

**GEDDINGTON, NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2017.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors N Batchelor (Chair), M Rowley, C Buckseall, P Berry, J Padwick, P Goode.

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillors A Gordon D Watson, T Bailey D Rushton S Wenbourne.

**065/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**066/18 PUBLIC SESSION**

**a) Police Report / Crime figures**

The Police report had been received by councillors prior to the meeting and was summarised as follows:

September:-

Vehicle Crime & Theft from Motor Vehicle

|                    |                   |  |
|--------------------|-------------------|--|
| 10-11th            | Skeffington Close | Insecure vehicle, untidy search-nothing taken                                    |
| 8-11 <sup>th</sup> | Skeffington Close | Vehicle parked on driveway-no signs of forced entry-untidy search, nothing taken |
| 9-10th             | Skeffington Close | Items stolen from possible insecure vehicle                                      |
| 10-11th            | Bright Trees Road | Boot entered without causing damage- items taken                                 |
| 10-11th            | Queens Street     | Possible insecure vehicle- items taken   |
| 10-11th            | Chase View Road   | Possible insecure vehicle- items taken   |
| 17-18th            | Chase Hill        | Insecure vehicle – items taken   |

Burglary Non Dwelling

|         |                   |  |
|---------|-------------------|--|
| 10-11th | Bright Trees Road | Enter garage causing no damage – items taken                           |
| 18th    | West Street       | Enter garage causing no damage- tools taken                            |
| 15th    | Stamford Road     | Attempts to steal bike from side alleyway, shed entered –nothing taken |
| 17-18th | Hall Close        | Garden shed door removed-nothing taken                                 |

Theft

|      |                |                                     |
|------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 18th | Bakehouse Hill | Pedal cycle stolen from rear garden |
| 19th | Esso garage,   | Shoplifting captured on CCTV        |

There were no reported incidents for Newton/ Little Oakley for September.

A short discussion followed voicing concern at so many incidents happening in September. Following a telephone call from PCSO Margaret Lawson two or three days prior to this meeting, in which it was relayed that the Police are having to prioritise workloads, the Clerk will go on to the Northamptonshire Police web site and see how readily available the crime figures are, just in case they are not provided by the Police in the future. Cllr Goode added that times of incidents are on the Neighbourhood Watch Reports

**ACTION 1: The Clerk to action the above.**

**b) Questions from the public**

Two members of the public were present.

Peter Coles thanked the councillors for their help with the provision of a memorial bench and the preferred siting of it. He gave a map of the preferred location to the Clerk as an aid to the siting of it. John Goodall was present to update on youth provision for the Parish Plan, with Cllr Padwick. This is recorded within 069/18: (PARISH PLAN) of these Minutes.

*John Goodall left the meeting at 8.35pm*

### **c) Reports from County and Borough Councillors**

#### County Council.

Cllr Victoria Perry had sent her apologies - unable to attend the meeting. An update was given regarding the raised BT entry point on the Newton Rd. *"Peter Lane our warden inspected the cover and reported it to BT as it is their responsibility"*.

She also confirmed that she can use her Empowerment fund to help finance new village notice boards for both Newton and Geddington. She added that if costings could be given some funding can be provisionally allocated to them.

Additionally – *"I'm currently supporting KBC's case for the decriminalisation of parking in Kettering with KBC taking control. NCC has to date opposed the idea but I hope that by working with KBC we can progress this for the benefit of our Borough"*.

**ACTION 2: The Clerk to obtain costings for notice boards.**

**ACTION 3: The Clerk to ensure notice boards are on the agenda for November.**

#### Borough Council.

Cllr Rowley said that the Borough Council was also pushing hard for the decriminalisation of parking and looking after the car parks. Police currently operate parking restrictions, but it is hoped that it will be regulated down to traffic wardens having authority to carry out this function. Parking wardens cannot currently operate concerning double yellow line areas.

A consultation is currently taking place for the local area concerning National Rail. Kettering may be the hub for the area for intercity routes, but if so, this may have a detrimental effect on Wellingborough and Market Harborough

### **067/18 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

#### **a) Approval of Parish Council monthly meeting Minutes – held 11th September 2017.**

Pending numbering of the action points being adjusted, the Minutes were approved by Cllr Berry, seconded by Cllr Buckseall, agreed by all councillors present to be a true record.

#### **b) Matters arising; progress on agreed actions.**

The following updates were given.

*ACTION 1 from 11.9.17: The Clerk to contact the Police – times used to be provided. The information is needed so that any information can be collated and sent to residents. The resulting feedback from PCSO Lawson is recorded in 066/18 a) of the October minutes.*

*ACTION 2 from 11.9.17: ACTION 2: The Clerk to establish the cost of the (recreation field) bench plus the concrete plinth, precise location to be established once the price of the bench and installation is confirmed as acceptable. The cost has been given but it is not clear if this includes the concrete plinth.*

**ACTION 4: The clerk will check this with KBC and ask for an installation date.**

*ACTION 4 from 11.9.17: The Clerk to advertise the Street Doctor details in the villages. Cllr Batchelor to send an article to the village magazine. The telephone number will be added to the Street Doctor web site information that is on the boards*

*ACTION 5 from 11.9.17: Cllr Batchelor will talk to Ian Boyes (regarding optical illusion fencing) – this is still outstanding.*

*ACTION 9 from 11.9.17: potential training for planning applications. – Feedback and request has been made to KBC.*

**ACTION 5: The clerk will chase this as no dates have yet been received.**

## **PLANNING**

### **a) KBC Decision notices**

*KET/2017/0539 - Mr & Mrs K Sexton, 3 Bright Trees Road, Geddington. Garage conversion to habitable accommodation, single storey front extension and replacement bay window. Extension to dropped kerb. Approved.*

*KET/2017/0495 - - Mr & Mrs Temple, 4 Newton Road, Geddington. Two storey rear extension and front porch extension. Installation of chimney and 4 no. roof lights.*

Update:- this was refused, it has now gone to appeal as the explanation from the Planning Officer did not make sense. The closeness of the boundary and the height of it has been objected to by a neighbour as it will impact upon their amenities.

### **b) Planning Applications**

*KET/2017/0636 - Mr & Mrs G Dickens, 35 Stamford Road (land adjacent), Geddington. Dwelling and alterations to existing garage.*

“No objection” to the application was submitted by councillors.

*KET/2017/0628*

*Mr & Mrs T White, 28 Grange Road,, Geddington.*

*Conversion of day nursery to dwelling to include demolition of rear and side extensions and swimming pool enclosure. Construction of 2 no. detached dwellings with new vehicular access and detached double garage*

New plans have been submitted.

**ACTION 6: Cllrs Batchelor and Rowley will look at the amendments to determine if any further comments need to be sent to KBC.**

## **068/18: PARISH PLAN – update on non-flooding/road matters.**

John Goodall was present to update councillors on the progress that had been made for youth outdoor leisure equipment, together with Cllr Padwick

He summarised the information that was in the draft report, circulated to councillors in advance of the meeting. The main points were as follows:-

Consultation has resulted in two priorities:-

1. Outdoor gym equipment by the children’s area. This would appear to mirror “providing a function for the community to use”. A permanent table tennis table is also a possibility.
2. A MUGA (Multi use games area) with netball posts and goal posts. Some members of the working group went to Gretton, Corby, Rothwell and Mawsley to look at the different options. The following overall specifications seem reasonable:

Size – 40m x 20 m

Surface – smooth tarmac

Surround – 3m high steel fence

Lights? Yes, floodlit.

- Public support has been shown for the above two options by the Youth Club, the Scouts and the school.
- There have been some concerns, but there is overall support for the project.
- Capital costs are likely to be £15 – 20,000 with a further £85,000 for a MUGA.

- Several alternatives have been investigated for lighting, with LED appearing to be the best option overall.
- Facilities should be for both younger and older residents.
- The first consultation exercise showed a preference for generic facilities for young people.
- Other places visited – were asked if the version they had chosen worked for their young people.
- Desborough’s MUGA has been decommissioned and replaced by a 3G pitch. Care is needed therefore regarding size of the pitch and what it will be used for.
- Funding – Wren funding has now closed. However, Jane Rowley thought that she may be able to find funding for it. Noted that for the children’s play area the Parish Council had to find 10% of the overall cost of the project.
- What is/ is there sufficient public support for the project? Documentation is there for the numbers but needs to be collated. Anecdotal support also needs to be logged. He added that the consultation took place initially for the Parish Plan, and the support was given at that early stage. Cllr Padwick will check progress regarding collation of responses with John Goodall.
- Adult support for the MUGA is needed, to provide organised support for the various activities.
- Adult gym equipment idea was well received.
- Concerns voiced that would a facility be built to virtually provide facilities for non-residents. It was added however that Geddington is a sizeable village and needs to have good leisure facilities.

Cllr Rowley commented that the draft report is very good. He added that the equipment would have to be tendered out, and it would not be practical to split the installation of equipment from the purchase. There are some electrical concerns – where would the electricity supply come from?

**ACTION 7: Some of the questions raised were not fully resolved. Cllr Padwick asked for any questions concerning the youth and adult facilities to be forwarded to him within two weeks so that he could send them to John Goodall. These are the questions that need to be added to the brief.**

The Parish Council decided that it would be minuted that “in principle”, it would give the project general support. Further information would be needed in the next financial year to build on the report.

#### **069/18 RURAL FORUM - quarterly meeting held 21.9.17 – update.**

Cllr Watson was unable to attend the Parish Council meeting, but had send an email update which Cllr Rowley conveyed to the meeting:-

- Funds remain available to finance IT equipment for planning discussions although no final decision has been made on the electronic only proposal
- The policy of verge maintenance was explained in view of the NCC funding reduction from 5 cuts per annum to 2 – KBC still fund 5 cuts in built up areas. Outside the 30mph zones the cuts are only NCC funded but are done 3 times a year.
- There is a meeting with the PCC/Chief Constable on Tuesday 23 October – (which Cllr Watson is unable to attend). A number of village representatives expressed concern about the crime clear up rate (12% in Geddington) and Cllr Watson was disappointed that priority is being given to parking offences (because that is what the public survey wanted) rather than burglary etc. An example given of an innovative approach was - police on a fire engine driving along streets where parking blocks smooth flow of emergency vehicles.
- We were shown [www.thisiskettering.com](http://www.thisiskettering.com) the new website advertising what is going on in Kettering.

Cllr Padwick asked if there was availability of anyone to send a parish representative to a PCC meeting that the Rural Forum had requested (on 23.10.17). Unfortunately, there was a limited number of councillors at the meeting, most of whom had work commitments.

The meeting was also advised at this point that there is a vacancy for a Borough Council Parish representative on the Standards Advisory Committee.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- 070/18: Holocaust Memorial Day Trust - Commemorating Holocaust Memorial Day 2018 16.9.17
- 071/18: Northants Police – email relating to terrorist attacks. 16.9.17
- 072/18: NCC – New fostering campaign 21.9.17
- 073/18: Gary Thorp (Kier Group) – disruptions on the A43 road 28.9.17
- 074/18: Northants Police – Stephen Mold meeting dates 29.9.17
- 075/18: Cricket Club responses to queries raised. 28.9.17
- 076/18: Ncalc – notification of AGM 7.10.17
- 077/18: Ncalc eUpdate Sept/October 2017
- 078/18 KBC/ Rive Nene Regional park – Community Consultation – improving green spaces
- 079/18: Scott Little (Police – change of roles 3.10.17
- 080/18: *Newsletters.*

Weekly Rural News Digest 11.9.17  
 “ “ 25.9.17

Rural Services Network – Rural Economy Spotlight - Sept 2017  
 - Spotlight on heart of the village 25.9.17

Cllr Buckseall commented on 075/18, expressing disappointment that the Cricket Club had denied all knowledge of the car incidents.

**ACTION 8: A reply to be sent to the Cricket Club, with thanks for raising the concerns, and a reminder that all issues relating to this matter should go through the Village Hall.**

It was decided however that the Minutes of the relevant Village Hall meeting when matters relating to the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018 event are discussed, needed to be seen at the next PC meeting and signed off, again, in advance of the event. This will need to be at least two meeting ahead of the event. Additionally, a copy of the insurance certificate needs to be seen.

Any discussion decisions need to be relayed via Cllr Gordon, and copied to the Village hall Committee.

**081/18: FINANCE**

|                                |                |            |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| a) Community account statement | as at 17.9.17  | £22,507.06 |
| Business Saver account         | as at 17.9.17- | £10,726.76 |

**Accounts received**

£376.00 – rec’d from GVFB – entitled “cheque re proposed GVFB bench as per Mark Rowley” (from Nigel Tysoe)

As the Parish Council are still waiting for firm figures for the installation of the bench in the meadow, it was proposed by Cllr Rowley that this cheque should be banked but keep track of any balance (credit or debit) once the invoice has been received. Seconded by Cllr Berry.

**Accounts for payment**

|                      |         |   |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| Boughton Estates Ltd | £570.00 | Playing field rental 30.3.17 – 29.09.17 |
| Parish Clerk         | £969.64 | 1/4ly salary Jul – Sept 2017            |

|  |         |   |
|--|---------|---|
| Parish Clerk (paid for on AC's own debit card) | £242.20 | 1/4ly PAYE payment to HMRC Jul – Sept 2017                |
| Parish Clerk                                   | £60.00  | 1/4ly depreciation of equipment allowance Jul – Sept 2017 |
| Parish Clerk                                   | £6.60   | Expenses (12x2 <sup>nd</sup> class stamps)                |

Accounts for payment were agreed, proposed by Cllr Rowley, seconded by Cllr Padwick. Agreed by all councillors present.

**b) Annual Return 2017-18 and External Auditor's certificate – formal approval and acceptance by Parish Council required.**

It was proposed by Cllr Batchelor that the annual return 2017-18 and external auditor's report were approved and accepted. Seconded by Cllr Rowley, agreed by all councillors present.

**c) Precept 2018/19 discussion, to include standing agenda item “Capital Projects”**

The following capital projects to be considered for 2018-19

Car park extension – approx. £30,000.

Newton entrance – approx. £35,000.

Geddington sign (for Grange Road) – approx. £900. Newton sign

– approx. £900.

Possible outdoor gym £20,000 (Support given “in principle”).

Defibrillators – Newton & Little Oakley (this will be discussed at the November PC meeting as it was felt that residents of the two villages need to voice their preferences for the two kiosks) – Grants may be available if these are the preferred options however.

**ACTION 9: The above point to be added to the November agenda, to be discussed under small capital issues.**

**ACTION 10: The above list to be forwarded to Cllr Watson, for input into the figures for the Parish Council budget for 2018-19.**

Cllr Batchelor added that as well as the financial budget being agreed upon for the next financial year, a clear plan was needed for 2018-19 as to progression of the different projects, with individual councillors leading on the different projects.

**d) Spend Approval Limits – discussion**

It was agreed that this will now be discussed at the November Parish Council meeting.

**e) Transparency fund –further funding available, closes February 2018.**

It was decided by councillors that the estimated costs for internet access for the village hall, and the other associated costs to ensure that transparency of the Parish Council continues to improve, should be allocated by the next meeting. This needs to be finalised before there can be any thought of applying for a further year's I.T. funding.

**ACTION 11: The clerk to add this to the November agenda.**

**ACTION 12: Cllr Rowley will circulate the list of further work needed/ items to be purchased for updating the I T facilities, before the November meeting.**

**ACTION 13: The clerk to write to Anne Kirkland, to inform her that we are reviewing our current facilities.**

**082/18: PC role in combating local crime - discussion request.**

Councillors wished to know what they could do to help to inform residents of results and follow up of incidents. It was felt that anything the Parish Council could do to show that the village concerns were taken seriously were beneficial. The following points were highlighted:-

- Neighbourhood Watch sheets contains a lot of information that residents may wish to know. Jane Calcott is responsible for the newsletter.
- It was emphasized that the aim is to show that the PC is aware of what is happening and this is what the Police are saying.
- Cllr Rowley added that the Parish Council reports were manually extracted by the PCSO. Inspector Julie Mead has advised Neighbourhood Watch to get the figures from Community Watch, for which you have to register.
- Noted that most of last month's crimes were from unlocked cars. Cllr Berry commented on the illegal scrap metal vans seen in the village. These need to be reported to the Police when seen.
- Cllr Goode noted that there were ten neighbourhood watch schemes within the village: the village co-ordinator was Ken Harden. Jane Calcott may be willing to come and do a presentation to the street co-ordinators. One question that the councillors expressed a wish to ask her was what sort of information should they be passing on to residents when a surge in crime occurs as with the September crime figures. Cllr Padwick proposed and Cllr Rowley seconded a request for Jane Calcott to come to Geddington to address the street representatives.

**ACTION 14: The Clerk to action the above.**

The discussion ended with it being noted that when there is a surge in crime it is worrying to a lot of people. It is then the Parish Council's responsibility to step forward and ask the Police any relevant questions. It is expected that only the victim is given an update, but the PCSO could address the Parish Council or send an email to update as to why they think that such a surge happened. Cllr Padwick added that the exchange of information builds confidence in the Police.

**ACTION 15: The Clerk to invite Inspector Julie Mead to a meeting with the councillors and Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators. Aim of the meeting to be "how can we communicate and circulate matters in the village, and what can we expect back from the Police to reassure residents".**

**083/18. ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION**

**a) Eleanor Cross lighting works update**

This work has now been completed.

Noted that West Street is still dark, and Queen Street has some private electricity connections.

**b) Flood Plan Update and Timeline**

Cllrs Batchelor, Buckseall and Berry are working on this. Cllr Batchelor will draw up a template, which Cllrs Buckseall and Berry will then circulate. Cllr Bailey will then populate the report for Little Oakley.

**c) Re-use of the BT phone boxes**

There have been two comments offering suggestions as to usage. The first one has to be discounted, as a suggestion was that the BT equipment including the telephone remain, so that the next generation can view a proper BT phone box. This has to be discounted, as BT insist on taking the telephones out. The second email contained some good suggestions, but Cllr Buckseall thought that Newton and Little Oakley residents should put forward ideas for the two boxes in their villages. Cllr Rowley added that Cllr Bailey believes that a defibrillator would be well received in Little Oakley. Cllr Padwick added at this point that in relation to Newton, the Field Centre is struggling to raise the £40,000 that it needs to keep the facility running.

**A.O.B.**

Finance to be the main focus on the November agenda.

*There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.54pm*