

NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 8th November 2023 at Newton Village Hall

Present: Councillors David Everett (Chairman), Ian Cole, Louise Evers, Janys Sherwood, Laura Smith (arrived late) and Philip Taylor.

Attending: Lee Parker (Babergh District Councillor) and Dave Crimmin (Clerk).

23/195 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Schwenk (ill) sent her apologies as did James Finch (Suffolk County Councillor).

23/196 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation

No interests were declared and no request for dispensation had been received.

23/197 Minutes of Meeting held on 18th October 2023

The meeting minutes were approved by the councillors, who resolved that the minutes should be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

23/198 Public Participation

The councillors reviewed Lee Parker's previously submitted report and he updated councillors on Babergh using its reserves to repair the council home stock, the Energy Efficiency consultation on listed buildings, CIL distributed in October and the Corporate Plan consultation.

Cllr Smith arrived.

Councillors reviewed James Finch's previously submitted report.

23/199 Emails circulated

Following a review of the emails circulated by the Clerk, the councillors noted the agreement on the salary scales from NALC, which took effect from 1st April 2023. The Clerk's salary will be adjusted from the December payroll.

23/200 Clerk's Report (Appendix A)

Following a review of the Clerk's report, there were no further actions requested of the Clerk.

23/201 Finance

- a. The councillors authorised all payments made and due for authorisation, as itemised in the RFO Report (Appendix B) and the payments to Playsafety Limited for £165.60 and Mrs JL Parker for £55.75 regarding Christmas tree decorations. The councillors also noted the income received since the last meeting, the reconciliation of accounts, the Statement of Accounts vs Budget and the spending commitment.
- b. The councillors agreed with the proposed Statement of Accounts format to take effect on the 1st April 2024.

23/202 Planning

- a. The councillors reviewed **Planning Application DC/23/04914** St Michaels, The Green - Erection of outbuilding with garaging and first-floor accommodation to be used as a studio/store and resolved to support the application.
- b. There were no further planning applications received since the agenda was posted requiring a response before the next scheduled meeting.
- c. The councillors reviewed the status of previous applications, appeals and enforcement referrals (Appendix C).

23/203 Newton Footpaths

There was no further update on the creation of any new footpaths. The councillors agreed to review the footpath-cutting schedule at the December meeting

Signed _____

Date

Newton Parish Council adopted the General Power of Competence on the 17th May 2023

NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 8th November 2023 at Newton Village Hall

23/204 Allotments

There was no further update from the solicitor regarding the transfer of the allotment land to NPC.

23/205 Christmas Lights

The councillors agreed the plan for the Christmas Lights as follows:

- 10 am on Saturday 25th November 2023 the tree will be decorated
- 4.30 pm on Sunday 3rd December 2023 the lighting of tree and carols.

23/206 Walk of the Parish

Cllr Taylor raised the condition of the bench by the 16th tee. It was agreed that as this did not belong to the parish council it would be for the Trust to resolve the issue. The Clerk was asked to raise the poor condition of some of the road nameplates with Babergh. Clerk to reattach sign in MUGA.

23/207 Village Hall and Trust updates

The Trust reported that they are still working with their solicitor on the Green's boundaries and easements. There was no report from the Village Hall committee.

23/208 NPC Meeting dates in 2024

The councillors agreed the following meeting dates in the Village Hall during 2024:

- 10th January
- 14th February
- 20th March
- 10th April
- 24th April - Annual Parish Assembly
- 8th May - Annual Meeting of Parish Council
- 12th June
- 10th July
- 14th August - Provisional Planning Meeting
- 11th September
- 9th October
- 13th November
- 11th December.

23/209 Questions to the Chair

The Clerk was asked to arrange a review of the war memorial structure. A PIIP review will take place at the December meeting and an update on charging point options will be discussed in January. The Clerk was asked to create a WhatsApp group for councillors.

23/210 Next Meeting

The next Meeting of NPC will be held **Wednesday 13th December 2023** starting at 7.30 pm in Newton Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Appendix A Clerk's Report

Signed _____

Date

Newton Parish Council adopted the General Power of Competence on the 17th May 2023

NEWTON PARISH COUNCILMinutes of Meeting held on 8th November 2023 at Newton Village Hall

Minute	Action	Complete ✓
22/117	Awaiting NGT confirmation of location of defibrillator at Little Green.	
23/161	Babergh has replaced the broken Rectory Road sign.	✓
23/161	Community Wardens have cleared the 30mph signs in Rectory Road and Church Road.	✓
23/182	Minutes sent to BRN and updated on website.	✓
23/186 a	Payments made to suppliers, individuals and organisations.	✓
23/186 b	Mandate change sent to Unity Trust Bank.	✓
23/186 c	Payment made to RBL Poppy Appeal.	✓
23/189	Signed legal papers and NPC responses sent to BWB.	✓
		✓
	Clerk's Actions & Delegated Power	
	Playground inspection undertaken by RoSPA on 30th October 2023. We are now awaiting their report.	
	Clerk Hours	
	Up until the 29th October 2023 - 360 hours paid / 327.25 hours worked.	

Signed _____

Date

Newton Parish Council adopted the General Power of Competence on the 17th May 2023

Series Page 269
NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 8th November 2023 at Newton Village Hall

Appendix B RFO Report

Unity Receipts & Payments 2023 / 2024

Date	Details	Power	Receipts		Payments	
18/10/23	RBL Poppy Appeal - Donation	Localism Act 2011 ss 1 to 8	0.00		100.00	Y
16/10/23	BDC Recycling Credits		215.99	Y	0.00	
25/10/23	SCC P3 Grant		212.64	Y	0.00	
08/11/23	D Gotts - Footpath Cutting 2023	Localism Act 2011 ss 1 to 8	0.00		360.00	
08/11/23	Flowers Groundcare - Grass & Hedge cutting Aug to Oct	Localism Act 2011 ss 1 to 8	0.00		200.00	

Reconciliation

Account	Statement Date	Statement Balance	Actual Balance	Unpresented Cheques	Credits not shown	Difference
Unity Current Account	31/10/23	£6,713.77	£6,153.77	£560.00	£0.00	£0.00
Unity Trust Savings Account	31/10/23	£45,625.69	£45,625.69			£0.00
		£52,339.46	£51,779.46	£560.00	£0.00	

Budget v's Actual

	Budget	Actual		Reserves	Budget	Actual
Assets B/F		£45,116.29				
<u>Income</u>			<u>Expenditure</u>			
Precept	£18,242.81	£18,242.81	Clerks Salary		£12,011.23	£5,905.12
Grants	£177.20	£212.64	Clerk's Pension		£1,260.48	£0.00
Recycling	£500.00	£479.35	Admin		£2,000.00	£1,069.77
CIL	£0.00	£4,836.56	Donations		£800.00	£100.00
Bank Interest	£50.00	£506.02	Annual Subscriptions		£485.00	£452.01
VAT Repayment	£0.00	£3,599.17	Footpath Maintenance		£400.00	£360.00
Other	£0.00	£0.00	Insurance		£1,500.00	£1,658.56
			Inspection		£563.00	£430.00
			Maintenance		£500.00	£0.00
			Projects		£500.00	£0.00
			CIL	£27,523.93	£5,842.00	£9,355.97
			Village Hall Hire		£390.00	£0.00
			VAT Paid		£0.00	£1,881.95
			NNP		£0.00	£0.00
Total	£18,970.01	£27,876.55	Total	£27,523.93	£26,251.71	£21,213.38
			Assets Carried Forward			£51,779.46
Total		£72,992.84	Total			£72,992.84

Project Committed Spending							
Meeting Date	Minute	Supplier	Cost Net	VAT	Total	Project	Budget
15/06/22	22/114b	BWB	£758.00	£151.00	£909.00	Transfer of Allotments	CIL
15/06/22	22/113	Sudbury TC	£185.00	£37.00	£222.00	Rec Ground jet wash	CIL
13/09/23	23/170d	Scribe	£595.00	£119.00	£714.00	Accounting Software	Projects / Admin
			£1,538.00	£307.00	£1,845.00		

Signed _____

Date _____

Newton Parish Council adopted the General Power of Competence on the 17th May 2023

NEWTON PARISH COUNCILMinutes of Meeting held on 8th November 2023 at Newton Village Hall

FUNDS	
General Reserves (50% of Budgetted Expenditure)	£13,125.86
Current year balance	£10,269.09
Restricted Funds	
CIL	£23,004.52
Newsletter	£2,880.00
Total Restricted	£25,884.52
Earmarked Reserves	
Asset Replacement	£0.00
Village Hall	£0.00
Legal Fees	£1,000.00
Election Costs	£1,500.00
Total Earmarked Reserves	£2,500.00
TOTAL FUNDS	£51,779.46
Unrecovered VAT	£1,881.95

Appendix C Planning Status

BDC Ref	Application	NPC Ref	NPC Response	BDC Response
APPEAL	APP/D3505/W/22/3310476 - Rotten Row Farm, Rotten Row - Refusal of application for the "Continued use of buildings for agricultural, industrial and commercial purposes."	23/047c	All objections still stand.	
DC/23/03649	Valley Farm House, Valley Road - Boundary treatments (retrospective) following receipt of Breach of Planning Conditions letter EN/22/00206.	23/171a	No comment	REFUSED 12/10/2023
DC/23/03194	Wheldon's Fruit Farm, Farm Shop, Joes Road - Erection of equestrian building and construction of menage area. Change use of land for the keeping of horses.	23/171b	Support	

End of Appendices

Signed _____

Date

Newton Parish Council adopted the General Power of Competence on the 17th May 2023