

GEDDINGTON NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th FEBRUARY 2015.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors M Rowley (Chair), D Hodkinson, I Kelman, K Harden, D.Rushton, A Gordon, T Bailey, C Buckseall.

APOLOGIES: Councillors D Watson, J Padwick, P Hopkins, N Batchelor.

ALSO PRESENT: Two members of the public, PCSO Margaret Lawson.

095/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None

096/15 PUBLIC SESSION

a) Two representatives of the Geddington village defibrillator project gave some background information as to the project as a whole, and where it was now up to. The Community HeartBeat Trust is a national charity supporting community defibrillation, the two members of the public present were working with the Trust to secure a defibrillator for Geddington. They commented that a lot of communities have these now and they have been used. They reported that the GVFB had given the project a £2000 grant, with the Cricket Club and Bowls Club also contributing £25 each. The main issue now was the location for the defibrillator.

A picture of the equipment was handed to the councillors

A discussion as to siting of a defibrillator then took place, with the following comments being made:-

- Siting by the church wall. The church has given their permission, but there could be problems as the unit has to be kept warm. Cllr Kelman thought that English Heritage may not be happy with such a siting. However, the church and the periphery come under ecclesiastical for decisions to be made and the Diocese have said they are happy with it. Kettering Borough Council Planning Department have also said that it is an ecclesiastical decision. However, the unit is bright yellow, and it would need an electricity supply installing.
- Use of the telephone box – alternative uses for the red phone boxes are common now. The phone box is owned by BT and any change of use is subject to a 90 day consultation period. It was commented that in the last year 19 phone calls have been made. However, people still seem keen to keep the telephone box as mobile phones cannot always be used in Geddington because of the lack of reception. There would also be an insurance liability.
- Siting immediately by the Post Office – listed building consent would be needed.
- Siting within the grounds of the school. – The governors were not keen on this option.
- Further questions were asked as to ongoing costs for the telephone box option. The councillors were asked if they would be happy to take responsibility for the public liability insurance. The other costs will be any location costs and the electricity charges. .

Cllr Harden suggested that it may be worth considering two separate sitings, one for either end of the village, if additional fund raising is carried out.

After a prolonged discussion the decision was unanimous that there is a BT consultation, to change use of the telephone box to house a defibrillator, as part of the defibrillator project.

Cllr Bailey asked about the possibility of a defibrillator for Little Oakley. He was informed that it could be looked at if the funding was in place, there was already a decommissioned telephone box, and electricity charges could be sorted out.

b) PCSO Lawson commented on the five crime incidents that had been recorded in January 2015, expanding as to what they were. She added that the stealing of number plates was an ongoing problem, but it is

spasmodic. There was still a problem with school parking, but the cones that are put out are getting ruined – people run over them. Cllr Hodkinson added that Wood Street, parking at the junctions, is still bad. Newton Road still has problems, even on a Sunday. Cllr Rushton commented on the vehicles that always park at the end of Newton Road. PCSO Lawson said that the Police are aware of it.

097/15 MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

It was agreed that the Minutes would be accepted as a true record, with further clarification to be given in the Little Oakley update as to funding decisions (previously made) concerning the marquee.

An update was given as to progress of the action points, the clerk reported that actions awaiting replies are to be or have been chased.

CORRESPONDENCE

098/15 - Ncalc - Anne Kirkland – Ncalc training opportunities (*circulated 19.1.15*)

099/15 - Ncalc - Anne Kirkland – amendment to training calendar (*circulated 21.01.15*).

100/15 - Richard Jones (DSA group) – Flood resilience Pathfinder correspondence, arranging Geddington walk round (*circulated 19.01.15*)

101/15 - NCC Highways (Gary Thorp) Notification of section of road closure Stamford Road (*circulated 21.1.15*)

102/15 - Email from Spratton PC – notification of free WW1 history event (*circulated 21.1.15*)

103/15 - KBC work programme (*circulated 23.1.15*).

104/15 - Notification from CPRE – Litter pick awareness for village groups (*circulated 2.2.15*)

105/15 - Notification from Spinal Injuries Unit – charity event (*circulated 2.2.15*)

106/15 - Oakley Vale further phases – notification of consultation period (*circulated 2.2.15*)

107/15 - Trading Standards newsletter, issue eight (*circulated 2.2.15*)

108/15 - Northants CALC eUpdate (*circulated 2.2.15*)

109/15 - Kettering Borough Rural Forum, draft minutes of 27.11.14, agenda for 5.2.15.

Ref 108/15 - Cllr Hodkinson commented that the Ncalc updates were very useful, and back issues of the Ncalc booklets that are sent out should be given to new parish councillors for additional background information.

Ref 109/15 - Cllr Watson had given a report as to the Kettering Borough Rural Forum that he attended on 5th February 2015. The report had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The points observed and raised in the report were discussed by the councillors at some length.

Cllr Rowley commented at this stage that the May Parish Council meeting would have to be pushed back a week, because of the forthcoming elections. The times stated will still be 7.00pm and 7.30pm.

ACTION 1 – Clerk to inform Geddington.net

PLANNING

No planning applications have been lodged with KBC since the January Parish Council meeting.

a) Cllr Gordon reported the decisions made by KBC Planning for the following applications:-
KET/2014/0864 & 0804 - No objection to the first application, objection to the second application.

KET2014/0780&0783 (Priory Court – demolition of outbuildings and erection of single storey extension with garage). Refused.

KET/2014/016 (23 West Street – land adjacent - 1 x building.) Not decision made yet.

KET/2014/0469 (Stamford Rd – small holding) No decision made yet

Tree application commented upon on environmental issues: KEY2014/016 - 46A Queen Street – cut down Wellingtonia tree – can be cut down if no further correspondence is received up to 19th February 2015.

b) North Northamptonshire Core Strategy Consultation – discussion of key points

Cllr Hodkinson provided copies of the area to be discussed to ensure that there was clear visual guidance as to the areas under discussion.

Comments made were as follows:-

- From the Parish Council point of view, the relief road is the boundary for Great Oakley.
- Cllr Bailey commented that there could be a potential problem with any new access road from Oakley Grange to the railway line – it could affect traffic levels from Newton through to Geddington.
- Commented that the consultation document states that any single houses outside village boundaries are only to be allowed if they are for agricultural workers working on that area of land and only by special agreement.
- In relation to the extension of the offices and business area where the Harvester is currently located, the existing access by the Harvester would be the main access. Any new access should be for emergency/secondary services. There is a proposed entrance half way down the by-pass. Traffic could turn left to the village, rather than the preferred traffic route of turning right to the A14.
- The development “is shielded from Weekley Wood Lane” – commented that there is only a hedge in place.
- Stated that usage for the land is industrial, business and some leisure, but retail is not stated.
- The North Northamptonshire Strategy has been discussed previously. The Parish Council agreed that the triangle formed by the A43, A4300 and the A6003 should form a natural barrier and discourage building within the triangle. However, this consultation document brings development inside the triangle formed by the stated roads.
- The Nene Valley nature improvement areas – includes the Ise valley.
- Tree planting would be carried out as far down as Weekley Wood.
- The Nene Valley Nature Reserve would improve the area. It could extend from west of the village across to the east side, and include the pit.
- Two concepts could be considered, forestry planting or horse riding groups.
- There is no country park in the Kettering Borough area.
- The land is all reclaimed or hills. The hole would have to be filled in, could this be done? There is a lot of limestone in the area surrounding the hole. Observed that the quarry park would be worked until it is uneconomical.
- A Nene Valley nature improvement area to the south of the parish would protect land northwards to the boundary with Corby. There could be access to woods, pedestrian routes and riding within a country park. It could be incorporated into the Nene Park nature improvements to the south of the village.
- Noted that the restricted height of any buildings is not as high as the grain store tower.
- Job growth needs to be parallel with housing growth.
- Allocation of new builds is 480 rural properties to 2031.

- Noted as per the budget review that KBC is looking to recreate their social housing numbers, aiming for social and affordable housing to account for 38.5% of new builds.
- *FEEDBACK COMMENTS: In principle, the Parish Council is happy with the development, but opposed to any traffic flows directing traffic towards Geddington that are heading for the East Kettering development. It needs to be made clear so that there is no easy way for traffic to go to Geddington.*
- *Additionally, the Parish Council would like to see the Nene Valley Nature Reserve for the Ise valley area explored for other amenities, such as within a country park status.*

ACTION 2: - Clerk to email Cllr Jim Harker for the latest traffic figures for the A43.

Noted that (as an aside), a 7½ ton limit for the A4300 is not feasible. It still is technically a red route status.

- c) As per correspondence 106/15 - Oakley Vale further phases – notification of consultation period (circulated 2.2.15)

The consultation period from Great Oakley Estates concerning the Oakley Vale further phases was referred to, with viewing of the proposed phases on 24th and 25th February. Councillors were in agreement that they did not want a further roundabout constructed on the A43, to service the back end of Oakley Vale.

FEEDBACK COMMENTS: Happy with the development, the traffic flows and restrictions on its size.

- d) Gladman application with ENDC 14-02372-OUT from Ian Simpson 26.1.15 Comments or observations to be submitted?

It was commented that the Gladman application has featured on the BBC website for this area. It was felt that the Brigstock application had arisen partly because of the North Northamptonshire consultation and the fact that the Core Special strategy has been delayed until this summer. It was agreed that it was not appropriate for a response to be sent from the Parish Council concerning the Brigstock (Gladman) application, as it did not impact upon this Parish.

110/15 FINANCE

Community account statement as at 16.01.15	£7,592.76
Business Saver account as at 16.01.15 (Issued quarterly)	£10,716.05

- a) Accounts received

Grant from NCC(Cllr J Harker) – Councillor Community fund - £1067.00.

- b) Accounts for payment

None

Notification has also been received from KBC that £200 grant from Cllr Bullock has been approved. This is not sent as a cheque, but will be deducted from the total cost of the benches invoice.

ACTION3: Clerk - Cllrs Bullock and Harker to be sent thank you letters in appreciation of the grants received.

ACTION 4: Cllrs requested that a budget update be sent out on one side of A4 paper and asked Cllr Watson if he could update the budgetary figures.

Cllr Rowley reported that he had attended the KBC finance meeting in January which was held to discuss the budget for the following financial year. He reported that savings have to be made by the KBC for 2015 – 16, a discussion was held as to the level of savings that have to be made. It was stated that no recharges will be transferred down to the parish councils, but there will be no direct grants. However, it was confirmed that parish councils will pay for replacement of street lights, with the Borough Council paying for repairs to street lights. This was confirmed by the Chair of the Borough Council.

The Community Grant will remain at the present time.

111/15 ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

- a) Bench purchasing – Progression and timescales for installation – update by Cllr Kelman.

Cllr Kelman clarified again to the councillors where the issue was at:

- Cricket Club had requested 3 benches.
- 2 additional benches would be purchased ie: 5 in total).
- An existing bench had been “found”, hidden by undergrowth in Grafton Road.
- The bench on the A4300 Kettering Road was in disrepair.

All councillors agreed that replacement benches for the last two sitings were not required, as they appeared to have never been/rarely been used.

Cllr Harden agreed to try to contact a family member to inform them that the donated Kettering Road bench was not going to be replaced and to ask if they would like the commemorative plaque moving to an alternative bench.

ACTION 5: Cllr Harden to make enquiries to ascertain address of a family member (Trevor Barlow of Barton Seagrave it is believed).

Cllr Harden raised the possibility of one of the new benches being installed by the bus stop opposite Newton Road (by the BT boxes). However, after a further discussion, Councillors were in agreement that all 5 of the benches would best be sited on the recreation ground. This will mean the recreation ground has 2 or 3 by the Millennium garden, 3 installed by the Cricket Club, and 2 by the fence near the Keith A'Ness bench. The bench in the wood needs to be disposed of and Cllr Kelman will check whether any of the other existing benches need any repairs.

ACTION 6: Cllr Kelman to check the existing benches for disrepair.

ACTION 7: Clerk to contact KBC to order the benches.

- b) Geddington Cricket Club requests – decision needed for approval to move the cricket nets to another area of the park.

Cllr Gordon reported that this had been approved by the Village Hall Committee and that they could be sited behind the Bowls Club.

ACTION 8: Clerk to inform the Cricket Club of the decision.

Cllr Gordon also reported that dogs in the recreation field were currently quite a problem. Most of the dogs were off their leads, and the Dog Warden appears to not want to take any action.

- c) Playground repairs – decision needed as per quotations received

Councillors decided unanimously that Wicksteed's should be contacted to carry out the maintenance work that was needed to the playground.

ACTION 8: Clerk to contact Wicksteed's to book in for the maintenance work to be carried out.

It was raised at this point that the notice boards sometimes have commercial advertising included. It was reiterated that they should only give information concerning the Parish Council, community events and charities. Cllr Bailey stated that the Little Oakley notice board really needed to be replaced, it was in a state of disrepair. He was asked to obtain quotes as to cost of a new board.

ACTION 9: Cllr Bailey to action the above request.

- d) Parish Plan – update from Cllr Padwick regarding spreadsheet, meeting and any other relating items for progression

Cllr Hodkinson reported on behalf of Cllr Padwick that all was in hand and Cllr Padwick had contacted the relevant councilors with meeting dates.

- e) Highways/Lighting/Footpaths/Road Safety

- i) Bus shelters on New Road – next steps needed following responsibility for maintenance communication from NCC

All councillors agreed that the GVFB be asked if they could give the bus shelters a clean.

All councilors agreed that Rick Loake be contacted to ask for a quote for the repair work that was needed (including new brackets required). It was agreed that the work could go ahead without recourse to the Parish Council if the cost was under £100.

ACTION 10: Clerk to contact GVFB as per above request.

ACTION 11: Clerk to contact Rick Loak for a quotation as per above.

- ii) Lighting - including proposed new street light in West Street

Cllr Hodkinson reported that he had made two phone calls to Jim McAnally, but there had been no reply as yet. Eon had still to provide a figure though.

- iii) Footpaths - Bridleway between Grange Road and Kettering Road, Geddington - report by Cllr Hodkinson)

Cllr Hodkinson reported that a replacement bridle gate was needed. It was stated that Boughton Estates had a programme to replace the bridle gates

ACTION 12: Clerk to contact Boughton Estates to enquire as to the replacing of bridle gates programme.

NEWTON & LITTLE OAKLEY

No issues were raised for Newton.

Little Oakley - Cllr Bailey reported that the number of potholes in Little Oakley area was high. He had reported it to Street Doctor for action to be taken. Street cleaning request had also been submitted.

Noted at this point that the paths need cleaning in Geddington and also the paths on the A4300 going towards Weekley. Resurfacing had taken place and the number of stones on the path was hazardous.

ACTION 13: Clerk to contact Street Doctor as to path cleaning schedule.

Clarification was given within the Little Oakley report as to funding for the marquee.

Cllr Bullock had given a grant of £200.00, an application for funding had been submitted to Cllr Harker for £400.00, and it had previously been agreed that the Parish Council would fund the remaining finance that was needed.

A.O.B.

Cllr Rowley reported that he had contacted a newt expert from the Newton Field Centre concerning the pond in the meadow and also the County Council's Environment Enforcement Officer. He had been informed that if great crested newts were in the pond and the area must not be touched. Any clearance work would have to involve getting a specialist involved. The advice given was leave the pond alone. However, the area around the pond can be cleared and cleaned.

ACTION 14: Clerk to email the GVFB as to potential clean-up of the surrounding area, but not the pond itself.

Salt bins – Cllr Hodgkinson reported that the bins needed refilling.

ACTION 15: Clerk to contact Street Doctor to inform them that refilling was needed.

Items for next month's Agenda.

No items were put forward.

Meeting closed at 9.43pm