

NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 10th January 2024 at Newton Village Hall

Present: Councillors David Everett (Chairman), Louise Evers, Janys Sherwood, Rita Schwenk and Laura Smith.

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

24/001 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Cole (appointment) and Taylor sent their apologies, as did James Finch (Suffolk County Councillor).

24/002 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation

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

24/003 Minutes of Meeting held on 13th December 2023

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

24/004 Public Participation

The councillors reviewed James Finch's previously submitted report and his update on the 'quarry' in Valley Road and the review of options for crossing the A134. The councillors were happy to proceed along the lines of the proposed process for the crossing review.

The councillors reviewed Lee Parker's previously submitted report and he updated councillors on Babergh's parking charges engagement process, the 128 council homes built in 2023, the possibility of increased council tax on empty dwellings and second homes and the considerate constructors scheme. The Chairman thanked Lee for his Locality Budget donation towards the bus shelter.

24/005 Emails circulated

Following a review of the emails circulated by the Clerk, there were no further actions requested of the Clerk.

24/006 Clerk's Report (Appendix A)

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

24/007 Planning

- a. The councillors reviewed **Planning Application DC/23/05898 Hurrells Farm, Boxford Lane** - Application under Section 19 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for Listed Building Consent DC/20/04875 - Conversion of and extension to outbuildings to form 1No dwelling and alterations to vehicular access. To Vary Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) as per drawing 2565 - P01 and Heritage Statement and resolved to support the application.
- b. The councillors reviewed Consider **Planning Application DC/23/05897 Hurrells Farm, Boxford Lane** - Application under S73 for the Removal or Variation of a Condition following grant of DC/20/04874 dated 10/06/2021 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Conversion of and extension to outbuildings to form 1No dwelling and alterations to vehicular access - To vary Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) as per drawing 2565-P01 and Heritage Statement and resolved to support the application.
- c. There were no further planning applications received since the agenda was posted requiring a response before the next scheduled meeting.
- d. The councillors reviewed the status of previous applications, appeals and enforcement referrals (Appendix B).

Signed _____

Date

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

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24/008 Finance

- a. The councillors authorised all payments made and due for authorisation, as itemised in the RFO Report (Appendix C) and 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 reviewed the agreed Expenditure Budget and NPC Reserves policy (Appendix C) before resolving to set a Precept of £21,451.10 for 2024 / 2025. This will mean that a Council Tax Band D household will pay an increase of £11.96 per annum.

24/009 Newton Footpaths

There was no further update on the creation of any new footpaths. SCC Right of Ways does not currently pay a contractor to cut Footpath 2 twice a year. The Clerk will liaise with NPC's contractor to review the logistics and cost of including the footpath in the NPC cutting schedule for 2024.

24/010 Allotments

The councillors reviewed the correspondence from BWB and await the revised legal papers for signature by Cllrs Everett and Schwenk. With the list of existing allotment tenants also being provided by Michael Oliver, the Clerk will now make initial contact with the group on behalf of NPC.

24/011 Parish Survey

The councillors reviewed the draft survey to be given to all Newton households and agreed on its content. The councillors will deliver the surveys to each household with the consultation running from the 20th January to the 4th February 2024.

24/012 Risk Management Register

The councillors reviewed NPC's Risk Management Register as of January 2024 and were satisfied with the issues covered.

24/013 Internal Controls and Internal Audit processes

The councillors reviewed the current system of NPC's internal controls and internal audit and resolved that they were satisfied with the measures currently undertaken by the council.

24/014 Walk of the Parish

Cllr Evers suggested that the bunting around the play equipment be removed and the councillors resolved that this be done immediately. The Clerk was asked to update Cllr Finch on the flooding issue near the A1071 / A134 junction. The refilling of the dog poo bags was raised.

24/015 Spring Litter Pick

The councillors agreed to hold the Spring Litter Pick (starting at 8.30 am) and the NPC Coffee Morning (starting at 10 am) on Saturday, 6th, April 2024.

24/016 Village Hall and Trust updates

The Trust reported that they are still working with their solicitor on the Green's boundaries and easements as well as reviewing a bio-diversity trail in the Recreation Ground. The Village Hall committee have now appointed a contractor for the damp proofing of the village hall.

24/017 Questions to the Chair

No issues were raised.

24/018 Next Meeting

The next Meeting of NPC will be held on **Wednesday, 14th February 2024**, starting at 7.30 pm in Newton Village Hall.

Signed _____

Date

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The meeting closed at 8.59 pm.

Appendix A Clerk's Report

Minute	Action	Complete ✓
22/117	Awaiting NGT confirmation of location of defibrillator at Little Green.	
23/206	Babergh to repair the second Rectory Road nameplate. They consider the School Lane nameplate to be acceptable.	
23/209	Spoke to local stone mason who will inspect War Memorial and provide report. As the War Memorial is a Grade II listed structure, planning permission will be required for any works.	
23/213	Minutes sent to BRN and updated on website.	✓
23/214	Lee Parker has allocated a £750 Locality Budget donation towards the cost of the bus shelter on the Green	✓
23/215	NPC granted permission for Sudbury TC mayor to where her chain of office in Newton.	✓
23/217	Planning responses sent to Babergh.	✓
23/218	Order placed with Littlethorne for new bus shelter.	✓
23/219	Payments made to suppliers, individuals and organisations.	✓
23/220	Clerk has written to SCC RoW regarding FP 2 maintenance.	
23/221	Wrote to BWB with NPC's responses to questions raised on allotments.	✓
23/222	Clerk liaising with Community Wardens re RoSPA report on play equipment.	
	Clerk's Actions & Delegated Power	
	None.	
	Clerk Hours	
	Up until the 24th December 2023 - 456 hours paid / 426.255 hours worked.	

Appendix B Planning Status

BDC Ref	Application	NPC Ref	NPC Response	BDC Response
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	Permission 15/12/2023
DC/23/04914	St Michaels, The Green - Erection of outbuilding with garaging and first floor accommodation to be used as a studio / store.	23/202a	Support	REFUSED 20/12/2023
DC/23/05249	Land Adj Assington Road - Application for Outline Planning Permission (Access points to be considered, details for Landscaping, Appearance, Layout and Scale reserved) Town and Country Planning 1990 (as amended) - Erection of 9 no. dwellings (including 4 no. affordable) (resubmission of DC/23/01760)	23/217a	Objected	
DC/23/05409	Land Adj 1 Links View - Application for reserved matters following Outline Planning Permission DC/23/00577 - Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale for the erection of 1no detached single-storey dwelling with parking, new vehicular access and extension of the public footpath to the south of the proposed access.	23/217b	Support	

Signed _____

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NEWTON PARISH COUNCILMinutes of Meeting held on 10th January 2024 at Newton Village Hall**Appendix C RFO Report****Unity Receipts & Payments 2023 / 2024**

Date	Details	Power	Receipts		Payments	
31/12/23	Bank Interest		316.25	Y	0.00	
13/12/23	William Alston Charity - Donation	Localism Act 2011 ss 1 to 8	0.00		100.00	Y
13/12/23	PM Taylor - Christmas Parcels donation	Localism Act 2011 ss 1 to 8	0.00		100.00	Y
29/12/23	BDC Locality Budget		750.00	Y	0.00	
31/12/23	Service Charges	Localism Act 2011 ss 1 to 8	0.00		18.00	Y
10/01/24	Sudbury TC - Dog bin reinstatement	Localism Act 2011 ss 1 to 8	0.00		17.57	

Reconciliation

Account	Statement Date	Statement Balance	Actual Balance	Unpresented Cheques	Credits not shown	Difference
Unity Current Account	31/12/23	£2,945.95	£2,928.38	£17.57	£0.00	£0.00
Unity Trust Savings Account	31/12/23	£45,941.94	£45,941.94			£0.00
		£48,887.89	£48,870.32	£17.57	£0.00	

Budget v's Actual

	Budget	Actual		Reserves	Budget	Actual
Assets B/F		£45,116.29				
Income			Expenditure			
Precept	£18,242.81	£18,242.81	Clerks Salary		£12,011.23	£9,395.59
Grants	£177.20	£212.64	Clerk's Pension		£1,260.48	£0.00
Recycling	£500.00	£479.35	Admin		£2,000.00	£1,165.77
CIL	£0.00	£4,836.56	Donations		£800.00	£300.00
Bank Interest	£50.00	£822.27	Annual Subscriptions		£485.00	£452.01
VAT Repayment	£0.00	£3,599.17	Footpath Maintenance		£400.00	£360.00
Other	£0.00	£800.00	Insurance		£1,500.00	£1,658.56
			Inspection		£563.00	£430.00
			Maintenance		£500.00	£55.75
			Projects		£500.00	£0.00
			CIL	£27,523.93	£5,842.00	£9,508.61
			Village Hall Hire		£390.00	£0.00
			VAT Paid		£0.00	£1,912.48
			NNP		£0.00	£0.00
Total	£18,970.01	£28,992.80	Total	£27,523.93	£26,251.71	£25,238.77
			Assets Carried Forward			£48,870.32
Total		£74,109.09	Total			£74,109.09

End of Appendices

Signed _____

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