

**GEDDINGTON NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL -
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th NOVEMBER 2015.**

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

APOLOGIES: Cllrs D Hodkinson, T Bailey, K Harden, A Gordon

Also present: County Cllr J Harker, Rachael Gladstone-Brown [R.G-B] Estate Manager, Boughton Estates, and one member of the public.

098/16 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Cllr Rowley stated he would hand the Chair over to Cllr Batchelor for planning application considerations as one application concerns a relative.

099/16 PUBLIC SESSION

R.G-B reported the following:-

- i) Newton access – talks are still taking place.
- ii) Crow scarers – have been removed from all around Geddington
- iii) Clothes recycling bin by the Post Office. This is being well used and Pat, from the Post Office, does not have a problem with it being sited immediately outside the Post Office. The company name is Planet Aid, there is no charity number on the container. It is situated on Boughton Estates land. It was commented that if the container was set on fire, the thatch to the Post Office could also catch fire. There are three other clothes recycling bins in the village. R.G-B said she was satisfied that it needed to be removed as it was a fire hazard.

Cllr Batchelor mentioned the walkway between Geddington and Newton. Cllr Harker said that NCC maintains this via a fee to the farmer for the maintenance of the bridleway. The worst maintained area is where the road goes across the brook: hard-core is being spread in this area at the present time. The improvements to the gate in the top field are also to be welcomed.

The member of the public wished to comment on the planning application for 500 residential properties at Oakley Vale. He stated that it was not clear on the map whether it was envisaged that a road would be built from Oakley Vale to the Little Oakley/Great Oakley Road, the entrance/exit to be by the railway bridge. Cllr Watson said that when the development of Oakley Vale was originally proposed, categorical assurance was given that there would be no access onto that road.

ACTION 1: Clerk to clarify this with Corby Council.

b) Reports from County and Borough Councillors

Report from County Cllr Jim Harker.

Cllr Harker said that the proposed tour of the villages was not carried out in the summer. The replacement date is on the 25th November 2015. Cllr Rowley volunteered to attend the walkabout. Cllr Rushton will also attend if it is at all possible.

Cllr Harker then asked if there was possibility of support by the Parish Council for work needed to trees in the church yard. Three big lime trees and two yew trees need cut back and a chestnut tree needs canopy reduction. One further tree in Church Hill needs its crown reduced by two metres.

Noted that one tree on the front green is the Parish Council's responsibility – it is on the designated village green.

Quotes given for the work are £3285, £4975 and £5676. Architect fee is £360; the initial surgeon's fee is £350. If £4000 is transferred from NCC to the Parish Council, the Parish Council are able to claim the VAT back.

All Cllrs present were in agreement that £3285 (tree survey), £360 (Architect's fee) and £350 (Survey fee) totalling £3995 plus VAT, should be paid by the Parish Council once the £4000 is transferred from NCC to the Parish Council. The Parish Council to then claim the VAT back.

Report from Borough Cllr Mark Rowley.

Cllr Rowley reported that it seems to be a quiet time of the year, but there has been a lot of planning application movement. He has been involved with decisions for planning applications for gypsies and traveller sites – all at Braybrooke except one for Broughton.

The work on East Kettering has virtually stopped. One planning application was submitted for change of building site, but work on the area will move quickly once it does start, depending on bypass work. Cllr Rowley also reminded Cllrs of the village tour that was taking place on 25 November 2015. He will be able to attend and Cllr Rushton said he may be able to be present as well. Any issues that Cllrs wish the tour to consider please send to Cllr Rowley well in advance of the 25th.

c) Police Report / Crime figures

No police PCSO was in attendance at the meeting. The crime figures had been sent to all Cllrs in advance of the meeting - one crime had been recorded for Geddington.

100/16 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

a) Parish Council monthly meeting held 12 October 2015

The minutes were agreed to be a true record.

b) Matters arising; progress on agreed actions

12.10.15 Action 1: Cllr Rowley - “has received posters from the Police promoting the recruitment of Specials, these will be put up on the notice board and on Facebook. Still to be actioned.

12.10.15 Action 2: The section of hedging bordering Bob Austin’s boundary now resolved, the boundary line has been confirmed.

12.10.15 Actions 3 & 4 Good practice with planning applications. The Clerk read out a (telephone) reply from David Pope, KBC. He said that listing the applications on the agenda as per current practice is good, but perhaps to put a proviso in, that any late application received immediately after the agenda had been advertised would also be subject to comments being submitted by the Parish Council. Failing this, the current arrangement of arranging a special meeting to discuss late applications would have to continue.

12.10.15 Action 5 Budgetary consideration, added to November agenda.

12.10.15 Action 6 Hire of hall for quarterly Rural Forum. Reply received from David Pope, KBC. It has previously been agreed that the individual parish council would bear the cost of the hire of the room or venue for quarterly Rural Forum meetings.

12.10.15 Actions 7 & 8 Risk Register actioned by Cllr Rowley, added to the November agenda for discussion.

12.10.15 Action 9 work relating to replacement fencing, work to commence in November.

PLANNING

Cllr Batchelor chaired this agenda item as Cllr Rowley had declared an interest in one planning application (Mr T Harker, Cobley Lodge farm)

a) KBC Decision notices

KET/2015/0556, 0033, 0325 Newton Mill farmhouse (Boughton Estates). Approved, KBC have requested frosted glass for one window.

b) Applications

KET/2015/014 - Mr T Harker Cobley Lodge Farm Corby Road, Little Oakley, NN18 8HE
Infill south east elevation to allow for additional kennels – *comments by 12.11.15*

It was proposed by Cllr Padwick and seconded by Cllr Buckseall that the application was approved, all Cllrs present were in support of the proposal on the following grounds:

- Minimal change regarding external outlook.
- Very little difference in external elevation.
- It is not a new business; it is minimal change to an existing business.

KET/2015/0875 - Great Oakley Farms Ltd, Mr A De Capell Brooke

Land South of Brooke Weston Academy, Off Lewin Road and Bennett Road, Corby.

Consultation from Another Council: New residential community of up to 530 dwellings and associated local centre and open space (Corby Borough Council, reference 15/00138/OUT)

This had already been partially discussed within the public session.

There were no observations on the site itself. The map appears to show a road which is in contravention of what was agreed prior to the development of the site.

Such a road would not be safe – it would join the road leading to the T junction of Great Oakley and Little Oakley, on the bend by the bridge.

The resulting level of traffic would be too much for the Little Oakley Road area.

Feedback to be given to Corby Borough Council and copied to Kettering Borough Council, within Action 1 above.

A new application had been received, too late to be added to the agenda, but with an expiry date for comments before the December PC meeting. A short discussion did not result in anything contentious being raised. It was therefore decided that a special meeting to decide on comments to be sent to KBC Planning was not needed.

c) Site Specific Proposals Local Development Document – historically and visually important open space consultation – *comments to KBC by 11.12.15.*

Geddington

Cllr Rowley commented that the Meadows and dog walking area has been taken out of the green spaces area rather than just the wooden houses in Chapel Lane. This needs correcting.

Included in the green space are the riding stables and the White Lion car park. The White Lion car park needs taking out.

The garden at the bottom of Church Walk to remain out of the green space areas.

Noted that the space on the opposite side of the bridge belonging to the old tea shop – this is potentially a garden.

ACTION 2: Cllr Batchelor to mark the map – highlighting the three areas. The only adjustments needed apply to the Geddington map.

Newton

The Dovecote area has been excluded from the green space

Little Oakley

There are no changes.

ACTION 3: Cllr Batchelor to send the Little Oakley map to Cllr Bailey.

d) Parish Plan - Progress report *update by Cllrs Hodkinson/Rushton/Padwick.*

Cllr Rushton reported that everything had been given to Cllr Hodkinson. Cllr Padwick stated that it was a hefty document. He said that a meeting with Cllr Rowley was needed. Cllr Rowley agreed to meet with the sub-team and draw up a list of recommendations.

5. CORRESPONDENCE - received since last meeting, forwarded to Cllrs when received.

101/16 Update – Oakley Vale proposals – 13.10.15

102/16 “Could you be a Director at Ncalc” – request for consideration from D Moody, Ncalc – 4.10.15.

103/16 Geddington Village Hall Management Committee – Update regarding sports building project and access needed.

104/16 Notification of Ncalc courses – 22.10.15.

103/16 Comments made: -

a) A lot of the work is being carried out by Village Hall members/associates, with the work being overseen by a builder.

b) The Parish Council is not providing any finance for the project: the Village Hall committee need to have the money in the bank before the work commences. The work may have to progress therefore in a piecemeal fashion.

c) The electrics problem has been resolved.

104/16 FINANCE

a) Bank balances

Community account statement as at 16.10.15 £10,475.23

Business Saver account as at 16.10.15 £10,720.06

b) Accounts received

None

c) Accounts for payment consideration

ICO	£35.00	Data Protection registration
Boughton Estates	£570.00	Lease of Recreation field – Oct 2015 – Mar 2016.
Clerks and Councils Direct (CommuniCorp)	£75.00	Subscription – Local Councils update
Northants CALC	£34.00	Training for “Planning – Nuts and Bolts” 7.10.15 (Cllr Batchelor)
Expenses	£15.14	Refreshments for quarterly Rural Forum meeting held in Geddington Sept 2015.

Cllr Buckseall proposed that the above payments were authorized for payment. Seconded by Cllr Batchelor. Agreed by all Cllrs present.

The Clerk had informed Cllrs prior to the meeting that Barclays Bank has confirmed that the three signatories for signing of cheques are now Cllrs Mark Rowley, David Watson and Doug Hodkinson.

d) Items for finance consideration

Contribution to tree surgery around church and surrounding area - Cllr Rowley

This was raised by Cllr Harker (see agenda item 099/16 b) and a discussion resulted in a decision being made at the earlier discussion.

e) Budgetary consideration/ discussing a precept 2016/17

Cllr Rowley asked if there was any work needed or projects for consideration that would need to feed in to the budget considerations.

It was suggested that more waste bins are needed, but consideration has to be given for siting of the bins – the dust cart needs to be able to get to them.

Further street lighting columns will possibly be needed, but the current level of Parish Council finances is sufficient for this at the present time.

Further work may be required for the playground.

Cllr Padwick added that a few items may be required as per the Village Plan, but there appeared to be nothing involving capital investment.

Speed signs have been requested: Cllr Rowley is talking to the Police Commissioner Adam Simmonds on this matter.

Cllr Watson stated that any projects do need to be submitted by the end of November. Cllr Rowley clarified that KBC charge the Parish Council for the installation of new light units, not the electricity charges and maintenance costs. Cllr Watson added that lighting was going to be an agenda item for the next Rural Forum.

The initial discussion closed with all Councillors agreeing that no increase in the precept was necessary for the current level of expenditure. It will however be added to the December agenda for final discussion and decision.

f) Parish Council Risk register – Update/proposed way forward – Cllr Rowley

This had been circulated to all Cllrs prior to the meeting. No further comments were expressed, the register needs date change only.

ACTION 4:- The clerk to send the updated risk register to both the internal and external auditors as per Cllrs' request.

105/16 ENVIRONMENTAL & RECREATION

a) Recreation ground – replacement of fencing – update

The Clerk updated Cllrs for this issue. The work was due to commence shortly, but a key to the barrier to access the recreation ground had not yet been obtained. Brian Leaton and Bob Austin (two given suggestions) do not hold a key. The Clerk will now contact Jim McNally or Brendan Coleman at the KBC, as the department responsible for grass cutting will hold a key.

106/16 HIGHWAYS/ LIGHTING/ FOOTPATHS/ ROAD SAFETY.

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

An email update from Cllr Hodkinson had been circulated prior to the meeting. Jim McNally needs to mark a cross on the path in West Street to show where the new lamp column will be sited.

b) Street Lighting/ Public Rights of Way – any issues raised or to be reported – Cllr Hodkinson

An email update from Cllr Hodkinson had been circulated prior to the meeting updating as to street lights repaired or having been reported as needing to be repaired.

Cllr Batchelor reported that a light outside 16 West Street had been caught by a vehicle, weakened, and needed to be dismantled. The head of the column has been saved, and the new column will be in a similar style to the old column (Victorian). Cllr Batchelor commented that this area is very dark now.

ACTION 5 - The Clerk to write to Jim McNally, to confirm that the street lamp by No. 16 West Street will be replaced at no charge to the Parish Council. A time scale for the replacement lamp also to be requested.

As a further highways item, Cllr Padwick asked if a survey had been carried out yet relating to the number of lorries on the main road. Cllr Rowley updated him as to the survey and informed him of the changes at the Stanion roundabout – the work is imminent but no date has been given yet. Additionally, the old “A43” signs have now gone.

NEWTON & LITTLE OAKLEY

Cllr Watson had to leave the meeting just prior to this agenda item. He conveyed that there were no issues that needed to be raised.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH’S AGENDA/AOB

1. Desk name plates.
2. Charging point for electric cars in the village hall car park.
3. Village Hall – internet and AV equipment.

The meeting closed at 9.16pm.