



Minutes of the Newton and Biggin Parish Council (PC) Assembly held on Thursday 27 May 2021

Ref	Minute	Record and Resolution	Action by
1	NPC21/05/0265	<p>Present - Ian Davis (Chair,) Councillors Bob Threadgold, Anne Davis, Frank Preston and Rick Crane. Allyson Downes, Clerk was in attendance.</p> <p>Members of Public - There were five members of the public present.</p>	
2	NPC21/05/0266	<p>Apologies - Rugby Brough Councillor (RBC) Eve Hassell and Warwickshire County Councillor (WCC) Adrian Warwick who were both attending a formal political meeting. Both had provided a written narrative to be read to the Assembly.</p>	
3	NPC21/05/0267	<p>Welcome and Introductions - The Chair introduced the Assembly and outlined the impact the Covid lockdown had on the annual nature of the Assembly and the content which is consequently reduced. It was noted that there was no Assembly last year and there is no reason why the Council cannot arrange a more comprehensive Assembly later on this year when activities are likely to fully commence.</p>	ID
4	NPC21/05/0268	<p>The minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2019 were agreed as a correct record and there were no matters arising.</p>	
5	NPC21/05/0269	<p>Statement by County Councillor Adrian Warwick from Warwickshire County Council, read in his absence:</p> <p>Firstly, I am pleased to be re-elected to represent the Fosse Division, and I look forward to continue my excellent working relationship with the PC. I am somewhat annoyed that despite an order being placed two months ago contractors have still not placed HGV signage in the area, this is being chased. The road markings at St Thomas Cross haberdashery been renewed. Clearly with the amount of wear drivers are crossing the centre line, I will keep looking at options. Now purdah is over, I am working on the options for The Leys, and will fund from my budget if the scheme is authorised. I will be with you next month, and will keep in touch with Ian (the PC Chair) on PC matters in between.</p>	AW

6	NPC21/05/0270	<p>Statement by Borough Councillor Eve Hassell, newly Elected Rugby Borough Councillor for Clifton, Newton and Churchover Ward read in her absence:</p> <p>I am delighted to have been elected as the Councillor for the Clifton, Churchover and Newton Ward. I shall endeavour to do my best for all the residents of the ward and shall do my utmost to act in a responsible and considerate manner, and to work with the Parish Council to the best of my ability. I shall also be working with Adrian Warwick, as the County Councillor for the area, in the future for the advantage of the whole community. Planning is proceeding for 800 new houses in Coton East and for a new secondary school which will be accessible for Newton’s children, I shall be enquiring as to transport for them, and also a safe walking route from the village. It is essential that planning allows for Newton Village to remain a rural parish.</p>	
7	NPC21/05/0271	<p>Parish Council activities 2020/21 overview - The Chair described the review of the preceding year –</p> <p>1 - Continuing improvements to the Village Hall, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of a new roof, making the Village Hall weatherproof • Refurbishment of the kitchen, including white goods and tiling • Improvements to the toilets • A new floor • New curtains • Repointing to the outside • A new porch (in the process of construction). <p>2 - Snagging in the Ellis Gardens open space is currently taking place and the PC will take over ownership and responsibility of the space in due course.</p> <p>3 - Heavy Good Vehicles (HGVs) driving through the village is acknowledged as frustrating to residents which seems to be as a result of inappropriate sat navs and poor signage, incidents which occur usually when there are major schemes on trunk roads. The Parish Council, residents and representatives of Warwickshire County Council have worked hard to try and alleviate this issue and will continue to do so during further infrastructure developments.</p>	

		<p>4 - Balancing Pond - The PC successfully lobbied for improved quality of the water in the Balancing Pond.</p> <p>5 - Five Arches site - The PC are proud of this site and acknowledged its tremendous value to residents of Newton, Coton and Rugby in improving the mental health and wellbeing of residents and visitors particularly during lockdown.</p> <p>6 - Christmas Tree - the PC erected a Christmas Tree during lockdown; however, it was unable to have the traditional 'turning on the light ceremony', due to Covid restrictions.</p> <p>The Chair described a forward look for 2021/22 -</p> <p>1 - War Memorial - The Parish's usual War Memorial commemoration ceremony was unable to take place due to Covid restrictions, however, the PC will consider this as a priority in line with the calendar of events and in line with restrictions in force in future.</p> <p>2 - The PC Newsletter has been on hold, due to delivery issues associated with Covid restrictions, but will be re-introduced as restrictions ease. There is acknowledgement that the Coton development introduces approximately 3,000 people into the Parish and the PC is aware that these will need to be included in activities as the community matures.</p> <p>3 - Clifton and Newton Joint Burial Committee - It was noted that the Joint Burial Committee has not met and that there had been no requirement for the PC to contribute to costs. It is anticipated that the PC may not have to contribute to this (21/22) financial year either. At the next meeting of the Burial Committee, it was agreed that Councillors Preston, Crane and Threadgold would attend to ensure continuation.</p>	
8	NPC21/05/0272	Elkington, Cockerill and Sherrier Charity - It was noted that there had been no meetings and Councillor Anne Davis described the purpose of the Charity which was set up to support people in their time of need. There is a likely meeting in June 2021. Mr Cooper asked how funds were raised for the Charity and Councillor Davis explained that these were largely due to investments and assets (land ownership).	
9	NPC21/05/0273	Village Hall Management Committee - Councillor Preston described an imminent meeting of the Committee.	
10	NPC21/05/0274	Townend Garden Association - It was noted that the ancient allotments belonging to the PC, continued to be in demand and there was a waiting list for plots. The management committee had purchased a strimmer/hedge trimmer and there was an identified person with responsibility for its operation.	

11	NPC21/05/0275	Warwickshire Association of Local Councils (WALC) - the Chair described his representation on this committee and how WALC continue to influence the National Association for Local Councils (NALC).	
12	NPC21/05/0276	Craft Club - The Chair informed the group that that Sarah Morgan, who runs this group, anticipates that the Club will start again in August and she will undertake a review in June.	
13	NPC21/05/0277	Morse Bags - Jane Morgan, who runs this group, is currently considering the opening arrangements which may dovetail with the Craft Club.	
14	NPC21/05/0278	Bacon Butties - It was noted that The St. Thomas Cross Inn had picked up this well attended activity whilst the Church was closed and it had evaluated positively.	
15	NPC21/05/0279	Yoga Sessions - It was noted that Yoga sessions were continuing in the Village Hall. To ensure viability, there may have to be a price increase and resident June Ford agreed to promote this activity.	
16	NPC21/05/0280	Active Ageing - The Chair reported that Tom Allen (RBC) is happy to re start the sessions from 10 June which will be held weekly thereafter.	
17	NPC21/05/0281	Live and Local - Noel Barrett described the Live and Local activity that has taken place in the Village Hall for around 12 to 13 years and he described the associated costs. It was noted that lower audience numbers would mean that the activities were not cost effective and the organisers asked for help. It was agreed that the PC would help promote activities but numbers attending the Village Hall were limited as they are subject to Covid restriction currently. It was noted that restrictions were planned to be lifted on 21 June 2021, though this may be subject to change.	
18	NPC21/05/0282	Hedgehogs - June Ford described the successful repatriation, rehoming and rescuing of hedgehogs in the village. It was noted that a grant had been received by way of a grant from WCC Councillor Warwick and along with a contribution from the Entertainment Committee, hedgehog road signs had been purchased and erected. There are a number of plans to increase activities to highlight awareness for these endangered creatures such as: hedgehog highways between gardens; interactive material and a newsletter.	
19		The meeting closed at 8.15pm. The date and time of the next Assembly will be confirmed in due course.	