

GEDDINGTON NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL -
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12th OCTOBER 2015.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors M Rowley (Chair), A Gordon, D Hodgkinson, D Rushton, N Batchelor, J Padwick.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs D Watson, K Harden, C Buckseall, T Bailey.

No members of the public were present.

082/16 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – Cllr Rowley declared an interest in agenda item 096/16 a) - both he and one of the companies from whom a quotation has been received are members of the GVFB.

083/16 PUBLIC SESSION

a) Questions from the public

There were no members of the public present.

b) Reports from County and Borough Councillors

There was no report from County Cllr Jim Harker.

Cllr Rowley commented that the holiday period had resulted in decreased activity at Borough Council level. He had received posters from the Police promoting the recruitment of Specials. These will be put up on the notice board and on Facebook.

ACTION 1 – Cllr Rowley to action the above item.

c) Police Report / Crime figures

Three crimes had been recorded for Geddington, as per the crime figures sent to all Cllrs in advance of the meeting.

084/16 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

a) Parish Council monthly meeting held 14 September 2015

The minutes were agreed to be a true record, pending one typo correction needed on page 7 – correction of Wood Street to West Street.

b) Parish Council Special Meeting held 21 September 2015

The minutes were agreed to be a true record.

c) Matters arising; progress on agreed actions

All actions recorded on the previous month's minutes were reported upon and have been actioned. The section of hedging bordering Bob Austin's boundary is still outstanding: the chase up letter has been sent with a reply being received stating what and where his boundaries are.

ACTION 2: Hard copy letter from Bob Austin to be scanned by the Clerk and sent to Cllr Rowley, who will investigate further.

PLANNING

a) KBC Decision notices

KET/2015/0330 – Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner – erection of three story office building and associated parking – land off Cherry Hall Road, Ketting. Approved.

KET/2015/0684.- Mr K Lubana - Geddington Bake. Change of use from business/ storage to general industry Unit 7 Grange Road

Withdrawn

KET/2015/0584 & 0621 the Croft, 16 Queen Street.

Following email sent by KBC concerning access and egress, the application is formally refused. Stated that the access (now) is inadequate and unsatisfactory, with the conservation element also a major concern.

b) Applications

There were no new applications

c) “To discuss our approach to deal with the increasing number of planning applications that are sent to us too late for inclusion on the agenda for our PC meeting, but which require a decision before the next.” *Cllr Batchelor.*

It was commented that additional meetings for planning applications do need to be held as and when necessary. It was quite clear following the long special meeting held to discuss the Croft application that KBC do take the Parish Council’s points into consideration.

Comments made –

- What is the official policy as to planning applications/timescales ensuring the public are aware of such items on the agenda? Cllr Rowley reported that the practice as carried out by the Parish Council appears to be the correct practice, as per endorsed by Ncalc.
- Can the Parish Council automatically be given additional time for comments to be submitted, until after the next monthly meeting? Cllr Rowley said that this is not automatically given. The question has been raised with Planning and the advice given was by a Legal Officer.

Cllr Hodkinson said that he was going to the Ncalc AGM and he would endeavor to find out the authoritative national view and the legal aspects of good practice.

However, the 21 days given for comments is the authoritative factor, but it may be flexible on a case by case basis.

ACTION 3: Cllr Hodkinson to see if he could raise the issue with an officer at the Ncalc AGM.

ACTION 4: Cllr Rowley will contact Sue Lyons to ask the same questions.

Cllr Watson commented as to why was a wind farm proposed for Newton, when there are already five or six wind turbines that are very visible from Newton?

Also commented generally that the single wind turbine that has been erected by the A4300 in Corby is a countryside eyesore.

The support of the local population is now needed however as otherwise the application is not approved.

d) Parish Plan: progress report - *update by Cllrs Hodkinson, Rushton & Padwick*

Cllr Hodkinson reported that the pie charts are almost completed. A coherent short summary of the comments is being written. The questions need attaching to the pie chart and the committee of volunteers will have to meet once more. Cllr Padwick asked if the information backs up local knowledge of the main issues – traffic, speeding but not dog mess. It was felt that it would be better for all the information to be finished before any comments are made.

Also commented that the precept has to be agreed in January and it would be advantageous to have the finished information to hand prior to the precept decision being made. All possible spending streams/projects to be discussed in November for decisions to be made the following month. December to be re-affirmation of funding needed.

ACTION 5: Clerk to ensure budgetary consideration/discussing a precept 2016/17, goes onto the November agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE - Correspondence received since last meeting, forwarded to Cllrs when received.

085/16. NCC Highways – Community Liason Team (16.9.15)

086/16. Northamptonshire Local nature partnership 3rd annual conference 7.10.15

087/16. Information about Insurance Premium tax from Zurich insurance

088/16. Northamptonshire Rural HA – annual report 2014-15

089/16. Geddington Bund – annual survey report.

090/16. CPRENthants: Autumn Road Show 2015

No comments were made as to any of the correspondence items that Cllrs had received since the last Parish Council meeting.

091/16. RURAL FORUM - qtrly meeting held 17.9.2015 – feedback by Cllrs Watson / Rowley.

Feedback given was that we will use our constitutional right to put forward points for discussion, for consideration to the KBC Executive meeting. The next meeting is on 23 September 2015, when the issue of solar panels – placing on roofs rather than farmland, will be raised.

Commented that Philip Hollobone MP has also spoken publicly on this issue.

092/16. STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Nomination of Cllr Hodgkinson by the Parish Council.

A formal nomination by the Parish Council is not required, but it is to be minuted that Cllr Hodgkinson has the support of the Parish Council. Two people are interested in in being nominated for the vacant posts: they have been invited to attend the next Standards Committee meeting.

093/16. CONSULTATION ON STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES – GAMBLING ACT 2005 –

Comments to be returned by 3 November 2015.

No comments are to be returned, but the draft consultation has been noted.

096/16 FINANCE

a) Bank balances

Community account statement as at 17.09.15	£10,695.03
Business Saver account as at 17.07.15	£10,718.72

b) Receipts

None

c).Accounts for payment

Geddington Village Hall	£157.00	Hire of lounge for Parish Council meetings – ½ year fee for 2015.
Geddington Village Hall	£39.00	Hire of lounge for Additional meeting (Rural Forum).
Ncalc	£39.00	Training for meeting and committee Chairs 28.9.15 (Cllr Batchelor)
Parish Clerk – ¼ yr salary	£883.20	For July – September 2015
Post Office - PAYE -	£220.80	For July – September 2015
Parish Clerk – Depreciation of equipment ¼ yr allowance	£60.00	For July – September 2015
Expenses	£19.92	Postage £3.78 2 x pkts printer paper £9.99 Printer cartridges £6.15.

Cllr Padwick proposed the above payments to be authorised for payment. Seconded by Cllr Hodgkinson. All cllrs present agreed.

Invoice for hire of hall for the Rural Forum was approved for payment, but Clerk to query with David Pope as to whether this cost could be reclaimed by the Parish Council

ACTION 6: Clerk to query the above issue via David Pope.

d).KBC Precept letter for 2016/17 – Timescale for discussion and decision needed

Cllrs were asked if they could convey at the November meeting any projects that are needed or that would be desirable for the three villages.

e).Parish Council risk register – Update/proposed way forward – *Cllr Rowley*

A copy of the risk register has been located. This was last updated in 2011.

This will need to be put as an agenda item on the November agenda, to examine what is stated and update as necessary.

ACTION 7: Clerk to add this to the November agenda

ACTION 8: The Chair will go through the register initially, and then the draft updated register will be posted out in advance of the next meeting.

096/16 – ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

a).Recreation ground – Quotations x 3 for missing recreation ground fencing -

Three quotations have been received.

Comments made:-

- Existing fencing is comparatively expensive to repair, this possibly explains why one of the quotes is relatively high.
- Cllr Rowley informed that children had been on bikes in that area, he had spoken to them and they had said that they had not taken any fencing down, but they have used loose slats.
- One suggestion was for a sign to be erected on the fence stating that surveillance cameras were in operation, similar to those that KBC use on fly tipping hot spots. This was discounted however.
- An article relating to this issue needs to go in the next village newsletter.
- It was commented that the decision made could be that the fence will not be replaced. However, this is a health and safety issue and it does need to be replaced.
- An alternative to wooden fencing could be square mesh fencing. This was discounted.

After further discussions as to the quotations, Cllr Padwick proposed that that the Toseland quotation should be accepted. Seconded by Cllr Batchelor. Three Cllrs abstained.

ACTION 9: Ollie Toseland to be contacted requesting the work to proceed, thanks to be sent to the two unsuccessful companies.

b). Village Hall extension – relocation of power cable. – *Cllr Rowley*

Reported that the new supply was going to cost £5000. A cable has been found which will save £3,500, but it has to be removed from under the slabbed area. The slabs will then be re-laid. The contractors will not be allowed to dig in the recreation ground or the car park.

097/16 .HIGHWAYS/LIGHTING/ FOOTPATHS/ ROAD SAFETY

a).West Street: new street light – progress report (*Cllr Hodkinson*)

Cllr Hodkinson reported that he needed to meet with J McNally again.

b).Street Lighting; Public Rights of Way – any issues raised or to be reported.

2x defective street lights in Wood Street have been reported, 1 each in Chase View Road, Queen Eleanor Road and Hall Close.

c).Community Speedwatch offer 2016 from Safer Roads Team

A volunteer was needed to co-ordinate this scheme if it was to progress: there were no volunteers.

d).Rural Speeding – data request (if any) from the Rural SCT.

The data request had been raised at the Rural Forum. Some villages have speed maps. It was felt that the Police were already aware of the areas within the parish council boundaries, where speeding was an issue. Noted that the Rural SCT have been in Geddington recently and speed maps of areas will be carried out over the coming months by the police.

Other road/ traffic issues raised –

It was confirmed that the leaking water pipe under the bridge was not caused by HGV's – it was a surface water pipe that had rusted.

The Stanion roundabout will be altered on the southbound side – Geddington will be “hooked”.

Three A43 signs on the A4300 have been taken down.

There will definitely be no weight restriction applied on the A4300 through the village in the next 12 months as public consultation is needed.

Cllr Hodkinson reported that the flood prevention work carried out near the Little Oakley junction was good work. It also feels safer now that the shrub growth has been cut back. The cut back is ideally needed every 4 – 5 years.

NEWTON & LITTLE OAKLEY

There is no update at present for the Newton junction issue.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH'S AGENDA/AOB

New desk signs for Cllrs.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.