

North Newton Parish Council Meeting  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 22 at 7pm at Seven Stars, Bottlesford  
Minutes

**Present:** Cllr Tony Mulliken (TM) (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Andy Gray (AG), Cllr Sean Devine (SD) and Wiltshire Councillor for Pewsey Vale West Cllr Paul Oatway QPM (PO). In attendance: Parish Clerk Rosie Charnock (RC). Hilcott Village Hall Committee Representative: Carolyn Whistler (CW). Five parishioners.

**22/ Matters of the Council**

**25 Absence, apologies and declaration of interests**

Apologies from Councillors: David Brisker (DB), Tom Ellen (TE) and Richard Cook (RiC). Apologies from parishioner Margaret Reeder.

**22/ Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 25 July 22 were approved and signed by Vice Chairman.**  
**26 Review of Matters arising:**

Completion	Action Required	Person
5 Sep 22 <b>Complete</b>	Order two new Defib batteries Complete, one has been delivered, one awaiting delivery.	RC
5 Sep 22 <b>Ongoing</b>	Produce an image detailing the different phases for the North Newton footpath project to share on website and noticeboards	TE
5 Sep 22 <b>Ongoing</b>	New post to be installed in Hilcott ready for SID	RiC
5 Sep 22 <b>Ongoing</b>	Contact Mark Stansby to enquire about new road signs or markings available for the area (e.g: hidden entrance)	TE
5 Sep 22 <b>Complete</b>	Form Focus group to discuss options for traffic calming measures to then present and discuss ideas at the next parish council meeting. Results to be discussed later in agenda	TM
29 Jul 22 <b>Complete</b>	Scan in AGAR exemption form and email to PK Lilttejohn (external auditors)	RC
5 Sep 22 <b>Ongoing</b>	To find out how internal controls have been carried out in the past and decide how best to continue with these.	RC/TE

**22/ Adjournment: Welcome to the public**

**27** Parishioner asked for an update regarding the painting of the phone boxes. Margaret Reeder had asked for her admiration of the jubilee colours to be passed onto the council and request that they be kept this way. SD: The phone boxes will be kept in the jubilee colours until the Annual Parish Meeting in 2024, where this will be reviewed and a public vote can then be taken at that event as to what happens next regarding the colours of the phone boxes.

CW asked why the election of a chairman was listed as a future agenda item. TM responded that this will need to be discussed when all councillors are present at a meeting. CW: TE has been doing a fantastic job, so it would be a shame if he did not continue in this position.

**22/ Update from Pewsey Vale West Wiltshire Councillor Paul Oatway QPM**

**28** PO presented an update from the Environment Select Committee, Wiltshire Council are trying to address the way that verges are cut to avoid small bits of litter being shredded into lots of bits, which are then awkward to recover and bad for the environment. The 'Code of Conduct' as mentioned in previous meetings will be going for council approval in October. PO is still waiting for a response regarding St. Anne's Cottage in Hilcott.

TM asked to raise some questions with PO and referred to AG to speak. AG reported that when he is driving around villages in Wiltshire and also in lots of parts of London that there are now many 20mph speed limit areas. Would Wiltshire Council support the reduction of speed in Bottlesford to 20mph and 30mph in Hilcott? AG went on to explain that he feels that this would make transitions between neighbouring speed limits easier too. AG pointed out that even if cars did speed in a 20mph zone that they would probably still be driving slower than they are now through these villages.

PO response: Eight years ago the roads between the Woodbridge Inn and Lockeridge were assessed and the results have left the area with inconsistent speed limits. This review was based on the speed of vehicles travelling through the area.

CW: Three speed reviews have been carried out in Hilcott in the last eight years and the results

showed that Hilcott did not meet the requirements for any further intervention.

PO stated that he will send the clerk the link to apply for speed checks in Hilcott and Bottlesford.

TM: The biggest issue for parishioners seems to be speeding, we need to reduce the speed limits to increase safety. For example the Park Road junction is so dangerous because of the lack of visibility combined with the high speeds, reducing speeds here would make it a bit safer. Speeding is a priority in this parish.

A parishioner contributed that they have noticed an increase in traffic and that this is dangerous for footpath users and cyclists.

PO responded that he will bring this issue to the attention of Mark Stansby and send the clerk the link for a speed survey to potentially reduce the speed limit in Bottlesford to 20mph.

TM: Due to limited council funds the NNPC would like to fundraise to invest in three more SIDs, which would mean one at each end of Hilcott, and then a further one to rotate and analyse the data.

TM enquired whether there would be any funding from Wiltshire council to help with this.

PO referred to CATG and advised that a council representative attend the next meeting.

CW asked if we still had access to the SIDs that is shared with Rushall. TM responded that this can be checked with DB on his return.

## **22/ Updates from Committees**

**29 1: Hilcott Village Hall Committee:** Barnard Meadow progress – involved pumping out water from the shelter and finding candles dating from the 1980s. CW wishes to thank in advance all those who are volunteering and to 'Local Giving' for facilitating a £500 grant for the hire of a skip. All parishioners are welcome to attend the AGM on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022. The committee has applied for a grant from Pewsey Area Board to fund fencing around the area, this will go for approval on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2022. The Hilcott Village Hall Committee has registered as a charity on Amazon Smile, if parishioners wish they can purchase amazon products through the Amazon Smile website and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the Hilcott Village Hall Committee.

CW also stated that the constitution of the committee dating back to 1982 states that a member of a councillor attends Hall Committee meetings to liaise on behalf of the parish council.

**ACTION:** TM to discuss with councillors who will represent the NNPC at the Village hall committee meetings.

**2: St. James's Church, North Newnton:** no report made at this meeting.

**3: Clerk's Report:** RC: Finance: some progress with online banking, still need councillors to be set up properly for online payments to start being made. Meetings: Ten years of minutes dating from 2002 onwards have been taken for storage at the records office in Chippenham. The minutes from 1991 to 2002 are missing, but this is not unusual or a problem. Technology: the anti-virus software is still not able to be put onto new laptop without the admin password, this is an ongoing problem. Training: RC is waiting for the SLCC to bank the cheque and start the ILCA course. **ACTION:** to email SLCC regarding ILCA start date. RC attended consultation session with Gillian Tatum (previous clerk) and was shown how the budget spreadsheet works. This will be helpful as we plan for the 2023/2024 budget, the 2022/2023 also needs to be officially approved by councillors in this meeting.

**4: Added item: planning:** PL/2022/06785 Ash tree to be cut down and replaced with a native species in Hilcott. All councillors in approval of plan.

## **22/ Update from external meetings.**

**30 1: LH&FIG 20 Jul 22:** PO: the next phase of the North Newnton footpath will begin in January 2023. PO has visited the site for the next phase following on from this and this will go to CATG at the next meeting with costings. PO will then report back to NNPC. PO strongly recommended that a NNPC representative be at the next CATG meeting. From the bust stop on Southern direction the footpath could go through the field as the path cannot be built on the A345. PO recommends that he manages this on behalf of NNPC.

AG asked PO who was responsible for the quality of road surfaces and verges, what is happening to improve this, who is responsible for this? Is it County Highways? PO responded that minor repairs are dealt with by the parish steward, but Wiltshire highways is responsible for larger repairs.

## **22/ Projects:**

**31 1: SIDS Update: Discussed in item 22/28**

**2: North Newnton Footpath Update: see LH&FIG meeting in item 22/30**

**3: Defibrillator update:** One of the two new defib batteries have arrived, when the expiry date is

reached the battery will be replaced and this will be logged with the Community Heartbeat Trust so that the expiry of the new battery can be registered. The main and spare electrodes on the Woodbridge Inn defibrillator expire on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022. **ACTION:** RC to find out costs of electrodes for approval at next NNPC meeting.

**4: Footpaths.** TM: some issues have been reported with stiles in the land behind the Seven Stars in Bottlesford. The landlord does not own the land but is going to help to find out who the landowner is. Meanwhile AG and TM will go and have a look at the stiles and try to repair if possible. **ACTION:** TM and AG to contact landowner and investigate repairing stiles behind the Seven Stars pub in Bottlesford.

## **22/ Charitable Donations:**

**32** TM: We have been approached by two charities that we have previously made donations to. TM expressed the view that NNPC money should not be donated to charities but used to support projects within North Newnton, Bottlesford and Hilcott.

CW: It has been done in the past with a vote, often in January when the budget was spent and the council knew how much money was left. TM raised motion to not make charitable donations unless local to the hamlets of the NNPC. All voted in favour.

## **22/ Finance:**

**33** **1:** RC reported balances of £9,370.91 in the treasury account and £19,935.84 in the investment account.

**2:** The cheques to be signed at this meeting were: £35.19 Clerk's expenses, £230 website annual fee, £318 Defibrillator battery.

**3:** Review and approval of 2022/2023 budget. All councillors present approved the budget.

**4:** Update on online banking given in Clerk's report.

## **22/ Future Agenda Items:**

**34** Discussion of chairman role at NNPC

Discuss 2023/2024 budget in October meeting, ready for approval in November meeting.

## **22/ External Meetings:**

**35** **Hilcott Village Hall Committee**, 17<sup>th</sup> Sept 2022, 11am Woodbridge Inn, TM to attend.

**Pewsey Area Board**, 19 Sep 22, 7pm, Woodborough Social Club, TM to attend.

**Community First AGM**, 12<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022, 6pm, Devizes Town Hall, TM to attend.

**PCAP**, 20 Oct 22, 7pm, location TBC

**LH & FIG**, 26 Oct, 2pm, MS Teams

### **Parish Council Meetings 2022:**

Monday 17 Oct 22, 7pm, location TBC

Monday 28 Nov 22, 7pm, location TBC

Meeting Closed 8.15pm

Completion	Action Required	Person
Ongoing	Produce an image detailing the different phases for the North Newnton footpath project to share on website and noticeboards	TE
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2022	New post to be installed in Hilcott ready for SID	RiC
Ongoing	Contact Mark Stansby to enquire about new road signs or markings available for the area (e.g: hidden entrance)	TE
Ongoing	To find out how internal controls have been carried out in the past and decide how best to continue with these.	RC/TE
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2022	A Councillor will need to join the Hilcott Village Hall Committee and serve for one year.	TM/RC
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2022	Email SLCC regarding ILCA start date	RC
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2022	Find out cost of replacement electrodes	RC
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2022	Contact landowner and assess state of stiles behind the Seven Stars, Bottlesford	AG/TM