

GEDDINGTON NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13TH MAY 2013

Members present: Councillor K Barber, Chairman
Councillors T Bailey, A Gordon, P Hopkins, I Kelman
M Rowley and D Watson

Apologies: Councillors C Buckseall, K Harden and J Padwick
Borough Councillor J Bullock

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

PUBLIC MEETING

No matters were raised.

POLICE REPORT

10/14

The Police report was submitted via email to the Parish Clerk as follows:

April 2013

Newton – 1 theft of motor vehicle
Little Oakley – 0
Geddington – 1 burglary (dwelling)
 1 burglary (other)
 2 criminal damage
 2 theft/handling
 2 violence offences

PLANNING

No planning applications or approval notices were received.

Councillor Barber reported that Local Validation Requirements are going through and are open for inspection until June. The documents can be accessed via <http://consult.kettering.gov.uk/portal>. The Validation Requirements are basically a template to submit plans so that they are standard and understandable.

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MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th April 2013 were read confirmed and signed

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL ISSUES

11/14

Councillor Bullock submitted an email message to the Parish Council informing that the liner from the Village Hall waste bin has now been replaced.

There was no news on the 'Grafton Road' signs. It was therefore agreed that Councillor Bullock should be reminded that these need to be put up.

NORTHANTS COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES

No report.

YOUTH CLUB

No report.

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT AND PLAN

12/14

Councillor Padwick submitted a report to the Parish Council summarising the current state of the Parish Plan. The key points will be discussed amongst the four members of the Village Design Statement and Plan Committee.

Parking at the top of Grange Road and Skeffington Close, Geddington is still an issue. Councillor Barber reported that the County Council will be sending out an engineer to survey the area. He will also approach Boughton Estates about possibly using Loak's old yard for parking.

It was reported that the white lines in Queen Street have been put in the wrong place, i.e. they are not at the entrance to Chapel Lane to dissuade members of the public from blocking access for emergency vehicles. It was agreed that County Councillor Harker should be contacted regarding this.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

13/14

Councillors Barber, Harden and Watson held a Neighbourhood Watch meeting recently. 'Neighbourhood Watch' signs have now been put up.

NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY

14/14

Councillor Bailey reported that the redundant grit bin in Little Oakley has now been removed.

ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION

15/14

Councillor Rowley distributed a draft of the Flood Warden's Job Description, together with suggested amendments from Councillor Padwick. It was agreed that most of the changes appeared sensible. Councillor Padwick also has some leaflets to distribute to householders who are frequent victims of flooding. These will be passed to the Flood Warden.

Councillor Hopkins questioned whether there was adequate insurance cover for the Flood Warden and for the Parish Council in the event of any negligence claims. Councillor Rowley informed the Parish Council that the Environment Agency passed responsible for opening the floodgates on to the Parish Council provided there is a Flood Warden in place. At present the Flood Warden opens the gates if there is no risk of flooding and everything appears to be safe and closes them if there is any risk. Sarah Pask, the Flood Warden, is supported by Jerry Lee who covers in her absence.

It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should check cover with Zurich Municipal. A copy of the insurance document will also be forwarded to Councillor Bailey for his perusal.

VILLAGE HALL

16/14

Councillor Gordon reported that the Village Hall are looking to build a new sports facility for multiple sports use. Councillor Barber was asked to find out from the Borough Council whether the Parish Council could reclaim the VAT on behalf of the Village Hall. Having spoken to their auditors, the Borough Council representative informed Councillor Barber that it all hinged on whether the Parish Council own the Village Hall or not. If the Parish Council are not the owners, then they cannot reclaim the VAT. Councillor Hopkins confirmed that the Village Hall was passed to the Parish Council who are custodian trustees of the building. The Village Hall Management Committee run the Village Hall. They are responsible for the day to day running of the Village Hall. Councillor Bailey requested sight of documentation relating to this. Councillor Barber will look these out and Councillor Rowley will try to determine the VAT position. Councillor Watson stated that any advice obtained on reclaiming the VAT must be in writing since VAT on buildings is very complicated.

ROAD SAFETY

17/14

Councillor Hopkins complained about how the recent Garage Sale in the village had been organised. The Parish Council were not approached about the event which caused problems with parking. The whole event was arranged by the Friends of the Church. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Graham Brown in support of the event, but requesting that any future events should take into consideration traffic management plans and provision of adequate car parking.

LIGHTING AND FOOTPATHS

18/14

Councillor Barber reported that eight lights were deemed to be out at the last Parish Council meeting and one has gone out again. Councillor Watson informed the Parish Council that there had been complaints about the fact that lights are left on in Newton, but there are no plans to change this.

Councillor Bailey reported that on leaving Geddington, heading toward Corby, by the speed camera there is a pile of timber which appears to have been dumped. It was agreed that the County Council should be asked to remove this.

RURAL FORUM

No report.

CORRESPONDENCE

No further correspondence was received by the Parish Council.

Councillor Watson expressed concerns that the post delivery in Newton appeared to be rather erratic recently.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 pm

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ACCOUNTS

19/14

Community Account Statement as at 17.4.13	£13,611.06
Business Premium Account Statement as at 15.3.13	7,705.46

Accounts received

Geddington Youth Club	Stonepit Land rent	£150.00
Kettering Borough Council	Grant	4,520.00
	Precept	6,000.00

Accounts for payment

Sharon Baker	Secretarial services	(1544) £	35.00
CPRE	Annual subscription	(1545)	29.00
NCALC	Annual subscription	(1546)	322.80
Penny Farthing Ironwork Society of Local Council Clerks	Gate to Youth Club	(1547)	344.00
	Annual subscription	(1548)	75.00
D A Thompson	Village Sign stonework repair	(1549)	60.00

Councillor Rowley proposed and Councillor Gordon seconded that the above payments be made. All in favour.

Transfer of Funds

Councillor Watson proposed and Councillor Gordon seconded that the Parish Clerk should transfer the sum of £8000 from the current account to the Business Premium account. All in favour.

Flagstone repairs to the Village Hall

Councillor Gordon has recently obtained a quote for this work to be carried out in the sum of £510.00. It was proposed by Councillor Watson and seconded by Councillor Rowley that this work should be authorised. All in favour.

Councillor Hopkins suggested that in future additional quotes should be sourced from village and other businesses.

Clerk's salary

No further communication has been received on this.