

**GEDDINGTON NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18th MAY 2015**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors M Rowley (Chair), D Hodgkinson, D Rushton, A Gordon, N Batchelor, C Buckseall.

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr D Watson

**ALSO PRESENT:** Three members of the public and PCSO Donna Fenner.

**021/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None were declared.

**022/16 - CO-OPTIONS.**

Requests were received from Mr Ken Harden and Mr Terry Bailey. All councillors present were in favour of the two co-options.

**023/16 PUBLIC SESSION**

- a) Police report: - PCSO Donna Fenner gave further details of the crime figures for April, already provided to Cllrs.

The break in at the Youth Club (storage container broken into) was raised. The shed bought for the flood items storage was delivered on the Wednesday, then stolen along with the Scouts equipment, on the following Saturday. PCSO Fenner asked for people in the village to drive past the Youth Club very slowly on an ongoing basis, to check that all seemed to be well. She asked that as the area concerned was screened by trees, that villagers drive into the car park whenever they are in Grafton Road, if possible.

Cllr Rushton raised the issue of quad bikes/ motor bikes continuously going from Chase View Road up into the woods. PCSO Fenner said that if they are taxed and insured they are allowed to do so – this route is classed as a green lane. However if they do not have a number plate they are not allowed to do so. Additionally, the speed limit up to the brickyard is 20mph. She asked for those without number plates to be reported by ringing 101.

**024/16 MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING**

- a) PC monthly meeting held 13th April 2015

The Minutes were accepted as a true record, pending two typo corrections.

- b) Full PC Special meeting held 18th April 2015

The Minutes were accepted as a true record.

An update was given as to progress of the action points: the clerk reported that all actions have been actioned.

Other action updates:–

*ACTION1 (13.4.15) Cllr Harker to be asked if a warning sign can be installed. Actioned by Cllr Harker.*

*ACTION 2 (13.4.15) The Clerk to formally write to NCC requesting a weight restriction and to request the above to become non applicable for the A4300. Formal letter has been sent from the PC. Cllr Harker has replied that NCC Highways are carrying out research into this issue, with potential work to the Stanion end of the A4300 also being considered.*

*ACTION 3 (13.4.15) Cllr Rushton to complete his part of the task and reply to Cllr Padwick by 18th April 2015. Completed and sent to (former Parish Councillor) John Padwick. Cllr Rushton agreed to speak or email John Padwick in order to move this forward.*

*ACTION 4: (13.4.15) Cllr Kelman will provide an update for the Cricket Club. Former Cllr Ian Kelman was not present, but the Cricket Club is aware of the update as the benches have now been installed.*

*ACTION 5: (13.4.15) Cllr Gordon will liaise with the Bowls Club as to dates for cutting of the hedge by KBC. Preferences were relayed to Cllr Gordon and hence sent to KBC by the Clerk.*

Cllr Rowley added at this stage that the round bench that used to be on the recreation ground could be donated to the brickyard, if all were in favour. The bronze plaque from the A’Ness family had been found and could be added to one of the other park benches if it was agreed. All were in favour, so Cllr Rowley will progress this.

ACTION 6 (13.4.15): the Clerk to obtain three further quotations. Holding letter to be sent to Rick Loak.

The Clerk reported that two further quotations had been sent, and one reply was still awaited. There were no outstanding actions from the Special meeting (concerning planning applications).

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**025/16** Adam Simmonds, Police & Crime Commissioner (can attend the PC meeting on 13 July 2015).

**026/16** Zurich Insurance – free buildings valuation tool.

**027/16** Rachael Gladstone – Boughton Estates Open Day and questionnaire (previously sent out).

**028/16** KBC - Notice of uncontested Election.

**029/16** NCalc – Training course 24.6.15 – How to be a good employer.

**030/16** Zurich Insurance – Local council advisory service annual seminars 2015.

**031/16** SLCC – News Bulletin.

**032/16** Ncalc - Openness and accountability electronic documents for Parish Council circulation.

**033/16** NCC - ceremony at Grafton Underwood Aerodrome Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

**034/16** Information concerning school transport cuts.

**035/16** SLCC National Conference will be taking place at the Hinckley Island Hotel from Thursday 15th – Saturday 17th October. (Sat. only can be booked if desired).

**036/16** Ncalc – Training courses in May and June.

The Clerk had not sent correspondence items out to Cllrs unless they were considered necessary for urgent reading or on the agenda (as per agenda discussion agreement). However, it was requested that items b), h) and j) on the agenda (correspondence) be circulated.

**037/16 FINANCE**

Community account statement as at 17.04.15	£16,061.54
Business Saver account as at 17.03.15	£10,717.28

**a) Accounts received**

Direct credit from KBC – Precept for 2015-16 £9,000.00

**b) Accounts for payment**

CPRE	36.00	Membership to 4.5.16		
Ncalc	34.00	Training course – Cllr Watson		
SLCC	69.00	Purchase of Local Council Administration book (budget for training material agreed Sept 2014).		
Geddington Village Hall	£157.50	Hire of lounge for Parish Council meetings, 1 <sup>st</sup> half year fee for 2015/16		

Note: Cheque for £385 has been received, pending decision of agenda item 7d). Cheque to be returned to Geddington Village Hall Management Committee if the Parish Council does not agree to the request.

**c) Redemption of 2 ½% consolidated stock – two options as per HM Treasury**

It is not known where the original War Bond certificates are kept.

**ACTION1: Cllr Rowley to email previous clerk Sharon Goddard to determine the whereabouts of the certificates.**

Cllr Rowley proposed that the certificates be redeemed. Seconded by Cllr Gordon. All Cllrs present were in favour of this action.

**d) Assets - Stonepit land – Geddington Scout Group request for half term, usage of grass area behind the Youth Club.**

This was agreed. Cllr Rowley added that the GVFB wished to put a marquee up outside the fire station, in the entrance/graveled area, on one day in June or July. All were in favour of the erection of a marquee for one day only.

e) **Assets – Recreation ground** – Cllr Rowley added that the Scouts wished to hold a dog show to show children and villagers the responsibilities of dog ownership. They would be sited in the berm area on the same day as the Trundle (13.9.15). It would be a fun event and would include a light hearted dog show. Support for the event was proposed by Cllr Gordon, seconded by Cllr Batchelor, all Cllrs were in favour.

**d) Assets – Stonepit land** – letter received from Youth Club

Mr J and Mrs B Goodall wished to raise the Parish Council's previous meeting's comments concerning the Youth Club and use of the Stone Pit land for a motorhome weekend rally.

They reported that it is not a big event, that income for the use of the land is £150 for the weekend, and that the PC had indicated in a previous letter that they were happy with the arrangements for such events. They reported that there are few volunteers for the Youth Club and the rally created a lot of work. They indicated that it was good for the village as those attending the rally visited the pub, the church etc, and they caused no trouble at all.

It was commented that the reason it was discussed at the PC meeting was because motorhomes had been seen on the land and it was not known who they were or if it had been authorised. Cllr Hodkinson said that in practice the Parish Council should be informed, if this happens before the event then if anyone queries why the vans are there, the Parish Council has the information to inform people.

If there are overnight stays, the Parish Council must be informed as there could be insurance issues, the PC is not insured for overnight stays, and any comeback would be the PC's responsibility. It was also commented that signs for "park at your own risk" should be installed.

It was summarized as follows:

- The Youth Club own the footprint of the building.
- Communication – if the PC is informed of events beforehand there will be no misunderstandings, plus it will save having any potential duplication for use of the land on the same date.
- Insurance issues – a further reason why the Parish Council needs to know
- A parking at your own risk sign needs to be installed.
- Small one-off events are acceptable, but using the land outside for anything other than parking needs to go to the PC before any such event is confirmed.

It was relayed to Mr. & Mrs Goodall that the Minutes do not reflect all the conversations that took place.

Cllr Hodkinson wished to add that the general feeling was that it was good that the Youth Club is doing what they are doing for the good of the youth of the village.

## **PLANNING**

### **a) KBC Decision notices**

- i) Mrs Furley 13 Queen Street – replace and relocate boiler (listed building) – approved by KBC
- ii) Ms D Holland – land rear of Croft Barns Queen St – change of use of stables – withdrawn.

### **b) Applications**

No applications had been submitted within the timeframe for inclusion on the agenda.

### **c) Planning permission request** - to be made in the name of the Parish Council. Request made by email by Cllr Harker on behalf of the Village Hall committee.

The planning application request is able to go forward in the name of the Parish Council rather than the Village Hall, as the Parish Council is a trustee for the Village Hall. A cheque will be banked for £385 payable from Village Hall to the Parish Council. The Parish Council will write a reciprocal cheque for the Village Hall. The cost to the Village Hall for the planning application is £770 if they submit it themselves. Cllr Buckseall proposed that as the trustees this should be actioned, seconded by Cllr Hodkinson., all those present were in favour. The clerk to add the cheque to be written to those already authorised for signing.

A further application was discussed briefly to determine if a special meeting was needed - Removal of hedgerow, Little Oakley. Cllr Gordon explained where the application proposal was sited and why it was being requested (new bypass has made the hedgerow a hindrance in terms of the workings of the farm). There was no disagreement with this point of view.

A further environmental issue was discussed briefly – The horse field owned by Ms Holland badly needs cutting – this is the land owner’s responsibility. Additionally, land bordering this side of the brook up to the house, then from the brook to West Street, also needs cutting. This is owned by Peter Clipston, again, his responsibility.

## **038/16 ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION**

### **a) Missing playground equipment – possible replacement discussion.**

The missing item of playground equipment is now back in the playground – KBC had removed it for maintenance work, without informing the Parish Council. It was reported as stolen to the Police, this report has now been cancelled.

A comment was made – why is the Parish Council paying for a yearly inspection if KBC carry out maintenance work/ upgrade the equipment? Should we ask KBC to do the annual inspection and maintenance? Councillors agreed that this was the most logical action.

### **b) Flood Store - stolen storage unit - decision needed as to a possible replacement.**

Cllr Rowley updated as to the equipment stolen from the Scouts storage shed. It is being stored in the fire station at the present time. A replacement shed from NCC may be possible, depending on flood funding still available. The shed received was approximately 7ft x 3ft but quite flimsy. The self-assembly hut for the flood prevention equipment was stolen; the actual flood prevention equipment was not.

**ACTION 2 - Clerk to scan the list of equipment and send to Cllrs Buckseall and Rushton.**

**c) Maintenance work to bus shelters – *Quotations obtained.***

At this point Cllr Buckseall declared an interest for this discussion item and left the room for discussion of this item

Three new quotes have been requested, in addition to the Rick Loak request that was previously received. These are from Paul Abrahams, MW builders and a Cranford firm (Harvey's Building Services). Two of the new quotes are very different in price. The Clerk explained that an email contact address had been requested from Paul Abrahams so that the same list of definite work needed to the bus shelters, was the basis of all the quotes. However, the quotation was received before the email contact was given. The quote from MW Builders carried a proviso – additional work needed to be agreed with the PC before being carried out, so was not a hard and fast quotation.

A member of the public who was present asked if the bus shelters were owned by the Parish Council (yes they are), and are they insured with the Parish Council, with the maintenance work being due to wear and tear. Cllr Rowley did not know this. A further query was that the Cllrs did not know if Rick Loak has the public liability insurance.

**ACTION 3. Clerk to ask MW to give a definitive quote, and to chase the quote from Harvey's.**

**d) Parish Plan:-- update**

Cllr Rushton will email John Padwick to determine where we are and hence to move forward.

**039/16 HIGHWAYS/ LIGHTING/ FOOTPATHS/ ROAD SAFETY**

**a) Street Lighting; Public Rights of Way – *any issues raised or to be reported.***

Nothing to report, but Eon has fixed the street light that has been on in the day.

**b) West Street: new street light – *progress report (Cllr Hodkinson)***

Cllr Hodkinson reported that Mr McNally has done everything he can do at present; he had no further up date that he was able to give.

**c) Issue in Woodlands/ Queen Eleanor Rd area -*Tree/sight obstruction***

The sight obstruction is caused by trees/ hedge cut back needed within the boundary of 1 Queen Eleanor Road.

**ACTION 4: Clerk to write to the householder requesting the cut back.**

**Newton & Little Oakley**

No reports concerning Newton.

Little Oakley – the road has been dug up on a narrow stretch between the A4300 and Little Oakley. There are traffic lights at both ends; a lot of the road is coned off. It is thought that it is the responsibility of the County Council via Kier, Anglian Water is also involved. The road is now damaged.

**ACTION 5: The Clerk to raise the issue with Cllr Harker.**

**Items for next month's Agenda/AOB**

None given

*The meeting closed at 9.10pm.*