

GEDDINGTON NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th SEPTEMBER 2015.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors M Rowley (Chair), D Watson, A Gordon, C Buckseall, D Hodkinson, D.Rushton, N Batchelor, J Padwick, T Bailey.

APOLOGIES: Cllr K Harden

ALSO PRESENT: Police Commissioner Adam Simmonds, PCSO Margaret Lawen, one member of the public.

064/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None.

065/16 PUBLIC SESSION

a) Questions from the public

The member of the public wished to asked some questions of Adam Simmonds when he spoke.

b) Reports from County and Borough Councillors

There was no report from County Cllr Jim Harker.

Cllr Rowley confirmed that the Scout storage container had been broken into again. The electric pump, warning light and generator had not been stolen, but most of the other items of equipment were stolen. He reported that they were exploring future preventative measures.

At Borough level, there is currently consultation being carried out on the historical open spaces in Geddington. The dog walking area has been taken out of the plans (it is open for consultation again) and Chapel Lane is now a Designated Open Space. The Site Specific Document will be issued after the exercise is completed in the autumn, with a completion date of 2017.

Cllr Watson added that he had just returned from a meeting concerning “West Corby” – housing development of 4500 homes to the west of the A6003. He gave the timescale for development and added that there will not now be a dual carriageway built.

Cllr Rowley was going to meet with Cllr Harker to try to find a solution to the Newton entrance/exit blind spot problem. A meeting with the landowners (Boughton Estates) was also needed.

c) Police Report / Crime figures

PCSO M Lawen commented that the police crime figures have returned to the normal level, after a spike with the July figures.

d) Attendance of Police Commissioner Adam Simmonds, to answer compiled questions.

Police Commissioner Adam Simmonds (AS) then spoke, commencing with the walkabout he had attended with Cllr Batchelor in July. He stated that this had given him a feel for the area and the issues that were occurring that were of concern to residents.

He then proceeded to address the submitted questions:

i) I should like to know the period over which he intended to recruit additional Special Constables, the number he hoped to recruit and how many how so far been recruited.

AS said that he had been in office since November 2012, and his ambition was to have 1000 by May 2016. 282 have so far been recruited, with 600 wanting to know if they can train. He explained that there are two types of Specials, general duties and parish special constables. Their remit is crime prevention, reassurance and an-on-the-spot presence for burglaries for questioning. They also provide support for the PCSOs.

ii) I understand that recruitment is well behind schedule, how does he hope to deal with the shortage of officers?

It is not behind schedule. Additionally, no police officers have been lost.

iii) Which Police Stations does he expect will close and will any new ones be built and/or existing facilities be amalgamated?

There is a front desk facility at the KBC offices. Kettering will have a new custody centre.

The Kettering and Corby response teams may possibly move to Wellingborough.

AS informed that services will be working towards closer integration where at all possible.

He then spoke of recruitment of Specials, and ways were currently being explored to publicise the recruitment drive. He added that Specials can issue speeding tickets now and more mobile speed cameras are going to be introduced.

Regarding the parking problems in Geddington, KBC have a legal responsibility for parking and they need to be contacted if parking is in contravention to legal requirements.

Geddington were informed previously by NCC that it was not worth having yellow lines in Wood Street/Grafton Road area and cones were issued instead. Parking is also an ongoing issue at the Newton Road/Stamford Road corner, with the speed of traffic a concern to residents. The junction improvements on to the A6003 have made the problem worse. The member of the public said that speeding in Newton Road had been a problem since 2006.

Tyre ramps in Newton Road were suggested, but NCC will not install them now. It was reported that "average speed" cameras work well.

AS will look at the yellow lines issue and see if NCC will reconsider their decision.

Cllr Rowley said that he will raise the parking issue with KBC.

AS is trying to put together £1 million to spend on community safety.

Noted that lorries through the village are still a problem, particularly down West Street – traffic from Acreland is allowed, but no others. Cllr Hodgkinson said that a County Cllr was needed to come out on site.

Cllr Padwick added that there was no Geddington sign in Grange Road.

Cllr Rushton said there was no speed sign up Wood St where dirt bikes speed.

ACTION 1: Cllr Harker to be emailed to action a speed sign for Wood Street.

Adam Simmonds left the meeting at 8.20pm

066/16 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

- a) Parish Council monthly meeting held 13 July 2015

The minutes were agreed to be a true record.

- b) Parish Council Special Meeting held 10 August 2015

One correction was needed: Wood Street to be corrected to West Street (in A.O.B.). The minutes were agreed to be a true record once this correction had taken place.

- c) Parish Council Special Meeting held 17 August 2015

One correction was needed: Cllr Batchelor was the Chair. The minutes were agreed to be a true record once this correction had taken place.

- d) Matters arising: progress on agreed actions

The Clerk informed the meeting that all actions had been actioned. The Clerk was asked to send a further letter to Mr Austin concerning hedging that was still uncut and to inform that an enforcement order would be obtained if the work was not carried out.

ACTION 2: The Clerk to action the above issue.

PLANNING

- a) **KBC Decision notices**

KET/2015/0506 11 – 13 Wood St.

Planning permission was refused. Reasons cited: it did not fit with the area, lack of acceptable amenity space, cramped form of development, access inadequate.

KET/2015/0584 & 0621 The Croft, 16 Queen Street.

Planning permission was refused. Reasons cited: access issues primarily “no practical ways of overcoming the concerns.” An email had been sent by KBC concerning Highways and access, the option of comments to be returned by 16.9.15, however, it was felt that the Parish Council had already expressed their highway concerns.

b) Applications

KET/2015/0669 – Mr & Mrs Best, 48 West Street.

This was a second (revised) application.

Those Cllrs present decided to unanimously support the application

KET/2015/068 – Mr Lord Persimmon Homes – *s.73 Application: variation*

This concerned the Persimmon homes development off Warkton Lane, Kettering.

No comments to be submitted: Cllrs felt that it had been sent merely to keep the Parish Council up to date.

KET/2015/0684 Mr. Lubana – Geddington Bake. This application had been received too late to be added to this agenda. It was decided that a Special meeting was needed to discuss the application.

ACTION 3: The Clerk to arrange the Special meeting – Monday 21.9.15 at 7.00pm in the Hall preferably.

Cllr Rowley commented that Cranford include all the applications received right up to their meeting day to include for review at that meeting

Cllr Hodkinson commented that KBC Planning may clarify this point.

ACTION 4: The clerk to clarify whether this would be permissible with KBC Planning.

It was also commented that a Parish Council planning committee of two or three people could have delegated powers to make the decision as to comments to be forwarded to the Borough Council. Cllrs expressed disagreement with this happening.

c) Parish Plan: Progress report

The results had started to be collated with the help of a couple of volunteers. A provisional meeting of volunteers was being arranged and Cllr Rushton said they would be able to discuss progress more fully next month.

It was commented that priority seemed to have slipped for the Village Design Statement, but it was agreed that the Parish Plan would be concentrated on at the present time, the Village Plan to be picked up again in a few months' time. Cllr Rowley said that a temporary adjournment for the Village Design Statement was timely as there may be some help available, but the financial implications needed to be explored first.

d) Request for feedback by 6.10.15 - “Call for written evidence” – How effectively are communities able to engage with the process of decision making that shapes the built environment in which they live and work? Are there any barriers to effective public engagement and if so, how may they be addressed?”

– From Select Committee on National Policy For The Built Environment. (Request sent by Ncalc).

The above request was noted but no response was to be sent.

It was commented that the sight lines for the Newton Road wind turbine had not been seen, which would convey the view point from X Y and Z.

ACTION 5: Rachel Gladstone-Brown to be asked if these are available and to invite her to the October Parish Council meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE (see list on page 2)

- 067/16. Advance notice, carriage drainage works A4300 near Little Oakley turn. Robert Dunmore 14.7.15
- 068/16 SLCC News bulletin. 17.07.15
- 069/16 Geddington Community website –letter of thanks from Janet Jones 17.07.15
- 070/16 Courses in your area. Events@slcc.co.uk 17.07.15
- 071/16 Letter to the editor (PC cc'd) Pam Hopkins 27.07.15
- 072/16 Promoting events around the Borough. Rebecca Lees 4.08.15
- 073/16 Notification of submission of the North Northamptonshire Joint Core strategy. North Northants Joint Planning Unit. 6.08.15
- 074/16 “Spend an interesting couple of hours with CPRE Northants”. CPRE Northants 23.08.15
- 075/16 TTRO/15/16)229. A4300 Stamford Rd Stanion. Gary Thorpe 25.08.15
- 076/16 Field work update: CPRE’s Our Green Belt campaign CPRE 2.08.15
- 077/16 Countryside “Voice” magazine.
- 078/16BDO email highlighting risk register creation/ updating needed.

No comments were made as to any of the correspondence items that Cllrs had received since the last Parish Council meeting.

“FUTURE OF THE RURAL FORUM” meeting held 1.9.2015– feedback by Cllr Watson. .

Cllr Watson expressed concern that KBC does not listen to the Rural Forum. He added that it could be a worthwhile forum. Examples of issues raised, but not progressed included traveller sites – there was no policy for villagers. Street lighting – the replacement scheme was a PFI scheme paid for by the County. All street lights are being replaced if over 40 years old, except in the villages. The consultation and vote on precepting was ignored. The Chairman always has to be a Borough Council employee.

079/16 FINANCE

a) Bank balances

Community account statement as at 17.08.15	£10,695.03
Business Saver account as at 17.07.15	£10,718.72

b) Receipts

None

c) Payments

SJ Loak	£495.00	Ch.101631 Bus shelter maintenance work. Cheque authorized to be signed and sent by Cllrs Rowley, Watson and Hodkinson in the absence of a PC meeting in August 2015.
Newton Field Centre	£40.00	Use of Newton Field Centre on 13.7.15

Cllr Padwick proposed that the first cheque be approved by the Parish Council, and the second cheque be authorised for payment. Seconded by Cllr Gordon. Agreed by all Cllrs present.

Cllr Watson left the meeting at 9.31pm.

d) Balance of Little Oakley Social Club grant for marquee – Request received from Cllr Bailey for a contribution towards table/chairs for the marquee.

It was agreed by all Cllrs that the difference between the amount granted to the Little Oakley Social Club and the actual cost of the purchase of the marquee (favourable euro exchange rate when purchased) be used as a contribution towards the tables and chairs that the social club needed to purchase.

080/16 PARISH COUNCIL RISK REGISTER – To be compiled or updated as per external auditor.

It was agreed that the risk register needed to be compiled/updated. Cllr Rowley will see if he can locate the risk register that was last agreed.

ACTION 6: Cllr Rowley to action the above point.

080/16 ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

a) Recreation ground – *missing recreation ground fencing* - Cllr Rowley

Sections of the fencing are missing, leaving a drop down to the river. It is assumed that they have been stolen as there is no trace of them in the surrounding area. A short discussion took place as to replacing with metal fencing rather than wooden. It was agreed, however, that this needed addressing urgently on safety grounds and a wooden fence would be replaced at this stage.

ACTION 7: The Clerk to obtain three quotations for the work.

ACTION 8: Cllr Rowley to email the PCSO to speak to youths using the area.

b) Stone Pit land – *further theft of flood store equipment-*

Cllr Rowley reported that most of the items had been stolen. *The Fire station will finalise what has been taken.*

c) Post Office (front of) – *Residents' concerns relating to the recycling clothes storage bin.*

Cllr Rowley stated that Rachel G-B be informed of this as the area concerned belonged to Boughton estates.

081/16 HIGHWAYS/ LIGHTING/ FOOTPATHS/ ROAD SAFETY

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

Following the letter received from the owner of 46 West Street and the legal reply from KBC, all Cllrs present were in agreement that the lighting column adjacent to no. 46, now be pursued. Jim McInally from KBC will mark its position on the footpath and Cllrs to review if it was sited corrected.

ACTION 9: Cllr Rowley to carry out the above action.

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

No new issues.

c) Signage/timing for no deliveries/lorries for green belt – Cllr Rushton reported that the signs were put in place a week before the festival, but festival traffic (lorry deliveries) were still using West Street. Cllrs were asked to email Rachel G-B, copied to Cllr Buckseall, if any signs are incorrect.

NEWTON & LITTLE OAKLEY

There were no issues to be raised.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH'S AGENDA/AOB

The meeting closed at 9.32pm