

North Newnton Parish Council Meeting

Monday 13th September 2021 at 7 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Chair of the meeting - Marcus Stoneham (MS), (Chair of the PC), Cllr David Brisker (DB) (Vice -Chair), Cllr Olivia Campbell Slight (OCS), Cllr Tom Ellen (TE) (Vice-Chair), Cllr Tony Mulliken (TM), Cllr Sean Devine (SD) and Cllr Mac McLean (MM). In attendance: Gillian Tatum Clerk, Wiltshire Cllr Paul Oatway and 4 Parishioners

The meeting started at 7pm

1 Matters of the Council

Absence apologies and Declaration of interests. Apologies: None

Members are bound by the provisions of the Code of Conduct and are required to declare either personal or prejudicial interests; None declared.

The Chair asked due to the recent occurrence of lots of internal emails with Councillors if anyone present wanted to say anything; no response.

2 Minutes of Extraordinary Planning Parish Council Meeting 2nd August 2021

The minutes were approved by all Councillors present and signed by the Chair as a true record.

3 Adjournment. Welcome to the Public.

4 Parishioners present.

The Clerk asked the questions on behalf of a Parishioner who could not be present; **What arrangements does the PC have in mind for the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations next year?**

The Clerk outlined the formal national celebrations proposed and particularly the idea of lighting a beacon. It was decided to liaise with Woodborough PC to see if they were going to light a beacon on Hill behind the Church and if we could join in with this (as no obvious high spots in our Parish). Cllr DB proposed a commemorative t-towel (as had been done in the past for the Queens past birthday), the last one was done with Woodborough but we could do an individual one to be given out to all householders in the Parish. Cllr SD outlined past activities that were undertaken for silver jubilee; duck race, pig roast, barn dance. Cllr PO outlined that he thought money could be available from Wiltshire Council for local celebrations. **Action: Cllrs DB & TM to take forward ideas for outlining at next meeting and Clerk to ask for ideas in next Messenger.**

2nd Question; **A Hilcott neighbour has asked if the defibrillator surround and post could be painted?** Cllr DB replied that he was a bit puzzled as the board supporting the defibrillator is already painted white and sealed and the posts are tantalised (painting them would affect their protection against weather). It was agreed that it would be left as is and hope that the Parishioner understood now the clarified situation.

4 Planning Applications for Statutory Consideration

1. No applications

2. **Feedback from Planning Training attended by Cllr TE;** he reported that despite the training being very generic and at a National Level (not Wiltshire specific) it was very useful to understand about the Development Plan & 5 yr. landbank requirement for housing. Although PC's are not actually statutory consultees Wiltshire Council will consult individual parishes on planning applications. He distributed a useful aid memoire for Cllrs to ensure factors for objection were based upon material factors on the ground and what were non-material i.e./ latter property values, loss of view, restrictive covenants, number of

Clerk

representations. **Action: Clerk to put details on the website**

5 **Section 106 Agreement update covering North Newnton**

1. Progress Update from Wiltshire Cllr Paul Oatway

Cllr PO outlined the long complicated process for amending the S106 agreement associated with the housing development at Woodbridge Close and the current position; Wiltshire Legal Dept. have now drafted the Deed of Variation and were double checking with Land Registry on ownership of the land from the original development (Acorn) and had asked clarification questions on the proposed footpath land (subject of the proposed variation). Cllr PO had answered these questions and we are now waiting for Wiltshire Legal Dept. next steps. All are aware of the 17th November deadline and Cllr PO is liaising directly with Chair Cllr MS.

10 (item brought forward) **Traffic Calming Hilcott: update following meetings with Wiltshire Highways**

4 Parishioners were attending to hear about this item; Cllr MM ran through the current Situation, an internal meeting had taken place with 2 Cllrs and a Parishioner to look at the traffic issues along Hilcott (cars travelling at excessive speed and the 40MPH speed limit not appropriate for the Village with children, horses, pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders). This was carried out before a meeting on site with Wiltshire Highways to walk the route and agree locations for traffic calming roundel's showing "Slow" and "40MPH" signs, 6 locations were agreed in total. The proposal had then been submitted to the CATG meeting (Community Area Transport Group) who agreed to pay 50% of the costs and the Parish to pay the remaining 50%. These are scheduled to take place early next year and would act as the first stage of measures. Cllr OCS then outlined the additional measures, in that the PC are going to fund White Gates near the entrance points to Hilcott (From North Newnton and from Bottlesford), as these are regarded as "Cosmetic" they do not qualify for any CATG funding. Chair Cllr MS confirmed the PC had budgeted this year specifically for Traffic Calming. Parishioners present welcomed the measures but are fundamentally against the 40MPH set for the Village High Street and referred to recent pet deaths due to the road, concern for children (now 10 children under 10 yrs. old using this road to get to the footpaths) and did not think previous traffic surveys were analysing the correct things (criteria only counts houses directly fronting the road, and discounts those with driveways or set back) and a speeding tractor at 40MPH is a real hazard for a pedestrian. They asked what more could they do, they presented a petition to the PC/Wiltshire Council last year and speedwatch not possible. Cllrs will try to progress the white gates ASAP and Cllr PO has arranged for a Community "traffic specialist" policeman to visit the area and undertake monitoring. **Action: Progress white gates and roundel's, and re-visit if had any impact on speeding vehicles requesting Wiltshire Council carry out a traffic survey as required.**

6 **Village Hall at Hilcott – update;** Chair of the Trustees Carolyn Whistler had provided a written update presented by the Clerk; Demolition has taken place and was completed today. The contractors David Horton did a good job and have left the site tidy. We are holding our AGM on 6 November at Rushall Village Hall at 12 noon and all parishioners are invited. We did not hold one last year so lots to discuss and elect a new committee. The charity Trustees remain in perpetuity. As mentioned at your July meeting in VH update:
"For your information, the VH Constitution requires the election of parishioners to serve on the Management Committee for one year, and includes a representative from the PC, the PCC, other Community Groups e.g. Coffee Mornings and Clubs. Also interested community people and Friends of the Hall (non-voting)". So could you please let us know if possible a month before the AGM the name of your proposed representative - thanks. Cllrs discussed this, it was noted that Cllr MM does not represent NNPC and is a "Friend of the Village Hall", he does not sit on the Committee, has no voting rights and is not part

of any Management Group. MM is not prepared to change his position and therefore does not want to be the NNPC representative on the Village Hall Committee. No other Cllrs was available to be involved. **Action; Clerk to inform the Village Hall Trustees.**

Clerk

7

Governance

1. Flood Warden and Emergency Plan

Cllr SD ran through the amended Flood Plan which he had now incorporated detailed potential flood/surface water risk areas maps across the Parish. Cllr SD is the new Flood Warden and Cllr TM will assist him. He also hopes to recruit more “responders” to aid and be allocated specific areas to manage. He is also looking at proposed training for all the responders and equipment needs (he has already ordered tabards and other flood management devices). He reiterated that the response will most likely be towards ice management and not flooding and more activity in the Winter and so his title is really “Flood/Weather Warden”. He has salt and sand bags (easily accessed from his lean-to) and he will be putting more on the website and liaising with properties at risk to make sure they know contacts and what to do, planning ahead. Cllr TE noted the cross over the Emergency Plan which he had been responsible for and was happy to link and eventually combine the documents. **Action: Cllr SD with support from Cllr TM to continue to work on this and Clerk to put existing DRAFT on the website.**

Cllrs
SD/
TM
Clerk

2. Venues for Future Meetings

Cllr MM proposed moving our Parish meetings away from the Church as he was uncomfortable having the meeting there and with winter we needed toilet facilities and heating. He referred to a Parishioner asking for toilet facilities to enable attendance. He also wanted WIFI. The Clerk stated that virtual meetings were no longer allowed and there was no obligation to provide hybrid meetings with virtual attendance (the equipment costs to do this are very high to ensure a virtual attendee can hear all comments (microphone requirements) and cameras. 4 Councillors were very happy with the Church as supporting a local existing facility and within the Parish but did note the lack of toilet facilities at present, the Clerk mentioned we could hire a “portaloo” (Cllr MM thought it would not provide light or washing facilities). **Action; Clerk to review alternative venues & costs and also review the legal requirements to see if dispensation to meet at a local pub if no other venue within the Parish available. To revisit whether to move away from the church during the winter.**

Clerk

8

Correspondence and matters arising from previous meetings

1. **Feedback from Annual Meeting of the Parish;** almost 30 attendees, it was felt that the community awards were appreciated. It was proposed more marketing was needed for the next event, with a leaflet drop or use of social media to publicise wider.
2. **Footpath request to facilitate join up to existing right of way, Bridleway 8 (outside our Parish) Woodbridge roundabout/Pewsey road to Parish Boundary update;** Cllr MM reported that unfortunately BT and other cables are 300mm below the surface making a formal footpath impossible (due to cost of moving). A path could not meet CATG criteria and unfortunately grading for an informal path also not possible. **Action; Agreed Cllrs TE & SD will cut back vegetation and grass to make the existing informal path more walkable**
3. **Waste Bin (dog waste) at X5 bus stop, Upavon Road; Self Empty proposal by Cllr TE;** Cllr DB had proposed a general bin be purchased as a “non-official bin” and Cllr TE would be responsible for emptying and supplying bin liners for it. **Action; Cllr DB to purchase in conjunction with the Clerk, erect and Cllr TE will manage thereafter.**
4. **Rushall Road/Woodbridge Close Visibility** – Request has been made via CATG for Wiltshire Highways to visit the junction and suggest any improvements possible to the visibility; Cllr MM reported that Wiltshire Highways will visit once the development on the old garage site is complete and it was agreed to ask them to review traffic speed in this vicinity at the same time.

Cllrs
TE &
SD

Clerk,
Cllr
DB
Cllr TE

Cllr
MM

5. **Concerns about the volume and speed of traffic on Upavon road passing residents here to Woodbridge roundabout, Cllr PO update (to pursue the possibility of a weight restriction being imposed on the road to stop over 7.5 tonne traffic to aid road safety);** a lot of discussion over the design and present safety of the roundabout however Cllr PO confirmed that Wiltshire Council are waiting for the National Highways England review of the South of England Freight Strategy Review and so there will be no weight limits imposed for 2-3 years. Cllr PO was asked what the criteria for a larger 40MPH sign was and he will follow this up. **Cllr MM**
Action: Chair Cllr MS requested to get Wiltshire Highways to review the roundabout and traffic speeds when visiting for item 4.
6. **Hilcott Sign by Bottlesford Corner renewal;** Cllr DB will report to Wiltshire Council for renewal. **Cllr DB**
7. **Introduction of St James' Church project;** this was covered at the APM and information via a display is available to view in the church. Any comments on the proposals are requested by the church to be sent to their Church Warden Jennifer Brisker at Jbrisker1@aol.com
8. **Proposed Defibrillator Training joint with Easterton Parish Council Wednesday 20th October 7.30pm Easterton Village Hall;** Clerk outlined the joint training with Easterton Parish Council, free to attendees (PC paying for the hire of the hall). **Open to all please contact Gill Clerk@nnpcc.org.uk or text/tel 0797986387 to book a place.**

9 Finance

1. **Bank Reconciliation for June, July and August and budget update;** FO (the Clerk) outlined the financial position, reviewed by recent financial sub informal meeting. Closing balance with un-presented cheques for mid-term (almost 6 months of financial year) £9,355.29.
2. **The proposed donation of £200 to PCAP (Pewsey Community Area Partnership),** agreed, Clerk to issue cheque.
3. **Cheques ratified; Ch. No. 848 £91.34 Cllr DB for Defibrillator post, Ch. No. 849 £50 Donation Citizens Advice Bureau, Ch. No. 850 £300 SID, Ch. No. 851 £230 website Parish Council Websites, Ch. No. 852 £150 Donation NNPC. Ch. 853 £20 for Parish Meeting at Woodbridge Arms (£5 cash). All agreed.**

10 Neighbourhood Plan Update

Proposed Motion Cllr MS, seconded Cllr OCS; "To work to continue to adopt the Design Statement as an Advisory Document only and not to pursue the adoption of a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) (in view of new regulations covering Neighbourhood Plans and the updates required).

Following a discussion noting the new planning legislation affecting NP and the fact that the whole of the Parish is within an AONB (Area of Outstanding Beauty) protected by that policy and lack of resources to keep updating a plan once agreed; unanimous support for the motion.

Action; Cllrs OCS & MS to complete the Design Statement for adoption as an advisory document to be publicised to developers and parishioners within North Newnton.

**Cllrs
OCS/
MS**

11 Projects

1. **Greening verges update; plan showing cutting required sent to Wiltshire Council;** Clerk thanked Parishioner David Benson for his help with producing the plan, a Parishioner had further suggested Stitchings Lane (but the map was to show priority areas and it was not felt that this needed cutting immediately as lately been undertaken) and Woodbridge roundabout. **Action; Clerk to submit the revised plan to Wiltshire Council** **Clerk**
2. **Footpath to Rushall Road /Park Road Update;** Cllr MM reported that CATG had agreed to support a substantive bid for this next phase "continuation of footway and associated drainage work, to complete missing pedestrian link from end phase 1 to new

development t at the site of former garage/service station”. Total price £65,000, contribution from CATG £5k, Parish Council £12,800 and funding sought from substantive highways scheme £47,200. The PC has saved from previous precepts and with this year’s allocation will have the funds (plus the possibility of the S106 funds). Cllr MM predicted realistically this could happen from April 2022 (next financial year).

3. **Proposed Facebook presence for NN Parish;** Cllr SD proposed the setting up of a Facebook page for the Parish, this to be a “Notice-Board” type facility only, with specific items such as the proposed Defibrillator Training. He would set up and manage the site, ensuring agreement on postings via the council by email or meeting. After discussion it was agreed to undertake a 6 month trial to see how it worked. **Action; Cllr SD to set up and promote a Facebook page for North Newton Parish.**

Cllr
SD

12 **Updates from Meetings - none**

Cllr TE will attend the next virtual Area Board on 20/09/2021.

13 **Future Parish Council Meetings 2021**

7.30 pm 1st November 2021 Venue to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm Gillian Tatum Clerk to NNPC Clerk@nnpc.org.uk

Tel 07979866387 16/09/2021