

GEDDINGTON, NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10th APRIL 2017.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors M Rowley (Chair), C Buckseall, D Hodgkinson, A Gordon, D Watson, N Batchelor, S Wenbourne, T Bailey, D Rushton, P Berry.

APOLOGIES:

Councillor J Padwick.

001/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There was one Declaration of Interest, declared at the beginning of the relevant planning application by Cllr Rowley.

002/18 PUBLIC SESSION

Eight members of the public were present, plus Cllr Jim Harker.

a) i) Police Report / Crime figures

The following had been reported for Geddington, with no crimes recorded for Newton or Little Oakley.

1. *Vehicle Crime – Chase View Road – vehicle stolen by unknown means*
2. *Burglary Dwelling - The Woodlands – Door smashed, entry gained nothing taken*

ii) Speed sign indicator system

This was raised by Cllr Harker within the public session. The information had been circulated to the councillors prior to the meeting. He said that the system and equipment could be shared with other parish councils and the cost could hence be shared.

b) Questions from the public

Questions asked by members of the public were as follows:-

- *Why is the White Lion being used for homeless people?*
Information given was that the White Lion Bed and Breakfast facility is still operational, and Corby Borough Council do use them for emergency accommodation. Kettering Borough Council does not use them. This is quite normal, for an authority to use a place outside their Borough.
- *There may be a problem as to trespassing.*
This is a Police issue and they need to be contacted.
- *The horses at the riding stable may be frightened if that area is accessed.*
Any trespassing that occurs is also a Police matter.
- *Are there any plans to change the use of the White Lion?*
- KBC Planning Department has not had any planning application submitted which would be needed if there was a change of use to the main building.

Cllr Berry commented that there have been concerns from a number of residents as to any potential change of use of the White Lion, with no clear statement emanating from the Parish Council. Cllr Berry was advised that he could put the above statement as to any change of use, on to the Facebook page. Cllr Gordon commented that the village was totally unsuitable for this type of use, and for homeless persons, in emergency accommodation. However, he was informed that help is being given in the village – a family has been getting support from the Church to help get them back on their feet.

The main building is being renovated as a pub.

ACTION 1: Cllr Rowley will contact the KBC Enforcement Officer and feed back to the Parish Council.

Victoria Perry was present as a member of the public. She is the Conservative candidate for the County Council elections, for the area presently covered by Cllr Harker. She said she is presently trying to get

round all the villages covered within the ward. Cllr Rowley informed the meeting that the other candidates are Jonathan Bullock (Ukip), John Padwick (Labour), and Miss James (Liberal Democrat).

c) Reports from County and Borough Councillors

i) County Council.

Cllr Harker had not sent a report through, but he was present at the meeting to give updates. He confirmed that the consultation on parking restrictions for Wood Street and Newton Road had finished, and the restrictions should be in place in approximately two months.

Cllr Watson joined the meeting at 7.44pm.

Cllr Harker said that the County Council would be mending the pot holes in West Street week commencing 17.4.17. He also suggested that the Parish Council continued to press for issues to resolve high speed traffic, when the speed limit supposed to be 30mph. He said that the A4300 is still a clearway (i.e. no parking). Cllr Rowley said that he had been talking informally to the relevant people to get this matter resolved. Parking is allowed, but it could cause an obstruction.

Cllr Rowley then said that on behalf of the village, he wished to thank Cllr Harker for fifty years of service to the village, and thirty nine as a county councillor.

Cllr Jim Harker left the meeting at 7.50pm.

Cllr Rowley then informed the meeting that he had spoken to NCC with Cllr Bunday concerning broadband provision. Phase 2 of the broadband provision was on target and would be completed for the end of the year. Newton will then have a better service than Geddington currently has, but Cllr Rowley is not sure of the criteria for Little Oakley. It is however understood that the recent problems that are occurring with BT lines in the village are being caused by rotten cables (according to an Openreach engineer). Phase 3 of the broadband project will start using more non BT circuits as they will be installing in some of the hard to reach geographical areas.

ii) Borough Council.

There was no Borough Council report as such, but Cllr Rowley returned to the agenda item of the Speed Sign Indicator System. The councillors were asked if it was something that they wished to consider. There would be a possibility that an application for funding help could be applied for (County Councillor community fund) after the May election. Cllr Berry asked if the system was successful. He was informed that the Weekley system works, but the emailed information sent through by the Police was a portable system that could be shared. Cllr Bailey asked what the cost of a fixed system was. Cllr Batchelor thought that a portable system would be good, as it could be shared by the three villages. The logistics of a portable system (variable pole clamp and a battery would need to be explored to determine theft probability. The data is logged by Bluetooth.

Noted that speed restrictions are high on the Parish Plan requests.

An alternative to sharing between the three villages would be to possibly also consider Grafton Underwood, Warkton and Weekly if they were interested.

ACTION 2: Cllr Rowley to speak to the Cllr for Broughton to find out how they are getting on with the system that they have purchased. Main questions to ask are:-

1. *Do they work?*
2. *What is the cost of a permanent system rather than a mobile system?*
3. *Would a portable one shared between the 3 villages work better?*
4. *Or between 6 villages?*
5. *Are portable ones easy to steal?*

Cllr Rowley will bring the information back to the next meeting.

003/18 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

a) Approval of Parish Council monthly meeting Minutes – held 13th March 2017

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

b) Matters arising; progress on agreed actions.

All action points had been carried out except for the following:-

13.3.17 ACTION 4: 5 & 6 State of the trees on the A4300 both ends of the village. Cllr Rowley is still working on these three points by speaking to the relevant Officers at KBC.

PLANNING

Cllr Batchelor

a) KBC Decision notices

KET/2017/0103, Mrs N Layer, Lynton, 15 Newton Road, Geddington - two storey front and side extension

The application has been withdrawn.

KET/2016/0799 (re-submission), Mr & Mrs C & M Dixon, 39 Stamford Road (land south of), Geddington. 3 bedroom dormer bungalow

Approved.

b) Planning Applications

KET/2017/0173 and 0172 - Miss Longhurst, 13 & 14 Corby Road, Little Oakley. No.14: Two and single storey rear extensions and insertion of pedestrian access gate into existing northwest boundary fence. No.13: Removal of first floor window in southeast elevation and insertion of roof light in northeast roof plane. This is a re-application.

The councillors discussed the above re-application. It was noted that there was pedestrian access only to the rear of the garden (shared access). Cllr Bailey said that the original extension had been added many years ago, and that the application was well supported in the village.

The application was approved by 6 councillors, there were no objections, and 3 abstentions.

Ket/2017/0245 - Mr J Prentice, Weldon House, Corby Road,, Little Oakley

Single storey rear extension

Comments made were that it is a single extension, with no change to the front elevation of the property as the extension is to the rear.

7 councillors voted to approve the application, with 3 abstentions.

Ket/2017/0257 - Mr & Mrs M Tebbutt, 46 Skeffington Close,, Geddington Ground and first floor side extensions

Cllr Rowley declared an interest in this application.

The councillors discussed the details of the application. 7 councillors supported the application, with 3 abstentions

KET/2017/0226

*Boughton Estates Ltd, - Acre land Farmhouse,
50 Cranford Road, Grafton Underwood*

Change of use from agricultural to light commercial

Although the Planning Department are not obliged to consult with Geddington, Newton & Little Oakley Parish Council regarding this application, the Parish Councillors felt strongly that any change of use of this land would have an impact on the Parish and therefore must be discussed and commented upon.

Councillors were informed that the proposal is for storage for light business.

Comments made were as follows:-

- No offices would be provided, the units would be for storing and keeping goods only.
- They are commercially using the weighbridge.

- Change of use to storage for light business will lead to an increase in lorries coming through Geddington village. It should be opposed on this ground. Additionally, there is no prescribed number of lorries per day/week stated, or tonnage of vehicles.

The opposed application was agreed by all Councillors present except for one abstention. The grounds for submission (opposal) to the Planning Department were:-

- The increase in traffic/traffic flow through Geddington village, in the absence of any alternative access.
- The application is non-specific about the number of units it will create.
- **004/18: FEEDBACK ON KBC TRAINING SESSION** - for plan making, responding to planning consultations, and planning enforcement (22.3.17). *Cllrs Bailey and Hodkinson*
- Cllr Hodkinson apologised – he had not been able to get to the training session. Cllr Bailey said the meeting was disappointing. The concentration had been on bigger developments such as the East Kettering development. It had not cover issues that Cllr Bailey had hoped that it would.

ACTION 3: Cllr Rowley will try to get other officers to come out relating to a planning meeting that he has recently attended.

005/18: PARISH PLAN - report back on the detailed consideration by the 6 April Parish Plan Committee meeting of the outcomes of the Parish Plan Drop-In Session, itself verbally reported on to the March Meeting.

Two Parish Councillors, three members of the Parish Plan Committee, and Cllr Buckseall (as a flood warden) had attended the meeting, the main purpose of which was to set in motion the priority Parish Plan implementation activities.

The main discussion points were as follows:-

1. Flooding and drainage.

Cllr Buckseall spoke concerning flooding and drainage and the priorities for this issue were:-

- a) Absorb the detail of the NCC (flood) study, if possible before the AGM on 8.5.17
- b) A meeting relating to this issue to be arranged for week commencing 24.4.17
- c) Initiatives for Geddington and Little Oakley to be considered over the coming months, by December 2017 latest, which can then be discussed under spending proposals by the Parish Council for 2018-19
- d) Co-operation arrangements with the Borough Council concerning flood prevention to be improved
- e) Statutory Consultee status with Corby Borough Council concerning urban development proposals upstream of Little Oakley on Harper’s Brook to be sought

2. Improved facilities for teenagers and young adults.

A start can be made on this point, as several young people have expressed an interest in this issue

3. Securing the future of the Post Office/local retailing – a discussion group to meet centred on “keep the centre of Geddington alive”

Councillors agreed that any money left over from the £400 budget allocated for Parish Plan meetings/expenses, could be carried over to the next financial year.

Cllr Rowley reiterated that the named priorities must be actioned first.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 006/18: NCC public consultations – Consultation on the Northampton Northern Orbital Route and Northampton North-West Relief Road, 23.3.17
- 007/18: NCC public consultations – Library online use survey 2017, 23.3.17
- 008/18: NCC public consultations - Sensory Impairment Service Review
- 009/18: Northants CALC eUpdate - March/April 2017
- 010/18: Fire, Police and Highways newsletter “Safety Matters” – March 2017
- 011/18: George Massington, NCC (Kier) - Landowner Deposit ID306
- 012/18: *Newsletters.*

Weekly Email News Digest – 13.03.17, 20.3.17, 27.3.17, 3.4.17
 Rural Services Network – Rural Economy Spotlight, March 2017
 Rural Vulnerability Service - Rural Fuel Poverty, March 2017
 “ “ - Rural Transport, March 2017.

013/18: FINANCE

Account balances:-

Community account statement	as at 17.03.17	£4,353.59
Business Saver account	as at 17.10.16	£10,722.74

a) Accounts received

None.

b) Accounts for payment

CPRE	£36.00	Year’s membership, 5.5.17 – 4.5.18
Kettering Borough Council	£51.84	Inv. 5102233. Printing services – Parish Plan fliers and posters
Boughton Estates Ltd	£570.00	Inv BKINV26460. Playing field – rental period 30.9.16 – 29.3.17.
Boughton Estates Ltd	£0.05	Inv BKINV26657. Slade footpath – 25.3.17 – 24.3.18
Ncalc	£532.13	Inv 6201. Membership subscription, yr. ending 31.3.18

The accounts for payment were approved by Cllr Gordon, seconded by Cllr Wenbourne, all were in favour. Additionally, the approval included removal of the board in the Village Hall to have signage added as to the last few years of chairmanship of the Parish Council.

Two further payments for consideration had been received too late to be added to the April agenda (Geddington.net and T James Electrical). These will be carried forward to the May agenda.

Cllr Gordon explained the historical use of T James for the maintenance of the Queen Eleanor lights. The Parish Council was not obliged to use this firm; however, historically they had initially won the contract and had given 10 years of free servicing. An estimate of the cost of the maintenance is needed but not been received or any possible report as to the condition of the lights.

ACTION 4: Cllr Gordon will chase T James Electrical for provision of any missing documentation that is needed.

It was noted at this point that as regards to the padlocks (by the Queen Eleanor Cross) three people have keys to the two padlocks – The Star, Kettering Borough Council and English Heritage.

c) Transparency Fund application

The transparency fund application was successful, with £2039.99 being granted. This will now be utilised to ensure that the Parish Council meetings can become fully compliant with the Transparency Code. Cllr Gordon added that broadband in the Village Hall was very much needed

014/18: THE SAMUEL LEE CHARITY – Third representative for the charity needed.

Cllr Batchelor said that there were two interested parties, one of whom would need to be nominated by the time of the AGM.

015/18: ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION

a) Street lighting evening surveys.

It was stated that it is not the Parish Council’s responsibility to pay for the new lantern that is needed, as highlighted in the Borough Council’s evening survey.

b) CPRE Northamptonshire Road Show on Thursday 27th April at 6pm at Great Houghton Village Hall.

Councillors were reminded again of this event, but there is still no availability for attendance of it.

NEWTON

There were no issues raised relating to Newton.

LITTLE OAKLEY

Cllr Bailey thanked Cllr Hodkinson for ensuring the street lights were mended in Little Oakley.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH'S AGENDA/ AOB

Cllrs were reminded that on Monday 8th May, the Parish meeting (village meeting) will be held at 6.30pm, the AGM at 7.00pm, and the Parish Council monthly meeting at 7.30pm.

Cllr Berry wished to have reiterated the stance as to any potential development of the White Lion. The reiteration was:-

- It is not within the scope of the Parish Council to make any decision on this matter. It is a KBC decision.
- B & B facility. CBC have been using it for some time as emergency accommodation
- Main building – there has been no application submitted to KBC for any change of use. Planning has said that as nothing has been submitted, there is no comment to make on it.

ACTION 5: Cllr Rowley will ask an Enforcement Officer to make a visit to the White Lion.

ACTION 5: The clerk to add this issue to the May agenda.

There being no further business. The meeting closed at 9.21pm