

GEDDINGTON, NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th DECEMBER 2017.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors N Batchelor (Chair), P Berry, P Goode, A Gordon, D Watson, T Bailey, S Wenbourne, J Padwick, C Buckseall.

APOLOGIES:

Cllr M Rowley.

104/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

105/18 PUBLIC SESSION

a) Police Report / Crime figures

The Police crime report figures were given, as per circulated in advance of the meeting.

Theft from motor vehicle

16/11/2017 17000500448 The Woodlands, locks forced to van tools stolen 16/11/2017

17000500635 Chase View road, locks forced to van tools stolen

17/11/2017 17000502184 The Woodlands, unknown suspects smash driver's side quarter window and remove items.

Criminal Damage to motor vehicle

17/11/2017 17000501298 Wood Street, known suspect, intoxicated randomly attacks parked vehicle causing damage (dents) to bonnet and f/ns door. Suspect arrested and given a caution.

Other theft

21/11/2017 17000506608 Hall Close, Theft of Air Ambulance clothes bag by person in unmarked white van shortly before legitimate collection van arrives.

Due to the increased theft from motor vehicles that have been occurring there have been increased patrols in Geddington and letter drops along with insecurity checks have been carried out. On several nights at the end of November officers from the Response team were able to utilise an unmarked car to patrol Geddington. No crime occurred on these nights, despite the officers being in unmarked cars.

Arson

30/11/2017 17000522534 Corby Road, Little Oakley

Fire started by unknown means but believed to be deliberate after consultation with the fire brigade.

No recorded crime for Newton.

Cllr Goode informed the meeting that the information that is coming from the official police source is not accurate. Two crimes that had taken place in November had not been reported by the Police. One crime showed Neighbourhood Watch reporting the colour of the van as red, the Police report records a white van. Cllr Watson commented that he had had a meeting with Inspector Mead, and it was a cut and paste method that was used which can lead to inaccuracies. He also relayed that reporting on crime to Parish Councils has to be bottom of the list for the Police because of resources.

Cllr Goode added that the Police UK site was only up to date to September. Additionally, two different months had been recorded in two different ways. 19 crimes are recorded on the red sheet he circulated, 16 on the second sheet. After a detailed discussion and examination of the two reports, it was concluded that several crimes do not tie up, and Kettering NHW report appears to be the most useful report.

Cllr Batchelor said that moving forward, the Parish Council would do what it can to support the NHW scheme, and a village NHW coordinator should improve matters further. Cllr Bailey added that the Police do send police to the area to carry out patrols if the number of crimes is higher than normal.

ACTION 1: Cllr Goode to copy the fuller versions of the sheets to the Clerk. ACTION 2: The two sheets to be sent to the Police (to Inspector Mead) so she can take ownership of it, and copied to NHW .

It was commented that it is important as to ownership of it as it is about confidence and faith in documents from the Police.

b) Questions from the public

Ann Whittlehurst from Little Oakley said she was concerned about flooding issues in Little Oakley. The Stanion side of Little Oakley floods from the brook (Harpers Brook) and the road, and hence into the cottage next door to her (owned by Boughton Estates). One foot of water regularly floods through the cottage then across her (Ann's) garden. Cllr Padwick said that Doug Hodgkinson had carried out a lot of research into this matter. He had been speaking to Doug recently, and flooding is on the action plan. The plan currently states that the Parish Council role will be to facilitate a meeting of the relevant landowners. Ann added that the brook rises by six feet in approximately 30 minutes. She has lived in Little Oakley for 20 years and it floods once or twice a year. Cllr Bailey thought that the flood water all originated from the fields as run-off. Cllr Batchelor commented that the flood action plan for Geddington was nearly finished, then the template would be given to Cllr Bailey for Little Oakley input. The material from Doug needed to be collated, then a letter should be sent to the Environment agency only, stating that residents are increasingly having problems with the flooding. Cllr Bailey thought the landowners needed to be contacted as well. Ann added that she has contacted the Environmental Agency but they have said that the landowners need to take some remedial action.

Cllr Buckseall said that there was not the detailed information on Little Oakley area like there was for Geddington.

The second concern raised was the high level of traffic, partly from the Great Oakley estates and at the time of the school runs. She said that traffic calming measures are needed at the A4300 end, where there is no bend to slow the traffic down. Cllr Batchelor said that the sign in Weekley was very expensive, and Geddington has had extra signage painted on the road as a traffic calming measure. Cllr Watson noted at this point that a de-briefing session was needed with Doug as he may have carried out some work in this field as well.

ACTION 3: The Clerk to forward the relevant traffic calming measures email that had been received from NCC a few months ago so that Little Oakley residents can decide if this is an option they would like to pursue.

c) Reports from County and Borough Councillors

County Council report.

Cllr Victoria Perry had sent her apologies: there was no report.

Borough Council.

Cllr Rowley had sent his apologies: he was in a meeting at KBC concerning the budget cuts and their likely impact. He had sent an update which was read out at the meeting. He said that most of his report would focus on the NCC proposed cuts, so he would tie in his report with agenda item 8 (NCC budget and libraries consultation).

106/18 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

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

The Minutes were approved by Cllr Berry, seconded by Cllr Wenbourne, agreed by all councillors present to be a true record.

b) Matters arising; outstanding actions.

c) Matters arising; outstanding actions.

Outstanding issues:-

“He also highlighted the poor state of road markings at the splitter island at the Poppies end of Rockingham Road. Re-marking and bar lines are needed to deflect traffic from going into incorrect lanes, with presently two lanes merging into one (Geddington to A14 area). It was acknowledged that this is a Highways matter”.

Raised within the public session. Street Doctor had been contacted, but the clerk believes that the acknowledgement only concerns re-painting of the lines.

ACTION 4: the clerk to check what the acknowledgement states and re-submit if necessary.

Potential training for planning applications. – Feedback and request has been made to KBC. - no dates have yet been received.

ACTION 5: This has been chased, no dates have been received, further chase to be carried out.

PLANNING

a) KBC Decision notices

KET/2017/0628 – Mr & Mrs White, 28 Grange Road, Geddington. This application for conversion of the former nurseys has been approved by KBC, but with stipulations stated. n

b) Planning Applications

KET/2017/0949 Mr D Bailey, Mayfield, 4 Corby Road, Little Oakley. Painting of windows, replacement of one window (listed building application)

No issues were raised, and Cllr Bailey commented that it was generally seen as an improvement. It was proposed by Cllr Gordon that no objection would be raised, seconded by Cllr Padwick, agreed by all councillors present.

107/18: PARISH PLAN - update

Cllr Padwick said that the issues were being looked at gradually, with a concentration on one issue each month. Cllr Wenbourne had been looking at street light issues, plus flooding and drainage issues. Cllrs Berry, Batchelor and Buckseall are all aware of what is happening with these issues.

The facilities for teenagers item is also progressing. As regards to broadband facilities, a consultation is currently taking place which will report back in March 2018. Cllr Watson added that it now appears that £250.00 will be offered to residents to put towards the cost for the homeowner to purchase their own broadband.

ACTION 6: Cllr Padwick to inform the clerk what item(s) need to go on the agenda concerning the Parish Plan ahead of the next meeting,

Cllr Batchelor asked what was happening about the Post Office and Pat. It was felt that the village shop is integral to the village.

ACTION 7: Cllr Padwick will speak to Pat.

108/18. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEETING HELD 07.12.17 - feedback

Cllr Batchelor reported that five Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators, four residents and six parish councillors had attended. A summary of the discussions was that police resources are stretched, there is a good community spirit in the three villages, and NHW is stagnant in some areas, but very good in others. Jane Calcott will write a neighbourhood watch article to go into the next newsletter. Cllr Batchelor is happy to put advice for residents together but for it to be signed off by Inspector Julie Mead.

The Parish Council's role is to help facilitate NHW to build it back up within the parish. Every two or three months a summary of crimes and actions by the Police would be useful. Cllr Goode was

disappointed that not all of the NHW coordinators had attended – the Newton and Little Oakley coordinators were present however.

Cllr Batchelor said that the scheme needed “re-booting” to be driven along. It is Jane’s role to drive it along, and possibly as part of this the NHW coordinators need to be reminded of their responsibilities. It is the Parish Council’s role to help to increase awareness of the NHW scheme.

RURAL FORUM QUARTERLY MEETING HELD 23.11.17 – report on discussions.

Cllr Watson reported that broadband issues were discussed but the focus of the meeting centred on the proposed cuts to the NCC budget. A County Councillor was present to explain the cuts, which would possibly affect buses, libraries, verge cutting and gritting. The proposed cuts to gritting would mean that grit bins would not be filled unless the Parish Council pays for them to be filled. However, NCC would install another grit bin if it was needed. Additional expenses such as this could have an impact on the precept. Cllr Padwick asked if parish councils would become more of a service provider. The general feeling was that it looks as if that may happen.

Cllr Goode added that we cannot carry out additional responsibilities until well after the next precept (2019/20). However, NCC may say they will not be carrying out the functions any more.

ACTION 8: Potential budget cuts and which items may affect the Parish Council to be added to the next agenda.

Another issue which also needs consideration is potential costs if funding a PCSO is an option.

Cllr Watson said that communication to villagers was needed as they should be aware of extra potential costs. The proposed article in the newsletter would help with this, and it should state that the Parish Council would welcome residents’ thoughts, including potential privatisation of services.

Other topics were raised – Police numbers and the new structure, plus the new offices.

It was also stated that KBC are looking at making Eskdail Street a two-way system again.

CORRESPONDENCE

109/18 CPRE Campaigns 17.11.17

110/18 Trading Standards newsletter November 2017

111/18 Notification of Parish mapping training (Ncalc) 22.11.17

112/18 Northants CALC eUpdate – Nov-Dec 2017

113/18 Email from Steven Mold, Police and Crime Commissioner “sponsoring a PCSO” 4.12.17alc,

114/18 Newsletters.

Weekly Rural News Digest 20.11.17

“ “ 27.11.17

4.12.17

Rural Services network – Rural Vulnerability Services November 2017

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

115/18: FINANCE

Community account statement	as at 17.11.17	£21,604.62
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Business Saver account	as at 17.11.17-	£10,726.76
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a) **Accounts received**

None

b) **Accounts for payment**

Northants CALC	£42.00	Inv. 6565 – Off to a flying start 15.11.17 Cllr Goode
SLCC	£100.00	Membership renewal 12 months from Dec 2017
Parish Clerk	£969.20	Salary ¼ yr Oct – Dec 17
“ “	£242.20	PAYE Oct – Dec 17 already paid to HMRC on AC's debit card
“ “	£60.00	Agreed ¼ ly depreciation Oct – Dec 17
“ “	£10.70	Expenses - £2.76 NHW meeting refreshments, £6.72 & £1.22 stamps.

Accounts for payment were agreed, proposed by Cllr Gordon, seconded by Cllr Goode. Agreed by all councillors present.

- c) A letter has been received from the Bowls Club relating to the maintenance work needed to the path by the Tennis Club. Cllr Watson suggested that Neil Price could be contacted to obtain a quotation for having the slabs lifted and re-laid.

ACTION 9: The clerk to contact Neil Price for a quotation.

ACTION 10: The clerk to find the lease for the Bowling Club and send to Cllr Bailey.

- d) **Geddington Defibrillator – funding information/ request email received from Louise Chambers and Kerry Audis.**

The letter that had been received concerning the defibrillator had been circulated to councillors in advance of the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Watson that the Parish Council underwrite any outstanding money for the defibrillator. Seconded by Cllr Berry. Agreed by all councillors present.

- e) **I.T. equipment for village hall – quotation/ provisional order.**

To be discussed at the January meeting.

- f) **Notice boards/ costings for notice boards**

Costings for three quotations were given and any differences as to the specific models explained. After a short discussion councillors agreed that the Parish Notice Board Company seemed to be the best option. Cllr Padwick therefore proposed that notice boards for Geddington and Newton be ordered. Seconded by Cllr Buckseall, agreed by all councillors present.

ACTION 11: The clerk to order the above.

- g) **PC budget for 2018-19 and Precept 2018/19 further discussion, to include Parish Plan capital projects, commitments and potential commitments.**

Councillors decided to discuss the above two agenda items together. They were informed that the January meeting would be the final discussion on issues relating to the precept. Cllr Batchelor asked if the proposals for projects could be ready for the February meeting to help with budgetary requirements.

116/18: ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

- a) **Flood Plan and Timeline – update.**

It was decided that this would be discussed at the January meeting.

- b) **Wildlife pool update – scope of work approved by The Woodland & Wildlife Trust.**

Thanks were given to Cllr Berry for producing an excellent report. It was noted that the working group that had been previously formed needed to know that such a report had been

written. Simon Club will carry out the agreed maintenance work, together with just a few people. A path needs to be cut down to the river, weed cutback carried out and enhancement of the area. PC Aston will be invited to be present when the work is carried out, which Cllr Berry is happy to coordinate. Cllr Padwick re-iterated that the instructions issued by the Woodland and Wildlife Trust need to be seen to be followed, and wondered if the letter should be put on the website. Cllr Buckseall said that the people working on the pool maintenance should ideally be the pond group, as if it was opened to the public too many people may offer to help. She thought that putting an article in the newsletter would be good to tell people what was happening. Cllr Goode agreed – that it would give visibility to it to relay people’s concerns. Cllr Wenbourne asked why the Parish Council did not let it go back to how it was prior to the recent maintenance work.

Cllr Goode thought that the Parish Council should authorise the work as stated in the report to be carried out. Cllr Buckseall reiterated that the pond group should be informed, and invite those persons who did the previous work.

ACTION 12: Cllr Buckseall will email the report to the pond group by the end of the week, and it will go on the website as soon as possible.

It was also agreed that Cllr Berry should take the lead on the work.

Cllr Padwick proposed that the work was organized to be carried out, and the background explaining the maintenance work to be included in an article for the newsletter. Seconded by Cllr Buckseall. Seven councillors approved of the proposal, one was against and there was one abstention.

c) Lighting issues in Geddington

Cllr Padwick reminded councillors that this issue was included in the Parish Plan. West Street was particularly bad, but the poorly lit areas were all identified and documented. Cllr Padwick then highlighted various lighting issues in some of the areas of Geddington. He thought it would be useful if a walkabout took place in the evening similar to the one carried out in 2016. However, the issue is difficult because if any progress is made for street lights the Parish Council will be looked at as being the lighting authority.

ACTION 13: Cllr Padwick to organize a walkabout in January.

Additionally, it may be worth considering producing a roughly mapped plan of areas where lighting is needed, to send to KBC to get a rough quote of likely costings.

NEWTON

No issues raised.

LITTLE OAKLEY

a) The village telephone box:

Cllr Bailey said that the indication amongst residents in Little Oakley was that they would like to see a defibrillator in the Little Oakley BT telephone box. He was informed that grants are currently available for installation of defibrillators, and the instigators of the Geddington defibrillator should be approached for details.

ACTION 14: The clerk to provide the contact details.

b) Flooding.

Cllr Bailey asked for confirmation that the flooding issues in Little Oakley will be included in the flooding programme that is currently being compiled. He was assured that they will be.

c) Drains

Cllr Bailey informed the councillors that one of the drains in Little Oakley does not get cleared by contractors. The Council will not clear it as it is off the highway. Cllr Bailey was advised to

contact the relevant person at KBC, but via Customer Services.

d) Traffic calming

This had been discussed within the public session.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH'S AGENDA / AOB

No issues were raised.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10.00pm.