



Minutes of Newton and Biggin Parish Council (PC) meeting held on Thursday 24 September 2020

Ref	Minute	Text	Action
1	NPC20/09/0138	<p>Attendance - Parish Councillors - Ian Davis (Chair), Rick Crane, Vanessa Goulborn, Anne Davis, Frank Preston and Warwickshire County Council (WCC) Councillor Adrian Warwick.</p> <p>Members of the public in attendance - June Ford, Pauline Holdsworth, Victoria Andrew and Kate Riley.</p>	
2	NPC20/09/0139	Apologies - Allyson Downes (Clerk) and Rugby Borough Council (RBC) Councillor Leigh Hunt.	
3	NPC20/09/0140	Declarations of Interest - None.	
4	NPC20/09/0141	Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 August 2020 - These were agreed as a correct record.	
5	NPC20/09/0142	<p>Future PC Meetings - The Chair opened the meeting by saying that he had attended a 'Zoom' meeting of Chairs organised by the Warwickshire Association of Parish Councils (WALC). Newton was the only PC holding 'proper' meetings. Whilst this wasn't in anyway illegal it is probably not good practice for a public body during the pandemic. Accordingly, and reluctantly, the Council RESOLVED that as from now all meetings would be held on line. The Clerk was instructed to advise on the best platform bearing in mind the requisite to allow access to the public.</p>	ADo
6	NPC20/09/0143	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>I. Ellis Gardens, open space and playground - The developer, Lioncourt, had previously suggested that a pre-adoption inspection would be held in September. This hadn't happened. An informal inspection by several Parish Councillors revealed that a considerable amount of remedial work was required by Lioncourt including ground conditions and planting before adoption could be considered. Unfortunately, Lioncourt still insists on keeping the Play Area closed despite requests from the Council and residents.</p>	

		<p>II. Parking Issues in Main Street - The police have confirmed that they will monitor the situation re dangerously parked cars and take necessary action. They point out that the majority of these cars are owned by local residents who don't have off road parking available.</p> <p>III. HGV Signage - Councillor Warwick had been successful in getting WCC to erect two new weight restriction signs at the Newton Lane/A5 junction and was working to persuade Highways England to install further signs on the A5. He was thanked for his efforts and asked whether an additional sign could be installed on Newton Road, adjacent to the St Thomas Cross junction.</p> <p>IV. Defibrillator cabinet repairs - In the absence of the Clerk it wasn't known exactly where matters stood other than that repair was possible. Councillor Warwick encouraged an application for funding from his County Councillors Grant.</p> <p>V. New benches at the picnic site - The Chair reported that these had now been installed. They provide wheelchair access and stand on extended concrete plinths to which they are secured.</p>	<p>AW</p> <p>ADo/ID</p>
7	NPC20/09/0144	<p>Suspension of Standing Orders to Allow Public Questions</p> <p>I. June Ford reported on the successful work of a local group in introducing hedgehogs to the village. Unfortunately, some had fallen victim to roadkill and she asked if warning signage could be installed. It was RESOLVED that the Council was happy to support an appropriate number of signs. Councillor Warwick would make enquiries as to whether there were official signs which the Highway Authority might install. If not, the PC would fund informal signs. Councillor Warwick encouraged an application to his County Councillors fund.</p> <p>II. Victoria Andrew asked whether there had been any progress with her complaint re trees overhanging Newton Road. The Chair confirmed that this had been reported to WCC. Ms Andrew also advised that one of the trees on the same stretch of road appeared to be dead. Councillor Warwick RESOLVED to chase up both with WCC.</p>	<p>AW/ID</p> <p>AW</p>
8	NPC20/09/0145	Resumption of Standing Orders	
9	NPC20/09/0146	Response to Consultation on Proposed Planning Reforms - The Chair gave a brief overview of the proposals and RESOLVED to draft a response for the consideration of other Parish Councillors.	ID
10	NPC20/09/0147	Parish Council Response to Pre-Application Consultation on Development of 475 Houses, School etc at Coton Park - The Chair confirmed that this was in accordance with the Rugby Local Plan and so the principle	

		of development was established. It was noted that a response had been sent pointing to the need for good footpath links from the village to the proposed school and also that the substantial areas of open space should complement the Five Arches Wildlife Site and Great Central Way which they adjoin.	
11	NPC20/09/0148	Village Hall Improvements <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. It was noted that WiFi had been installed and was operational. The password was on the noticeboard. II. Covid-19 Arrangements - Noted and agreed and the Chair was authorised to sign the Risk Assessments. III. Rule of Six Risk Assessment - Noted and agreed. IV. Planning Application for Porch - It was noted that RBC's consideration had been delayed by Covid-19 but the application was now being processed and a permission was anticipated in October. 	ID
12	NPC20/09/0149	Website Content Accessibility Guidelines - This item was deferred for return of the Clerk.	ADo
13	NPC20/09/0150	Remembrance Sunday 8 November 2020 - WALC strongly advised against mass attendance events. A discussion ensued re how to facilitate a smaller event but at the same time allow for public involvement. Since a decision not be delayed until the October meeting, the responsibility for making arrangements was delegated to Councillor Preston in consultation with the other Councillors.	FP
14	NPC20/09/0151	Finance Reports <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Bank Reconciliation Report - Noted. II. Payments Made - Noted. III. National Salary Increase for Clerks - Agreed and Noted. 	
15	NPC20/09/0152	Date and time of Next Meeting - Thursday 22 October 2020 (by 'Zoom' or similar). The meeting ended at 20.09 pm.	