

GEDDINGTON, NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th MAY 2020.

This was held as a virtual meeting – made necessary as a result of the coronavirus.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors N Batchelor (Chair), C Buckseall, T Bailey, Sue Wenbourne, P Goode, D Watson, M Rowley, J Padwick.

APOLOGIES:

Cllrs D Rushton, A Foulke.

104/20: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

105/20: PUBLIC SESSION.

No members of the public were present.

a) Questions sent in from the public.

No questions had been submitted.

b) Reports from County and Borough Councillors

There was no County Council report from Cllr Perry.

Cllr Rowley informed councillors that there had been tests carried out for running virtual meetings via Zoom. There will be a full Planning meeting using Zoom next week which will start to clear the backlog for the Planning Committee. Other virtual meetings are being planned.

106/20: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

a) Approval of Parish Council monthly meeting Minutes – held 9th March 2020.

It was proposed by Cllr Batchelor that the amended March minutes be approved.

Seconded by Cllr Goode, agreed by all councillors except for two councillors who were absent from the March meeting.

b) Approval of Parish Council monthly meeting Minutes – held 15th April 2020.

The number of members of the public present at the April virtual meeting was corrected. It was then proposed by Cllr Batchelor that the 15th April minutes be approved. Seconded by Cllr Goode, all councillors were in favour.

c) Matters arising; progress on agreed actions.

15.4.20: action 3: Interpreting the Ordnance Survey raw data for the two maps for Land Registry.

The clerk reported that this is ongoing with a local authority GIS officer currently working on the maps.

9.3.20 - action 2: Jitty issues - the jitty between Skeffington Close and New Road) -

Sarah Barnwell (NCC / Kier) has reported that the jitty has been examined; it is up to Highway standards (using their assessments) therefore Highways will not be doing any work in that area. Within the same feedback she also reported that she appreciated that the Borough Council may provide the street lights in parishes, and that for this Parish it was not the Parish Council's responsibility (this was a query as to the lighting column in the jitty). If a decision is made as to install a light, it is therefore sometimes the Borough Council's responsibility and sometimes the Parish Council's.

Other issues Sarah Barnwell highlighted were that the jitty is classed as a right of way, for which the regulations are different to a Highway. Cllr Batchelor confirmed that Land Registry will confirm who is the owner of the jitty.

10.2.20 action 11: Quotation is needed for a light that is out on the far side of the Village Hall car park. It is fixed to a wall, but it is a Parish Council responsibility as the electricity supply cable goes to the village hall.

This action is currently on hold due to the coronavirus (the electrician is not working at present).

ACTION 1: The clerk to contact the electrician again.

Action 9: Cllr Buckseall will circulate the planning application and elevations to all councillors.

Cllr Wenbourne confirmed that the house that was in question is part of the housing development where the printing works used to be.

9.3.20 action 13: The clerk to contact Barclays Bank as the additional signatory for the bank cheques has still not been added.

The clerk reported on her contact with Barclays Bank, and had been informed that the correct paperwork had been handed in and marked as correct, but it had not been uploaded into the system. Cllr Watson had offered to contact a particular person at the bank and was informed as to the paperwork not being uploaded on to the system, and that scanned copies are deleted after 60 days.

ACTION 2: a new mandate to be sent / given to Cllr Goode.

15.4.20, action 8: the clerk to forward Rachael G-B's return email to those councillors who will attend the new meeting (concerning the Newton turn).

Cllr Rowley informed the meeting that he had emails relevant to this issue from 2015 and 2016 which he would forward to the Clerk.

ACTION 3: The clerk to circulate the emails once received.

9.4.20 action 16: Cllr Batchelor will draft a letter and circulate it to all councillors (concerning the Post Office).

There was some discussion as to was it still relevant to send the letter in the present climate with the pandemic, and if so, should it be delivered by hand, posted or combined with a meeting. It was generally felt that any course that the Parish Council decided on would be criticized so the Parish Council should proceed with the action that it had previously decided on. It was felt however that the issues raised were of a sensitive nature, and should therefore be dealt with in a correspondingly sensitive way.

ACTION 4: Cllr Batchelor proposed that the letter be hand delivered to the Post Office by Cllr Padwick, with possibly an accompanying sensitive conversation. Seconded by Cllr Goode, agreed by all councillors present.

15.4.20, action 6: A further letter to the resident to be written (to consider at the back of the school for car parking).

This letter has been written.

11.5.20, action 10: The Clerk to write to the Gardening Club asking them if they wish to plant a replacement tree and to come back to the Parish Council if they do want to plant a tree, possibly elsewhere in the recreation field.

This has been written. Cllr Batchelor wished to add that he will remove the plaque and keep it safe.

11.5.20, action 11: (Gigaclear issues) The clerk to contact Liz Faulkner (and Network Buildcare) and NCC to find out what was happening with Newton broadband.

PLANNING

Cllr Rowley did not take part in this agenda item.

a) KBC Decision notices

KET/2019/0596, Mr B Mann, The White Lion, 38 Queen Street, Geddington.

Conversion of former public house into a dwelling with single storey rear extension

Full Application.

Approved

b) Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to discuss.

107/20: PARISH PLAN - Newton Entrance – to review any response from Boughton Estates and decide next steps.

A meeting suggestion has been sent to Rachael Gladstone-Brown.

ACTION 5: The clerk to also phone Boughton Estates to urge a meeting.

108/20: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND CIRCULATED – to note or comment on.

A resident has suggested that the unapproved minutes in draft format be published within a week or two. Cllr Rowley commented that it can cause problems when they are published before being approved. Cllr Padwick also added that technically they are not agreed until approved and publishing them prior to being approved has caused problems in the past. KBC have their minutes for approval as part of the following month's agenda. They are only the clerk's notes until they are approved.

There were no other comments for any of the correspondence that had been received.

109/20: RISK ASSESSMENTS REGISTER

This is a legal requirement. Noted that it has previously included 13 benches, two bus stops and the Stonepit land.

Cllr Goode added that, despite the statement in the register that a review of the fencing for the playground equipment is needed, there is in fact no fencing in place. It was commented that this needs to be a very reactive document.

ACTION 6: The clerk to circulate the risk assessment register that can be added to/ amended, before the next meeting. This will also be an agenda item at the next meeting.

110/20: ENVIRONMENT.

a) Recreation Area and Berm – review whether further deterrent measures needed

i) How effective was the coronavirus signage?

Cllr Padwick commented that once the signs were in place a clear message was delivered. Some people were still using the berm however.

The biggest problem is the cycle area where young people are still congregating. It was commented that the skate parks in Kettering are currently closed which is generating more youths coming to Geddington.

After a further discussion it was decided that putting a further coronavirus sign up on the field just before the wood would give anyone in that vicinity all the up to date information for what was currently allowed.

- ii) Does the new coronavirus announcement alter anything?
This was included in the above discussion.

b) The berm gate to rear of recreation field – repair needed.

ACTION 7: Cllr Rowley offered to carry out the repair.

c) Potential for grants for car park extension

Ncalc have sent out a list of grants available within the last few months. Additionally, Mick George (Wren) still currently accept grant applications.

ACTION 8: The clerk to find the last newsletter containing the grant information and forward it to councillors.

The clerk confirmed that an invitation to three companies had been sent out, as per the financial regulations as the outlay will be over £10,000.00. it was also noted that a credit check for any company needs to be carried out for this level of monetary outlay. If any company responds the Village Hall Management Committee are happy to give them a site visit.

ACTION 9: The clerk to send the tender for the Village Hall car park extension to Cllr Rowley for inspection.

Cllr Watson wished to check who was carrying out the project. He was informed that the Village Hall will assist with any role that the Parish Council wishes it to but they are not driving it, that is the Parish Council's role.

111/20: FINANCE

a) Bank statements.

Community account statement	as at 17.4.20	£54,614.45
Business Saver account	as at 17.4.20	£10,775.29

b) Accounts received - £20,000.00. Precept payment 2020/21

c) Accounts for payment :

Geddington village hall	£78.75	Use of lounge Jan Feb Mar 2020
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This cheque has been returned by the bank, I have collected it from B Leaton, a replacement cheque needs to be authorised.

It was agreed that all was in order and the authorisation had already been given for payment of the above invoice.

112/20: Discuss necessity for a ‘virtual PC meeting protocol’.

It was stated that the Parish Council has procedures for running its meetings, but is a protocol needed for virtual meetings? It was thought that this would be a positive step forward, in particular for meetings at which there could be a larger number of people involved or outside visitors.

If possible it would be of benefit if wording for the meeting protocol was circulated in advance of the June meeting with a view to finalising any changes at the next meeting.

ACTION 10: Cllr Padwick was happy to look at the document that had been circulated in advance of the May meeting, make any changes if needed, so that the document could be ratified at the July meeting.

113/20: Potential for post-Covid 19 celebratory occasion

Cllr Foulke had suggested discussion of this topic but had had to give apologies for his absence. It was thought that this topic should therefore wait until Cllr Foulke was present. Two questions were asked however – “does the Parish Council wish to initiate such a celebration” and “was the timing right for such a discussion as the end of it may still be a long way off”.

It was decided to discuss this issue at a later stage.

NEWTON

Cllr Watson said that the VE celebrations in Newton had been enjoyed, which they had combined with the completion of the refurbishment of the BT telephone box.

The only issues were ongoing – the broadband connection and the Newton junction traffic issues.

LITTLE OAKLEY

Cllr Bailey reported that Little Oakley had held a small VE celebration.

There were no issues to raise.

AOB

Cllr Rowley informed councillors that Richard Dorrington, the former vicar of Geddington, had sadly died today of cancer. Condolences were sent to his family.

Cllr Wenbourne stated that she had not heard anything yet from Gigaclear concerning making good the divots that their lorries had left.

ACTION 11 The clerk will raise this with Gigaclear again.

Cllr Rowley confirmed that the state of the main road through the village had now improved, with potholes filled on the main road, at the Weekley roundabout and on the Grafton Road by NCC.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 9.13pm.