

**GEDDINGTON, NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillor J Padwick, D Watson

**021/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**022/18 PUBLIC SESSION**

**a) Police Report / Crime figures**

There had been no crime reported for April 2017.

**b) Questions from the public**

Ten members of the public were present.

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

1. What is the proposed future use of the White Lion? Is it being used for homeless people?

This issue was raised by members of the public at the Parish Council April monthly meeting, and also within the Village (Parish) meeting immediately preceding the Parish Council monthly meeting. The replies were therefore very similar to those recorded for those meetings.

The information given by Cllr Batchelor was that the White Lion Bed and Breakfast facility is still operational, and Corby Borough Council 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.

Other questions raised were:-

*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.

2. Dog mess.

The state of the track between the top of Wood Street and the Brickyard Garden was said to be subject to an unacceptable level of dog mess. It was confirmed that it is a public highway, owned by NCC. Lynette Litman asked for the support of the Parish Council for a black bin to be placed the Brickyard Garden. She added that she was prepared to wheel it to the road barrier at the end of the track to enable it to be emptied by the Borough Council lorry

Other points raised:-

- Drawings by children relating to dog mess could be attached to the bin.
- The dog mess bags could be bone shaped.
- Dog mess bag holders could hang on the access gate with a sign saying "take one" and a bin being placed on/ by the Brickyard gate.

- Cllr Rowley said that he sits on the Environmental Cabinet for the KBC and he had just emailed the head of the department to see if this was feasible. If it was not, what else could be done to help with the problem?

**ACTION 1: Cllr Rowley will follow this up.**

Cllr Buckseall noted that dog mess should be picked up anywhere within the borough. Cllr Rowley said that the Borough Council dog warden needed to visit the area concerned.

**ACTION 2: Cllr Rowley will ask the Dog Warden to visit the area.**

Cllr Bailey said that any signage needs to be well thought out, both for wording and size. Lynette Litman said that she was happy to take on the responsibility of sorting out the signage and providing the bags, unless the system turned out to be abused.

**ACTION 3: it was agreed that there should be an agenda item for next month to discuss support/ a small amount of spend.**

Agenda item 9d) - Geddington Brickyard Garden "The Big Draw". PC/ small grant application help/support was then discussed within the public session.

The artist involved in "The Big Draw" project explained that the proposed art and drawings would be inspired by nature, trees and movement of people and this would be the legacy of the project. The total cost of the project would be approximately £2,250.00.

Brenda McCraith and Lynette Litman gave assurance that the event would be open to all residents in Geddington. It would be advertised as a family event for the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2017 in the next Newsletter.

They then explained that they were about to make an application for maintenance of the Brickyard, and they were unable to make two funding applications from the same source in the same financial year. The KBC Grants Officer had suggested that the Parish Council make the application rather than the Brickyard Garden.

Cllr Rowley pointed out that the Parish Council are also only able to make one funding grant application from the KBC Small Community Grant source a year. Additionally, it would not be allowed under the Parish Council's standing orders as the Parish Council has to obtain three quotes for any work that they commission.

After a discussion it was suggested that the application for a grant could be sent to the GVFB for their possible funding support. The contact email address for Mark Sharman (the Adjutant) was given for submission of the funding support request. Lynette Litman asked if the Parish Council would support the Brickyard Garden with their funding application to the GNFB. All councillors present indicated that they were in favour of their stated support being given. The three Brickyard Garden volunteers then thanked the councillors and left the meeting.

3. The factory site in Queen Street, Geddington.

Robert Wootton asked if there were any future plans being proposed for the old factory site in Queen Street. It was confirmed that no planning applications had been submitted. Robert Wootton added that it looked as though site clearance had taken place, as well as general clearing up.

**c) Reports from County and Borough Councillors**

i) County Council.

No report had been received. Cllr Rowley added that NCC had said goodbye to Jim Harker, and Victoria Perry had been elected following the County Council elections on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

**ACTION 4: Cllr Rowley said he would obtain the new contact details for Cllr Perry.**

## **023/18 RESIGNATION OF CLLR HODKINSON**

It was confirmed to councillors that the resignation letter from Cllr Hodkinson had reluctantly been received. Councillors were unanimous in their appreciation for the work Doug Hodkinson had carried out, particularly his thoroughness to all aspects of the Parish Plan work under the guidance of Cllr Padwick.

**ACTION 5: The clerk to write a thank you letter to Doug Hodkinson in reply to his resignation letter.**

## **024/18 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

- a) Approval of Parish Council monthly meeting Minutes – held 8<sup>th</sup> May 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 with the exception of Action 3. Feedback for actions was given:-

*8.5.17 ACTION 2 Cllr Rowley to speak to the councillor for Broughton to find out how they are getting on with the speed restrictions 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 confirmed that Broughton had purchased a £2,500.00 fixed system as they were not happy with the idea of a portable system. However the feedback was that residents were unsure whether it did slow drivers down and that they were not sure if they would purchase such a system again.

There was then a short discussion as to siting of a speed restriction system.

Cllr Rowley suggested that it might be practical at the moment to carry on exploring the issues involved with a portable system which could then be used for all three villages.

It was noted that speed restrictions are high on the Parish Plan requests.

*8.5.17 ACTION 3: Cllr Rowley will try to get other officers to come out relating to a Planning meeting that he has recently attended (relating to a Planning training session).*

This had not yet been carried out.

*8.5.17 ACTION 4: Cllr Gordon will chase T James Electrical for provision of any missing documentation that is needed (relating to the lights for the Queen Eleanor cross). An estimate of the cost of the maintenance has been sent by T James Electrical but not been received or any possible report as to the condition of the lights. This will be available for the next meeting. Cllr Gordon added that the job will be costly, at approximately £3,000.00.*

**ACTION 6:- The clerk to circulate the estimate in advance of the meeting.**

## **PLANNING**

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

*KET/2017/0128 Mrs Smithyman, 20 Bright Trees Road – single storey rear extension*  
Approved by KBC.

*KET/2017/0150 Mr P Eyre 6 Chase View Road, Extension to extend beyond the rear wall of the original property by 3.5m with a maximum height of 3.8m and eaves height of 2.7m*  
No consultation by KBC - this is householder permitted permit.

## **Update:-**

KET/2017/0173 and 0172 – Miss Longhurst, 13-14 Corby Road, Little Oakley. The Parish Council have previously approved this planning application. It went to the Planning Committee and is scheduled for a decision by 30.6.17.

Relating to the Stamford Road application, Cllr Rowley has checked, and if an employee has submitted the application it has to go to Committee, but this does not apply if a relative has done so.

### **b) Planning Applications**

Cllr Rowley abstained from taking part in this section of the meeting

*KET/2017/0289 Mr & Mrs Gibson 1 Bridge Street. Replace buff bricks with natural limestone to north and west elevations, and repointing of west elevation*

Approval was proposed by Cllr Batchelor, seconded by Cllr Berry. This was approved by all councillors present.

## **025/18: PARISH PLAN**

### **a) Note of Parish Plan Committee meeting 6th April, and update.**

It was noted that the planning application for the West of Corby development for 4500 houses had had a consultation with CBC last week. Item 3f) of the Parish Plan Committee notes of 6<sup>th</sup> April 2017 is to seek consultation. Councillors believed it was too late and that it was now with developers but it was worth asking CBC.

### **ACTION 7: The clerk to contact the CBC concerning the above request.**

Cllr Buckseall said that a voluntary group to concentrate on flooding issues would be desirable.

The Flood Tool Kit needs to be checked.

### **ACTION 8: Cllrs Buckseall and Batchelor will check the online “Flood Tool Kit.com.**

### **ACTION 9: Cllrs Berry and Rowley will turn the online Flood Tool Kit into a soft copy and put it on the website.**

Other Parish Plan issues/ updates. A meeting may be able to be held in the village hall in mid-May concerning the Post Office issues.

### **ACTION 10:-Cllr Batchelor will speak to Doug Hodgkinson and Cllr Padwick concerning a proposed meeting.**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

026/18. Network Rail – Piling work now scheduled for 17.5.17.

027/18 KBC – email inviting all councillors to a meeting 26.4.17.

028/18 *Newsletters.*

Weekly Email News Digest – 18.4.17, 24.4.17, 2.5.17.

Rural Housing Spotlight – 19.4.17

Extra correspondence had been received by Cllr Batchelor concerning road closure, from each end of the roundabout to the bypass. The clerk confirmed that she had not received this. Further correspondence received detailing dates and time for the mobile library bus will be pinned to the notice boards.

No comments were made relating to any of the above correspondence.

## 029/18: FINANCE

Community account statement	as at 13.04.17	£6,101.08
Business Saver account	as at 17.10.16	£10,722.74

### a) Accounts received

Grant received via Ncalc – transparency fund	£2,039.99
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### b) Accounts for payment

Geddington Community Website	£18.00	Sponsorship of the website for 1 year.
T.James Electrical Ltd	£374.40	Attend to/maintenance to lights by Queen Eleanor Cross

The first invoice for payment was proposed by Cllr Bachelor, seconded by Cllr Berry. Approved by all councillors with the exception of two abstentions following a query as to maintenance of the website. The second invoice was proposed by Cllr Gordon, seconded by Cllr Bailey, agreed by all councillors present.

### c) **Local groups invited to apply for Capital Community Grants – closing date is 26.5.17**

It was suggested that an outdoor gym in the park area of the recreation ground could be considered for grant funding as this was in the Village Plan.

Cllr Rushton suggested that a grant (if suitable) could be used to help fund the long term repairs that are needed for the lights by the Eleanor Cross.

The renovation and replanting of the Pond in the Meadow could be possibly funded via a grant from the Capital Community Fund, for community based projects. The last suggestion was proposed by Cllr Batchelor, seconded by Cllr Rushton.

**ACTION 11: Cllr Batchelor will access the relevant funding application to apply for funding for the Eleanor Cross lights.**

## 030/18: ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION

### a) **White Lion concerns.**

These had been discussed within the public session.

### b) **Bund inspection by Michael Chester - feedback.**

*Cllr Buckseall*

Cllr Buckseall reported that she had been on site when Michael Chester had inspected the attenuation bund at the top of Wood Street. The pins had been measured and it was noted that the height of one pin had dropped slightly. He had explained that the bund was to prevent storm water run-off, and to this end he had also measured the height of the rail by the drainage grid. Residents could judge what was the likelihood of storm water breaching the bund once they also know the height of the rail. It was agreed that the vegetation by the pipe opening needed regular clearance, and he would ask his team to come and cut the vegetation down. The farmer would be asked to keep the surrounding growth short.

### c) **Geddington Pumping station problems**

*Cllr Buckseall*

There had been a short discussion relating to this at the Parish meeting that was held prior to this meeting. It was noted that Anglian Water need to be contacted to fix overflow problems or any maintenance issues, whilst the Environmental Agency and Environmental Health are the contacts for the enforcement notices. Cllr Berry said that Anglian Water has a five year asset management programme. It would be helpful to know if the maintenance of the pumping station has been

flagged on this programme. Cllr Batchelor said that if residents can see a problem, they need to know who to contact to report it when there is a strong possibility that overflow waste has contravened the level of acceptability.

Cllr Buckseall enquired as to should visitors know about the possibility of sewage in the river and surrounding area on occasions. It was noted that there was a possibility that they should be informed. Cllr Buckseall also asked if the public reported any issues via a hot line or if not, how does one report matters?

Also noted that the Parish Council needs to know the number of times overflow of sewage has happened – a Freedom of Information request may be needed.

**ACTION 12: Cllr Berry will contact the Asset Manager to ascertain the information and come back to the Parish Council with an update and any further information.**

**d) Geddington Brickyard Garden “The Big Draw.” PC/ small grant application help/support.**

This had been discussed within the public session.

**NEWTON & LITTLE OAKLEY.**

There were no issues raised.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Cllr Rowley said that plants had been bought for the pond in the meadow by the GVFB. He will give a donation to the GVFB. Checks will also be made with the Newt experts that the planting time and the type of plants are fine for the pond and the newts.

**ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH’S AGENDA**

*There being no further business. The meeting closed at 9.19pm*