meeting closed at approx. 9.10pm