

GEDDINGTON, NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th APRIL 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors N Batchelor (Chair), P Goode, C Buckseall, A Gordon, J Padwick, D Rushton, S Wenbourne, P Berry,

APOLOGIES:

Councillors M Rowley and D Watson

158/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

159/18 CO-OPTION

The co-option item to now be removed from the agenda.

160/18 PUBLIC SESSION

Cllr Victoria Perry arrived at 7.37pm. No other members of the public were present.

a) Police Report / Crime figures

The clerk reported that the police crime figures on the Police.UK website are as follows:-

Feb. 2018 - Geddington

1 x ASB - crime on or near Queen Street.

1 x theft - " " Kettering Road - No suspect identified.

Feb. 2018 - Little Oakley

1 x violence/ sexual offences - on or near park/open space - under investigation.

Cllr Goode commented that any ASB or violence/ sexual offences will not be showing on the NHW report. Additionally, the theft in Kettering Road did not happen.

Cllr Padwick had circulated in advance of the meeting crime figures in a report entitled "Hidden Needs of Northamptonshire", dated 2016. He queried why Kettering scored higher in most of the categories, more than any other town in the county, especially when compared with the Northampton average. The perception would be that Corby figures would be higher than Kettering. However, it was acknowledged within the meeting that the figures may have improved somewhat from 2016.

b) Questions from the public

No members of the public were present.

c) Reports from County and Borough Councillors

Borough Council report.

Cllr Rowley had sent a report to Cllr Batchelor. He said that the Newton Field Centre looked as if it would be wound down at the end of July. The committee were now looking at options for the building.

Boughton Estates will not be renewing some leases for dwellings. This is as a result of possible land reform legislation. The Scottish government is seeing this go through parliament at the present time and the legislation may then be taken up by this government. It was noted by Cllr Berry that some of the tenants may not be able to afford any other rented property. He added that Boughton Estates rely on the villages for goodwill, for example for the lorries coming through the villages, the Greenbelt festival etc., and they should not be treated like any other commercial landlord. Cllr Padwick felt that there should be some kind of relationship between the villages and the Estate. He added that we may disagree on some issues but it helps to ensure that there is a good social mix of people living locally. Some tenants may have been in the properties for a long time, and we have a responsibility to ensure that they are aware of the legal position. It was noted that there has not been a representative from Boughton Estates for several months.

ACTION 1: The clerk to write to Boughton Estates to request their attendance at the May monthly meeting , to ask why this is happening and what support will be given to residents.

It was also pointed out that if there is land reform, the Parish Council currently leases the recreation field and village hall area from Boughton Estates.

County Council report.

Cllr Victoria Perry entered the meeting as the Borough Council report was being read, so gave the County Council report when it was finished.

She explained that NCC changes have been voted upon, and now need to be acted upon although they should have happened some years ago. The Commissioners will be coming in, by the end of April, but it is not known yet if it will be light touch, or if they will stop every service apart from statutory services. One of the ideas is that possibly two unitary authorities could be considered, for the north and the south of the county. Their work would then have to absorb everything that both the County and the borough councils currently do, including Children & Young People and Adult Social Care responsibilities.

She added that changes might result in Kettering, Wellingborough and Corby having Town Councils created. It may also result in possibly more work for parish councils as some activities would be too small for any resulting town councils. This may result in a move to a more local focus. She warned however that Bedfordshire was a unitary authority now, but the CYP services were still not transferred fully over – it is a long and complex process.

Cllr Padwick asked what the new time scale was – is it still 2020? And is the proposal that there will be 45 councillors accurate? Cllr Perry said that the borough and district councils have been invited to put forward their proposals, and they are meeting this week. Boundaries may be re-drawn, and a full public consultation will be carried out.

Cllr Padwick thought that some positive things may come out of this, such as aspiration levels in the south of the County compared to the lower levels in the north.

Cllr Perry then confirmed that pot holes were only being filled in if they are category 1 where the holes are very deep. The Government has announced an additional £700,000 for Northamptonshire to help to tackle the problem.

Cllr Batchelor commented that the current lines on the Rockingham Road roundabout are so bad that somebody will get killed.

ACTION 2: The clerk to contact Sarah Barnwell or Ian Boyes to ask for a date as to when the re-painting of the lines will take place.

161/18 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

a) Approval of Parish Council monthly meeting Minutes – held 12th March 2018.

The Minutes were approved by Cllr Padwick, seconded by Cllr Buckseall, agreed by all councillors present to be a true record pending the stated corrections needed.

b) Matters arising; outstanding actions.

Action 1 (12.3.18): (Jane Calcott (NHW Co-Ordinator) to be contacted concerning NHW - any interest shown.

Cllr Batchelor will follow this up.

Action 5 (12.3.18): The Clerk to write to the Cricket Club asking if they are happy to give formal assent that the Village Hall can use their connection. It would however need to be switched on permanently with one or two councillors needing to know the password.

The reply given by the Cricket Club was relayed: Cllr Rushton believed that the Cricket Club was saying that there should be two lines because they have paid for their line. Cllr Gordon noted however that it has been used previously.

ACTION 3: The Clerk to add this issue to the May agenda – does the Parish Council put broadband in the Village Hall or not?

ACTION 4: Cllrs Batchelor, Rowley and Rushton to have a discussion before the next meeting.

Action 6 (12.3.18): The Clerk to write to Ian Boyes or Sarah Barnwell to find out if the double yellow lines in the village are legal yet.

This action is outstanding. (Note: email sent on 11.4.18)

Actions 7 & 8 (12.3.18): Concerning the Newton entrance improvements documentation and feasibility study to be brought to the meeting by Cllr Rowley, and the template to be provided by Cllr Batchelor.

The template has been sent to Cllrs Rowley and Goode, to read through and make comments.

Action 14 (12.3.18): Cllr Buckseall will put the written procedures for flooding issues into the draft Local Flood Plan.

Cllr Buckseall updated that this had been done and it would be sent to Cllr Berry in the next day or two.

Action 16 (12.3.18): It was noted at this stage that no reply has been received to the letter sent to the Bowls Club Secretary (Mrs Jo Johns).

ACTION 5: No reply has been received – the letter to be re-sent to Bob Austin.

Action 17 (12.3.18): The Clerk to write a letter to the Youth Club and send it to Cllr Batchelor.

This action is outstanding.

Item b) under AOB (12.3.18) item water surge problem in Bridge Street.

A discussion took place at this point. Was the Parish Council happy with what happens when there is heavy rain, concerning the flow of water and then narrowness of the pipes? Cllr Berry said that a camera is needed to see what is in the pipes – is there a blockage? He added that one pipe was not running full bore. Cllr Padwick felt that concerns are being raised but Customer Services do not help at all.

On correcting a typing error in the March Minutes concerning the Village Hall, the issue of dogs in the recreation ground was raised. A notice is sited in the recreation field area, but one councillor thought that the Parish Council should be seen to be doing something as regards to the number of dogs off their leads and therefore able to bite somebody. It was felt that it needs to be seen that the Parish Council are actively discouraging the non-use of dog leads and be aware of a legal liability.

ACTION 6: This item to be discussed at the next meeting as part of the Parish Plan PLANNING

a) KBC Decision notices

KET/2018/0129 - Mr & Mrs Temple, 4-10 Newton Road (land rear of), Geddington – non-material amendment. Approved. .

KET/2017/0491 (Demolition of garages and shed and erection of 1 no. bungalow): Footprint reduced and minor glazing revisions Approved.

b) Planning Applications

KET/2018/0187, Mr & Mrs D Hunter, 6 Queen Eleanor Road, Geddington.

Replace flat roof with pitched roof and increase height of chimney.

After a very short discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Goode that the Parish Council gave full support to the application. Seconded by Cllr Berry, all the councillors present were in agreement.

162/18: PARISH PLAN

a) Traffic issues.

The traffic issues template was circulated.

The Newton village entrance. Cllr Rowley is putting together the proposal for it to be considered. The proposals for each of the main projects all need to be completed so that the main project over the next two – three years can be finalised.

Parking issues. There was a short discussion concerning the 20 mph zone, 40 mph speeding issues in Newton Road, and its impact on the Newton village entrance.

The parking on the corner of Grange Road and Skeffington Close was also raised, with parking on the corner considered to be dangerous, and parking on the grass verges ruining the grassed areas.

ACTION 7: The Clerk to check with Sarah Barnwell as to is verge parking not illegal and therefore would double yellow lines not be considered.

Cllr Padwick said that the Parish Plan Committee is keeping this under continuous review, with the potential solution of hard standing parking areas within the grass verge area. It was noted that KBC own the verges, NCC are responsible for the roads.

He asked if this is a big problem for this area. Cllr Berry said that it was a visibility issue, it looks such a mess. Cllr Batchelor thought it might encourage more residents to park in that area if hard standing places were provided. Cllr Goode thought that parking so close to the corner was dangerous. Cllr Berry agreed that there was a visibility issue.

ACTION 8: The Clerk to contact KBC to seek knowledge and advice as to the possibility of providing hard standing areas within the grassed verges and would that legitimise parking close to the corner.

ACTION 9: The clerk to also chase as to is there a date yet for the re-painting of the yellow lines and can they be enforced yet?

Parking adjacent to the Village Hall was raised. There is increasing community use of the area with the resulting increase in parking required. Cllr Padwick noted that the Parish Plan refers to 20mph area required, but the plan was adopted before the 20mph signs were put on the rounders, so this has effectively already been actioned.

ACTION 10: Cllr Padwick will talk to the secretary at the school, with the idea that publicity could be generated if some posters could be devised and then be displayed.

It was said that NCC are looking at Newton Road with a view to extending the 30mph limit to approximately 100 yards past Newton and the Little Oakley Road junction. An option to consider a “village gate” or alternative low cost measures is within the Parish Plan document, so extending the 30mph limit would fit into this category.

b) Review of flooding.

Cllr Berry stated that in the heavy rain of a few days ago that one pipe was running at full capacity, the second one was not.

ACTION 11: Cllr Berry will look at the draft version flood plan once he receives it from Cllr Buckseall.

ACTION 12: The Clerk to ask Anglian Water for a definitive explanation as to the flooding event of 10.4.18. Was there a diagnosis of the day and what are Anglian Water planning to put in place for the future? A simple plan of the pipe work to be requested as well. To be viewed / have input by Cllrs Batchelor and Berry before being sent.

163/18. AGM

It was decided that as last year, the AGM would be preceded by the Parish Meeting at 6.30pm, the AGM would be at 7.00pm, and the monthly Parish Council meeting would be at 7.30pm.

Cllr Batchelor said that if anyone would like to relinquish a role or take on a role, could they let him know prior to the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

164/18: Alert@neighbourhood alert – Crime prevention advice 8.3.18
165/18 “ “ “ “ “ “ 9.3.18
166/18 “ “ “ - “ “ “ 10.3.18
167/18 CPRE campaigns – Planning and farming – 14.3.18
168/18: Emily Evans – Meeting with Stephen Mold (PCC for Nptonshire) 16.3.18
169/18: David Pope – Rural Forum draft minutes 19.3.18
170/18: Anne Kirkland (Ncalc) – Training courses 2.3.18
171/18: Danny Moody (Ncalc) – Ncalc E Update 29.3.18
172/18: Janet Jones – Geddington Community website 31.3.18
173/18: Newsletters.
Weekly Rural News Digest 19.3.18
Rural Services network – 7.3.18

Councillors commented that they were appreciative of 171/18 - the email received from Janet Jones informing of one year fee-free for the community newsletter. They expressed a wish to avail themselves of the offer. Proposed by

ACTION 13: The Clerk to send an email to Janet Jones expressing the wish to take up the offer.

174/18: FINANCE

Community account statement	as at 16.3.18	£17,308.17
Business Saver account	as at 16.3.18	£10,733.99

a) Accounts received

none

b) Accounts for payment

Geddington Village Hall	£157.50	Hire of lounge for PC meetings 2018 1st half year fee.
Northants CALC	£49.00	Data Protection –27.3.18
Northants CALC	£36.00	Preparing for year end audit – 6.3.18
CPRE	£36.00	Membership for 2018.
Boughton Estates Ltd	£570.00	Rental of playing field 30.9.17 – 29.3.18
Boughton Estates Ltd	£0.05	Slade footpath 25.3.18 – 24.3.19

The above payments to be authorised – proposed by Cllr Berry, seconded by Cllr Gordon. Agreed by all councilors present.

c) Financial Standing Orders – to be reviewed in April prior to the AGM.

The Financial Regulations had been circulated in advance for reviewing purposes. All councillors agreed that the Financial Regulations were still valid, but the numbering of items to be corrected.

ACTION 14: The Clerk to send the Financial Regulations document to Cllr Rushton for conversion to Word.

175/18: GDPR

a) Discussion on resulting action needed.

b) Use of cllrs' own email addresses.

It was decided that a sub-committee should meet to determine what needed to be done to meet the requirements or be working to meet the requirements of GDPR by 25th May 2018.

The sub-committee will be comprised of Cllrs Batchelor, Rushton, Goode, Rowley and the clerk. The meeting to take place within 10 – 14 days.

176/18. ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

a) Village Hall – insurance documents and protocol for any summer events.

Cllr Gordon said that the necessary actions for ensuring the insurance documents for the Cricket club event were in hand.

b) Contravention of food safety standards at the post-office in Geddington.

A discussion was raised regarding the issue, which had been brought to a councillor by two residents of the village. However, the extent of the Parish Council's involvement can only be to refer them the Environmental Health at KBC.

Councillors were reminded at this point that the Parish Plan lists "to support the concept of a Post Office in the village.

NEWTON

No issues

LITTLE OAKLEY

No issues

Items for next month's Agenda / AOB

Cllr Gordon raised the issue of the vagrant who was living in the Chase.

Cllr Batchelor had received a letter from Boughton Estates informing of felling of Ash trees in Geddington Chase. He has asked the relevant person to come and address the Parish Council at the May meeting.

John Doran's son has asked if a footpath can be named after his father. Councillors agreed that he had put a lot of work into the community, and he was a prominent person in the village.

ACTION 15: Cllr Batchelor will speak to Cllr Rowley regarding what would need to be carried out at Borough Council level.

Noted however that if a footpath in the Chase was named after him, it would be Boughton Estates who would need to be contacted.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.57pm.