

**GEDDINGTON NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL -  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors M Rowley (Chair), D Rushton, D Hodkinson, N Batchelor, T Bailey, A Gordon. John Padwick, Sue Wenbourne

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillors D Watson, P Berry.

**085/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**086/17 PUBLIC SESSION**

Two members of the public were present – Janet Jones and Pam Hopkins.

**a) Questions from the public**

Janet Jones and Pam Hopkins wished to raise the issue of sponsorship of the Geddington.net website by the Parish Council. Janet Jones explained the ethos of the website, and its aim of being a website for the community. The appreciation of the support that the Parish Council had given to it in the past was stated. Sponsorship of the website gives a high profile for the Parish Council, with space on the home page and a logo if it is required. As regards to the Parish Council being required to have its own website, she informed cllrs that a link can be set up to the new website even though the Parish Council website would be independent of the Geddington.net website. Alternatively, the Parish Council may now wish to take everything off the website concerning the Parish Council if they so wish.

Some statistics were then given – nearly 2000 people have accessed the website within the last 12 months.

Finances were then discussed, and Janet Jones said that they know that money can only be raised for a specific project, such as running the archive exhibition.

The £18 sponsorship money from a limited number of sponsors (no more than 12) pays for the maintenance of the website and I.T. support when needed.

Cllr Rowley stated that the Parish Council had made the decision of no sponsorship at the present time for three reasons:-

- a) The Parish Council have to look at all spending.
- b) The Local Government Act has determined that Parish Councils must have a website that they can administer themselves.
- c) The Parish Council was informed that the Cricket Club had been approached by the website who had offered to give monetary support for the broadband project. The Parish Council cannot support a voluntary organisation in a case such as this.
- d) Janet Jones reiterated that the website is about community cohesion, and the Parish Council is a key part of that. The Local Government Act does not prevent a link to a website being provided, if that is requested. Pam Hopkins said that there was one conversation by email to the Cricket Club, no further conversations. They added however that the website looked to create opportunities in the village to upskill people who may not be able to get out.

Cllr Padwick said that it was important to have some kind of link to the website.

Cllr Rowley said that any change of the sponsorship decision needs the support of 75% of the total number of councillors. Cllr Wenbourne added that we expect the village to support the Parish Council, therefore a village organisation such as the website should have the support of the Parish Council.

Cllr Batchelor checked that the sponsorship money provides technical support, maintenance of the website, nominal costs etc. This was confirmed, and it was stated that any profits made from fund raising activities such as the exhibition go towards village activities and promotion of the website.

Cllr Hodkinson felt that everything had been explained and it was time to reconsider the decision made.

*Cllr Berry joined the meeting at 7.46pm.*

A proposal could now be made as there were now 75% of councillors in the room.

It was proposed by Cllr Gordon that the original decision be reversed. This was seconded by Cllr Padwick; all councillors present were in agreement.

## **b) Reports from County and Borough Councillors**

There was no county report from Cllr Harker. Cllr Rowley stated that he is however looking at car parking issues and the bridle way to Clay Dick.

### Borough Council report

Cllr Rowley stated that it has been quiet. KBC are involved with some youth counselling work; linked to this he is on a task and finish group for 13 – 18 year olds

Cllr Hodkinson asked at this point if works to the paths/ road edge can be sprayed and cleaned out in Chase View Road, citing a buddleia sprouting on the corner of Chase View Road and the Woodlands as an example.

**ACTION 1: Cllr Rowley will pass this to Brendan Coleman.**

## **c) Police Report / Crime figures**

No crime figures were listed for all three villages. There was some doubt raised as to if this was accurate, particularly for Geddington.

**ACTION 2: Cllr Rowley will raise the issue of potential incorrect figures at the Rural Forum.**

## **087/17 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

### **a) Approval of Parish Council monthly meeting Minutes – held 8<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

The Minutes were agreed by all councillors present to be a true record.

### **b) Matters arising; progress on agreed actions.**

*6.8.16 .Action 4 – Village Hall/ parking issues.* Cllr Rowley will try to meet with Rachael Gladstone-Brown this week (week commencing 12.9.16).

It was also noted at this point that complaints had been received regarding noise when the Ged-Fest was held on the recreation ground by the Cricket Club.

Cllr Gordon added that if you have a drink from the bar you have to be a member – this is part of the Cricket Club's license. However, that did not happen on Ged-Fest day.

Cllrs agreed that once the relevant document is sorted out, allowances or otherwise of individual issues can be defined.

Also noted for Rachael's attention – there have been two raves in the woods, one illegal rave and one official and licensed rave.

*6.8.16 Action 6 Sandbags.* The clerk gave out some initial information as to cost, size etc. of three different makes of sandless sandbags. There was a discussion as to where the sandbags will be used, and how. Cllr Berry asked why they needed to be bought. He was informed that householders have a duty to protect their property from flooding, but the Parish Council also has a duty. It was noted that last time the water in the brook rose, the sandbags that the Parish Council provided diverted the water and the houses in Bridge Street did not get flooded. So for general flooding of streets, it is the Parish Council's duty to

provide a response to reduce the danger.

It was confirmed that they would be stored in the GVFB Stonepit land building, with residents to ring the GVFB to gain access to the sandbags.

Cllr Padwick said that something may come out of the Parish Plan relating to flooding.

Cllr Rowley produced the flooding document and said that it includes drain details.

Cllr Padwick proposed buying enough for Little Oakley's needs – two packs of “quick dams” were proposed. This was seconded by Cllr Bailey, all were in favour.

Cllr Bailey added that they could be stored in the community rooms.

**ACTION 3: The flood wardens need to meet before the October meeting to look at all the sandbag information to see which would be the best option for the remaining sandbags that need to be purchased, and bring their recommendation back to the next Parish Council meeting.**

*Action 8: cutback of hedges to Tennis Club – the clerk will check as to whether this has been done.*

## **PLANNING**

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

*KET/2016/0478 -Mr & Mrs C & M Dixon,  
39 Stamford Road (land south of), Geddington. – Application has been withdrawn.*

*KET/2016/0365 - Mr S Brown  
21 Grafton Road. - Application approved.*

*KET/2016/0200 – Mr & Mrs T White, 28 - 30 Grange Rd (lavender blue nursery). Change of use application has been approved. Fencing for the existing house to remain “in keeping with the area”. Application approved.*

### **b) Planning Applications.**

**KET/2016/0528:** *Mr & Mrs Foulke*

*St Peters Church, Corby Road, Little Oakley, NN18 8HA*

*Change of use from church to residential dwelling*

**KET/2016/0528:** *Mr & Mrs Foulke*

*St Peters Church, Corby Road, Little Oakley, NN18 8HA*

*External alterations including new doors, window and louvre alterations. Internal alterations including installation of various stud partition walls, glazed screens, staircases, repositioning of bell and underfloor heating; to include the provision of a new first floor level above part of existing Nave*

(Application Type - Listed Building Consent Application)

Cllr Bailey explained that a small amount of land has been bought, but not the church yard. The land where cars currently park has been bought. The external view point has changed very little.

Feedback was determined as follows;-

The councillors present at the Parish Council meeting last night have no objection to the principle of the matter, but would like to add the following observations:-

1. There is no blue line which delineates the planning consideration.
2. Is the graveyard included in their garden area?
3. What planning permission is in place to protect the graveyard?

## **KET/2015/0963**

Mr Nolan

1 Newton Road,, Geddington, NN14 1AU – Amend

Only one minor change to the original application (from February 2016), there were no objections to the change.

### **088/17 PARISH PLAN – Update.**

*Cllrs Padwick /Hodkinson/ Rushton*

a) Cllr Padwick said that he would view any comments that had been made concerning the draft Parish Plan. Ten volunteers had helped to compile the plan, based on the earlier consultation exercise. It then needs to come back to the October Parish Council meeting to be signed off. He added that the action plan summarizes the issues which will then be given to the relevant Parish Councilor or working groups.

Any further consultation in November can highlight if any particular issues need funding, which can feed into the precept discussion.

Cllr Gordon commented that there was nothing in the plan concerning parking. He was informed that people have been listened to and they do not think it is a priority. He raised the issue of the village hall losing business – Cllr Rowley stated that this is being looked at as a separate issue. Cllr Gordon raised the heavy traffic on the new road issue and a possible weight limit. Cllr Rowley informed him that this is a county issue.

Cllr Rowley said that it was not helping with the A43 being down to one lane at present for a two mile stretch, to enable National Rail to access a car park until December.

#### **ACTION 4: Cllr Rowley will raise this long time scale with Cllr Harker.**

Cllr Rowley commented that the original Parish Plan was a village plan, saying what needed carrying out in the villages. The new Parish Plan contains action points for the Borough and County Council as well.

Cllr Hodkinson said that the weight limit on the A4300 needs to be inserted.

He added that the current introduction is obsolete and needs to be reworded.

The Parish Plan discussion concluded with Cllr Padwick asking all cllrs to read the Parish Plan, and convey any comments to him by 28th September. It will then be on the October agenda with a view for approval of the document.

#### **b) Issues raised by visitors to Geddington – lack of facilities.**

*Cllr Buckseall.*

An email had been received highlighting lack of facilities in Geddington. Noted that:-

The tea shop only opens at the weekend.

The church is open.

One pub is temporarily closed at the moment.

Three pubs plus the Cricket Club is too many pubs for Geddington.

The Dovecote or Sage & Brook are nearby eating facilities.

The village hall has toilets but the public are not allowed in in the week (child concerns)

Councillors collectively agreed that they did not wish to see toilets being built in the village.

#### **ACTION 5: The clerk to convey general thanks for the observations given, to the sender of the email.**

### **CORRESPONDENCE – received.**

089/17: Friday round up – Future of public parks, superfast broadband demand survey – *Danny Moody, Ncalc 5.8.16.*

090/17: Request for rural services input – *Cllr Nick Richards, Chair of Wilbarston Parish Council.7.8.16.*

091/17: Message from Public Health – *Annalee Bougourd (Public Health, NCC)* 25.8.16

092/17: Letter from Rural Forum Chair (letter for non-participating Parish Councils and Minutes of the Rural Forum meeting held 21.7.16. – *David Pope, KBC -* 30.8.16

093/17: 20 million steps – <i>NCC project team</i>	1.9.16.
094/17: Rural wellbeing service information bus visits – <i>Linda Hook, Northants ACRE</i>	1.9.16.
095/17: Parking at the ford – <i>Scott Little, Police</i>	1.9.16.
096/17: Invitation to Autumn Road show 2016 – <i>CPRE Northamptonshire</i>	4.9.16.
097/7: Latest news from CPRE – <i>6.9.16</i>	
098/17: <i>Newsletters.</i>	
Rural Spotlight on Heart of the Village – <i>Rural Services Network</i>	24.8.16
Weekly email News Digest –	30.8.16
“        “        “	6.8.16
Rural Opportunities Bulletin -	31.8.16

## 099/17 FINANCE

Community account statement as at 15.08.16	£10,938.84
Business Saver account as at 15.08.16	£10,722.74

### a) Accounts received

None

### b) Accounts for payment

Geddington Village Hall	£157.50	Hire of lounge for monthly meetings, 2 <sup>nd</sup> half year 2016.
Geddington Village Hall	£10.00	Hire of lounge, Parish Plan meeting 30.8.16

It was proposed by Cllr Berry and seconded by Cllr Padwick that the above payments be made, agreed by all councillors present.

### c) **Precept initial discussion – issues/ projects for consideration.**

Two items were raised for discussion on next month’s agenda:-

1. Parking for the Village Hall area. If permission can be obtained for extending it, a short term solution may be hard standing grass mats, gravel or chippings, and sign posting.

**See ACTION 087/17 above.**

2. Foot path by the Village Hall.

**ACTION 6: The clerk to add these to next month’s agenda.**

## 100/17 ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

### a) **Fishing in the river Ise (meadow area)**

*Cllr Rowley*

A young village resident has asked if he can be given permission to fish in the brook, within the dog walking area. The Parish Council owns the dog walking area and the fishing rights on the south side of the river.

After a short discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council has no objections.

Cllr Hodkinson wondered whether a notice needed to be put up, stating “fishing at own risk” or similar.

Cllr Rowley said that this is not feasible as you cannot cover for accident or death. He added that Rachael Gladstone-Brown may know more about fishing rights, and may have a proforma that we could use. It may have to say permits only. It was agreed that Cllr Rowley would keep Gordon Binley informed as to this issue – in principle the Parish Council are happy with it, but are looking in to the legal aspect.

**ACTION 7: Cllr Rowley to inform Gordon Binley, as per above, and carry out some research regarding fishing rights.**

The pond in the meadow was also discussed. An expert from the Newton Field Centre can find no evidence of newts. It may be possible therefore to have a clear up around the edges of the pond, and then speak to the Wildlife Trust.

Cllrs agreed that if they say the same as the first expert, work can go ahead on clearing the pond, but they must both agree.

**b) Motorbikes on bridle way to Clay Dick**

*Cllr Rowley*

Boughton Estates have given permission for motorbikes to go on their land, up past Clay Dick. Concern was expressed by Cllr Batchelor as children, elderly people and dogs use the bridleway frequently, in particular the first stretch up to the brickyard. Cllrs were informed that it is still officially a road, that it has not been deregulated. Motorbikes and horses are therefore allowed on it. NCC has the authority to lower the status of the road.

Cllr Rowley pointed out that there are licensed bikes which follow the rules, as opposed to bikes that are not registered. These illegal bikes appear to be originating from Chase view Road.

A complaint concerning this issue was raised on Facebook.

Cllr Harker is looking into this issue. Cllr Gordon suggested that at this stage, it may be best to see how Cllr Harker progresses with the issue, rather than the Parish Council getting involved as well and duplicating matters. All Cllrs present agreed.

**c) Tour of village by Cllr Harker 13.10.16 - Any issues to be raised?**

Cllr Rowley said he was happy to attend it.

**ACTION 8: All councillors to forward any issues to Cllr Rowley.**

Cllr Hodkinson added at this stage that all graffiti has been reported, and KBC are removing it although some patches are still to be removed.

He also reported that a complaint has been received - overhanging trees were in the gitty between The Woodlands and Chase View Road. He will determine which house needs to carry out the tree cut back and inform the clerk.

**ACTION 9: The clerk to write a letter asking the occupants of the property to carry out tree cut back.**

Cllr Wenbourne remarked on the foul smell that is in Geddington at various times of the day. She has contact Anglian Water and they have used cameras to try to determine the area/ the pipes that it emanates from. It is not muck spreading or the Weetabix factory, but it may be from the sewerage treatment works. One Cllr stated that it may be because with the cleaning of the treatment beds, that they were not deodorising them properly as this has happened before. Environmental Health is currently liaising with the Borough Council, and Cllr Wenbourne will continue to report any re-occurring problem with this, to Street Doctor.

Cllr Padwick added here that raw sewerage had been seen in the brook (as per Facebook information). This relates to the pumping station. It is allowed to discharge straight into the river when it is in flood. The old pumping station is 20 yards up stream of the river hence the occasional sighting of sewage.

**NEWTON & LITTLE OAKLEY**

There were no updates.

**ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH'S AGENDA/ AOB**

To include website information.

Precept.

*There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.40pm*