

GEDDINGTON, NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8th JUNE 2020

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

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors N Batchelor (Chair), T Bailey, S Wenbourne, P Goode, D Watson, M Rowley, J Padwick, Adrian Foulke.

APOLOGIES:

Cllrs C Buckseall, D Rushton.

104/21: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Batchelor (planning application).

115/21: PUBLIC SESSION.

One member of the public was 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 a few planning meetings had taken place, as the Borough Council were trying to bring everything back to normal.

North Northants had its first shadow meeting last week, and there will be a cabinet meeting for North Northants Shadow Cabinet shortly.

Cllr Rowley then explained the make up of the Executive Committee, who have also had their first meeting this week.

116/21: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

a) Approval of Parish Council monthly meeting Minutes – held 11th May 2020.

It was proposed by Cllr Goode that the May minutes be approved. Seconded by Cllr Watson, agreed by all councillors with one exemption.

b) 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 new maps and form have been resubmitted to Land Registry. Cllr Bailey added that if they are not acceptable a local firm of solicitors will be able to carry out the work for an index map search.

11.5.20 action 1: The clerk to contact the electrician again (Village Hall car park light).

11.5.20: 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.

There has been no response to the letter. Noted by councillors that the Post Office is still closed. Cllr Rowley will try to determine if or when the Post Office will reopen. The post office function cannot be run from a different location so the risk is high that the facility will be lost.

Plaque by cut down tree in recreation field. This was going to be removed and stored by Cllr Batchelor to keep it safe. However, it is thought that the plaque has now been removed by another person.

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.

Gigaclear say that they will relay any information for Newton when anything is able to progress.

ACTION 1: The clerk to contact Gigaclear monthly to remind them of this.

ACTION 2: The clerk to forward the last email to NCC regarding Gigaclear to Cllr Rowley – the way forwards may be via NCC and their funding.

Replacement bracket for the gate between the recreation field and the berm. Cllr Rowley had replaced and fixed the broken lock. Two weeks later the bracket had been removed however.

ACTION 3: Cllr Rowley will fix the lock/bracket again.

Celebratory occasion – this was not added to the June agenda, it was agreed to add to the July agenda for discussion, as it was felt that the three villages had lost out a lot with all the summer fundraising activities having to be cancelled.

ACTION 4: The clerk to add this to the July agenda.

11.5.20 action 11: The clerk will raise this with Gigaclear again. Cllr Wenbourne stated that she had not heard anything yet from Gigaclear concerning making good the divots that their lorries had left.

ACTION 5: The clerk will give Cllr Wenbourne a contact number/ email to chase this.

c) Approval of Parish Council Annual Meeting Minutes – held 11th May 2020

It was proposed by Cllr Wenbourne that the minutes be approved pending the time being changed to a start time of 6.30pm. Seconded by Cllr Rowley, all councillors present were in favour.

d) Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

PLANNING

Cllr Rowley did not take part in this agenda item.

a) KBC Decision notices .

KET/2020/0246 - Ms A Hewes, 6 Grange Road, Geddington.

Single storey side extension

Full Application

Approved.

b) Planning applications for consideration

KET/2020/0171- Mrs J Richards, 17 Grafton Road, Geddington.

Replace windows with double glazed wooden units

Listed Building Consent Application

Details of the specification of windows was discussed. They would be in the same style as at present.

Cllr Padwick proposed that there was no objection to the application, seconded by Cllr Wenbourne, agreed by all councillors except for one abstention.

Cllr Batchelor did not take part in the following planning application discussion.

KET/2020/0311 - Mr Batchelor, 1 West Street, Geddington

Application for Listed Building Consent: Conversion of store to office with wall removal, installation of door and insulated plasterboard to external walls and ceiling. Open up chimney breast, removal of wall and floor lowering to kitchen with installation of breakfast bar and new units. Reopen fireplaces to living room, dining room and bedrooms 2 and 4 and install surrounds. Install stud walls and doors to kitchen, dressing room and en-suite. Remove stud walls to lobby, dining room and dressing room. Block up cupboard to bedroom 3 and reopen in corridor and install built-in wardrobes to bedrooms 3 and 4. Rehang bathroom door to open outwards and install laundry shoot. Secondary glazing to ground floor windows.

Noted that there is no additional floor space in the application and no changes to the exterior. Secondary double glazing is included, with the original windows remaining and the bars lining up as stated in the heritage statement.

Cllr Goode proposed that there is no reason to object to the application, seconded by Cllr Padwick, all councillors present were in favour except for one abstention.

Prior notification of a planning application had also been received from Larkfleet Homes, involving 26 affordable homes on land off Stamford Road. The application is not yet shown on the Kettering Borough Council Planning page however.

It was recognised that this will be a significant matter for discussion, with an extraordinary planning meeting possibly needed.

117/21 TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS TO VACANT ROLES.

Election of Vice Chairman – Cllr Goode was proposed by Cllr Padwick, seconded by Cllr Batchelor, all councillors present in favour

Lead for Road Safety – Cllr Foulke was proposed by Cllr Rowley, seconded by Cllr Padwick, all councillors present in favour.

Cllr Foulke had confirmed by email that he was happy to be the Neighbourhood Watch Parish representative (tentatively appointed at the May Annual meeting).

118/21. REPORT ON MEETING WITH BOUGHTON REGARDING NEWTON ENTRANCE.

Cllr Batchelor, Cllr Rowley and Cllr Padwick had attended a meeting with Boughton Estates. It was felt that it was a productive meeting. Rachael Gladstone Brown acknowledged that her perceptions had been wrong as to the span of land disappearing and also 45 metres of thick hedging disappearing.

There is a possibility that KBC would maintain the “verges”, with wild flowers possibly sown.

Rachael G-B has the plan and will speak to another person within Boughton Estates. Cllr Rowley added that he had recently spoken to the Duke’s son and that he also was going to speak to Rachael G-B. The land surveyor will be asked to survey the area. The councillors at the meeting had made it clear that they were not asking for the land to be given away, and the Parish Council will find a way to maintain the two small strips of land.

ACTION 6: The clerk to email Rachael G-B to see if she has managed to contact relevant persons.

At this stage Cllr Watson asked if the substantive issues could be discussed at an earlier stage in the meeting, as a huge amount of time (45 minutes) had been spent on “previous issues”.

119/21: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED OR CIRCULATED - to note or comment upon.

One email had been received from a resident. The issues raised will be dealt with under item 123/21: *Popular use of berm, brook and ford – litter, road and parking issues. To discuss and agree actions..*

Cllr Wenbourne asked if there had been any feedback from residents concerning removal of the Newton mirrors. Cllr Watson stated that there had been none.

120/21: FINANCE

a) Bank statements.

Community account statement	as at 15.5.20	£53,538.40
Business Saver account	as at 15.5.20	£10,775.29

b) Accounts received - none

c) Accounts for payment :

Parish Clerk – Anita Curtis	£1077.29	Salary Apr – Jun 2020
Parish Clerk – Anita Curtis	£60.00	Depreciation for equipment Apr - Jun 2020
Parish Clerk – Anita Curtis	£269.20	PAYE paid via AC's card to HMRC Apr - Jun 2020
Parish Clerk – Anita Curtis	£29.26	Expenses – £21.46 for printer ink for 2 qtrs, £7.80 postage, total £29.26.

c) Approval of accounts for 2019/20 .

This will be carried forward to the July meeting.

The clerk raised the possibility of using the option of online banking, as and when it is more convenient, going forward. It was noted that the Financial Regulations would need to be altered, and possibly the Standing Orders. Additionally, those councillors authorised to sign cheques would be authorised to agree online payments but may need instruction as to how to do this.

ACTION 7: The clerk to circulate the above for the July meeting.

121/21: RISK ASSESSMENTS REGISTER – for review.

A short discussion took place. Cllr Foulke commented that it is a document for the Parish Council which needs populating with dates and months. Cllr Goode added that the management of risk needs to be defined in proportion to the level of risk. Cllr Rowley added that fencing around the playground was put in when the playground equipment was installed, just in case there was a problem with dog fouling.

ACTION 8: Cllrs Foulke, Batchelor and Padwick will circulate a revised document before the next meeting.

122/21: ASSETS REGISTER - for review.

A councillor queried the accounts as to the asset value, as the same figure has been shown for several years. The Assets Register cannot be found; one councillor thought it may have been a hand written copy from several years ago.

Cllr Rowley said there may be a list of assets on the insurance policy, and does the assets Register have to list all the assets. The value of the assets can be obtained from the accounts, and the list of assets had been collated (by email) already by Cllr Rowley.

ACTION 9: The clerk to contact Jane Midlane (accountant) to ask what had been valued for the assets figure.

123/21: POPULAR USE OF BERM, BROOK AND FORD - litter, road and parking issues. To discuss and agree actions.

Comments were made as follows:-

It was agreed that there was an increase in litter and parking including parking in the ford.

Parking.

Extra signage for the existing car park was agreed to be needed, but inconsiderate car parking was also taking place.

Clarification of signage and costing were needed, plus a car park sign at the entrance to the village.

A complaint had been received from a resident in Grafton Road covering the above issues.

It was agreed that a Parking Management plan for what level of signage is needed would be beneficial.

ACTION 10: Cllr Foulke volunteered to source the locations, suggest relevant signage, how big signs should be and what they should say.

It was added that as regards to the above, the legality of what was proposed needed to be confirmed.

ACTION 11: Cllr Goode will forward the Highway Signage Regulations to Cllr Foulke.

Permission will also have to be obtained to put signage up on any lamp post owned by Highways.

Additionally, if people are parking badly or blocking the road, this should be reported by the observer to the Police.

Litter.

Cllr Rowley reported that the bins in place are the biggest bins, and that there are three bins within 30 metres of each other in the centre of the village.

KBC are looking at recycled material bins, but they seem to attract mixed waste.

A second bin might be needed in the teenage area: possibly one bin could be moved there. It was thought that another bin may help by the berm gate – proposed by Cllr Batchelor, seconded by Cllr Foulke, agreed by all those present.

ACTION 12: Cllr Rowley to request another bin in this area from KBC.

Concerning correspondence received, it was stated that people have a right to come down to the river. The Parish Council have not declared the village open to tourists, but they have started a project to significantly increase the signage for the village hall car park.

124/21: ENVIRONMENT

a) Adequacy of flood signage for the ford

This was not discussed at this meeting as there were time issues.

b) Possibility of grants for car park extension

A list of current possible grants had been circulated. There were three possibilities – the sports link, with no cut off date for an application, Wren grants and Mick George grants. The latter are determined and given quarterly for up to £35,000.

ACTION13: Cllr Goode said that he was happy to explore these options. Cllr Rowley proposed that he pursue funding opportunities for the car park extension. Seconded by Cllr Batchelor, all councillors present were in favour.

d) Stile by Nancy Moore Steps.

Boughton Estates indicated in a meeting at which Cllrs Batchelor and Goode were present that they were willing to pay for this. Cllr Goode has some quotes for the work, to cover the Nancy Moore Steps and the stile on the far side of the field.

VIRTUAL PC MEETING PROTOCOL - draft document for discussion/ amendments

This was parked at the present time.

NEWTON

AOB

One village resident had expressed interest in putting his name forward to be co-opted onto the Parish Council but the clerk confirmed that no application had been received. Cllr Padwick will find out if he is still interested.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 10.00pm.