

GEDDINGTON, NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 23rd NOVEMBER 2020.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors N Batchelor (Chair), P Goode, M Rowley, D Watson, D Rushton P Johnson.

171/21: APOLOGIES and DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

C Buckseall, T Bailey, J Padwick,

172/21: PUBLIC SESSION.

No members of the public were (virtually) present.

173/21: ANNUAL WAITING RESTRICTION REVIEW (PARKING) 2020-21 – Proposed introduction of double yellow lines to prevent parking (suggested by NCC/Kier) in Queen Street and Bridge Street. For discussion and comments submission.

A late notice of extension time for comments had been received but after the agenda had been made public.

Cllr Rowley confirmed that the request for consideration or possible suggestions for a solution to the parking issue in Queen Street had emanated from a parish councillor, as per the email he received from Kier. An assessment has been carried out, with a score indicator scoring highly (for potential; parking problems). It was confirmed that one councillor in July had as requested emailed Kier, although it was thought that only recommendations and suggestions for the problem were requested.

A map had been sent by Kier, showing that they were suggesting double yellow lines on both sides of the road in part of both Queen Street and Bridge Street.

Comments made: -

The proposals will make the situation worse.

The plan has little relevance to the village.

To have yellow lines on the opposite side of the houses (in the affected area) may work.

Bridge Street.

It moves the problem on – residents have to be considered and able to park their cars. They will park in Grafton Road instead.

The approach to the ford shows no yellow lines, but they are needed here.

Queen Street.

The “pinch point” area needs double yellow lines for a longer stretch than that shown on the plan.

Ten metres of the pinch point needs yellow lines, with the Café Oak side being preferred, but the total length in the proposals is 33 metres.

The discussion was summarised by stating that some yellow lines were acceptable, but the slipways to the ford need to be included, although the heritage aspect has to be considered. Single parking in Bridge Street is acceptable

Cllr Rowley said that as a Borough Councillor he would not be supporting the proposals that had been sent through.

Councillors were reminded that if people are parking illegally or inconsiderately, or obstructing the road, residents and councillors needed to telephone 101.

It was then noted that the further work needed in the Queen Street area would not be in time for the consultation process to be carried out and may be delayed for a year. It was decided to reference the additional work needed in Queen Street but it will not be shown on the plan.

ACTION1: Cllr Batchelor will mark up the map and send it to the clerk.

It was proposed by Cllr Batchelor that a summary of all the points raised and the re-marked map be sent to NCC/Kier before the new cut off date. Seconded by Cllr Goode, agreed by all those present.

PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS.

Cllr Rowley did not take part in this section of the agenda.

KET/2020/0738: Mr S Harberd, The Old School House, 4 Corby Road, Little Oakley.
Install cast iron guttering and downpipes to front.
Listed Building Consent Application.

Cllr Goode proposed that there be no objection to the application, seconded by Cllr Batchelor, approved by all councillors present except for one abstention.

Outstanding issues from Parish Council monthly meeting dated 9th November 2020.

174/21: ENVIRONMENT.

a) Repair of the fence at entrance to the recreation ground.

Cllr Goode had circulated photographs showing that the end post was not in the ground. Preventative maintenance was needed by possibly securing it with a stake. He added that he was happy to carry the maintenance work out himself if need be.

Cllr Goode therefore proposed that he should purchase a galvanised stake and repair the fence post. Seconded by Cllr Batchelor, approved by all councillors present.

b) Stonepit Land – Land Registry update.

The contents of an email sent by Cllr Bailey were conveyed to councillors. Cllr Bailey had suggested for the Council to leave it with him for review at the next meeting and to instruct solicitors if he feels it is appropriate, subject to referring back to the Chair if appropriate.

Cllr Rowley agreed with this line of reasoning. Thanks to be given to Cllr Bailey, and the process to be moved forward if possible. If a solicitor was asked for a quote as to costs he reminded the meeting that authorisation can be given up to £1000.00 which the clerk as the Responsible Finance Officer could authorise if it was essential to before the next meeting, or the spend could be authorised at the next meeting.

ACTION 2: Email to be sent to Cllr Bailey to thank him and convey the Council's thoughts.

c) The potential for the Bridge to be pedestrianised.

It was asked if there was a significant level of support for pedestrianisation.

Other questions asked: -

If it was pedestrianised could more parking be added around the bridge? It was stated that the only places to park were by residents' properties.

Has the idea been written about on Facebook and in the village newsletter?

This issue It has been raised on occasions over the years.

It tends to come mainly from parents with children using the bridge at school times.

There have been problems now and again with vehicles parking in the ford and on the bridge.

The bridge was built in 1260, why close it now? Walking and cycling are encouraged in the Traffic plan, but you can walk over it now and vehicles have the option of going through the ford instead.

Cllrs Johnson and Padwick had met up with the resident leading on traffic issues in the village, and added that closure of the bridge had been a well thought out idea.

If this topic was raised on Facebook there would be a skewed view as to comments received. It could be put in the newsletter as a simple yes or no answer to "this is what we are thinking of carrying out".

There has been no letter from a resident requesting it.

It was decided that there is not enough balanced demand to pursue this at this stage, and the issue should be dropped.

d) To agree design for additional village signage.

Kensigns had sent through various parking signs of different sizes, depending on where abouts in the village they were designed for. It was decided after a short discussion that some modifications were needed.

ACTION 3: "Progress on modification to signs" to be added to the December agenda.

e) Replacement of glass or Perspex for the Geddington notice board.

This had been damaged in the Summer and the company needs to be contacted. The backboard, Perspex and adhesive have been replaced previously, and the warranty needed to be reset from that period of time. Additionally, the frame is now also out of alignment.

Action 4: The clerk to contact them to inform them that the perspex seal has gone, and as a result the backing now needs replacing again. This is now a health and safety liability.

It was stated that one week was sufficient time for them to get back to the Parish Council. As councillors have now been made aware of the risk, it must be replaced or mended. It has now also been raised in a public forum.

Little Oakley

Cllr Bailey was not present, but no issues had been submitted.

AOB

Cllr Rowley raised two issues.

- a) Graffiti had been sprayed on the recreation ground play equipment and the teenage shelter. A resident had reported it on Facebook, bought some anti-graffiti paint themselves (the family) and then had spent time removing the graffiti.

ACTION 4: A letter of thanks to be sent to the family.

ACTION 5: The item to be added to the December agenda.

- b) Cllr Rowley had received a letter from Boughton Estates, stating that Rachael Gladstone-Brown was leaving at the end of November and informing the Council of the new contact name.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 8.50pm.