

GEDDINGTON, NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th JUNE 2021 AT 7.30pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors N Batchelor (Chair), C Buckseall, T Bailey, P Goode, J Padwick, M Rowley, P Johnson, D Lomasney.

APOLOGIES:

None.

235/21: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) Cllr Rowley: agenda item "Planning Applications for consideration".

236/21: PUBLIC SESSION.

One member of the public was present at the meeting.

a) Questions sent in by the public.

Sam Rees (Boughton Estates) introduced himself.

He was asked for an update as to the Post Office. Boughton Estates are going through the legal process to resolve current issues relating to the ongoing closure of the post office building. It is envisaged that the refurbishment of the building will take up to a year. He gave assurances that Boughton Estates do wish to retain the building with the Post Office.

The Post Office will have the final say as to the tenant for the building with the Post Office as a function. Sam Rees is happy to further discuss issues relating to the Post office with the Parish Council, going forward.

Flooding in Little Oakley: Boughton Estates are in talks with Northants Highways legal department, as to what happened when the new road was constructed, as opposed to what Highways were contracted to do.

One wall in Little Oakley is on the schedule to be repaired this summer.

A rally was staged on the old air base, but those taking part were informed that they could not drive the cars through the village. This was adhered to with the exception of just one car.

Grass cutting – the verge in the Chase is not the responsibility of Boughton Estates and they do not mow it. They are under obligation to mow road verges but they try to mow as little as possible to encourage wildlife.

He added when questioned that he is happy to attend the Parish Council meetings when there are relevant items on the agenda or when asked.

ACTION 1: the clerk to send an agenda to Boughton Estates each month so he is aware of any relevant issues.

b) Reports from North Northants Council.

Cllr Rowley has had one NNC meeting.

The first committee meeting was 14th June concerning the development of Gipsy Lane in Kettering.

237/21: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

a) Approval of Parish Council monthly meeting draft minutes – held 17th May 2021.

Corrections: 229/21b) - Surnames of the other two Ise ward councillors were added to read Cllr Elliot Prentice and Cllr Lloyd Bunday. The two actions under AOB were renumbered. Pending these corrections, Cllr Padwick proposed and Cllr Goode seconded that the minutes were a true record. Agreed by all councillors present except for one abstention (the councillor was not present at the May meeting).

b) Matters arising; progress on outstanding actions.

17.5.21 – action 2: The bench that has been dumped in the berm will be moved by Cllr Batchelor. This will be moved shortly.

17.5.21 action 5 - (non -cleaning of the vertical ironwork grids (drains) in Wood Street). Cllr Rowley will find out what the cleaning schedule is once the new portfolio holder is announced. (He may alternatively ask the current portfolio holder).

Cllr Rowley has been unable to do this, and asked councillors that if there are any updates as to particular drains, to send the updates to him, plus details of any faulty street lights.

22.4.21 action 7 - NK/2021/0031 Replacement windows and doors. The clerk to check with Planning and Enforcement – the work has been carried out even though the application has been withdrawn. It was noted that there was perhaps a logical reason for this, but felt that it needed to be brought to the Case Officer's attention in case it should not be happening.

17.5.21 - The clerk updated that there had been no reply as at three days ago.

Update at 14.6.21 – “email received from Alan Chapman on 18.5.21 – he will contact the PC when he has something to report”.

17.5.21 action 6: (Larkfleet Homes, one document not on the NNC Planning applications website). The clerk was advised by councillors to send another email saying that a decision as to comments to submit cannot take place as all the documents are not available to view, therefore the consultation must be on hold. The existing objection to the application still stands until any revision to the application can be viewed and discussed. The further email was sent. A Parish Council extraordinary meeting will be arranged to discuss the application when all the documentation is present on the website. Cllr Padwick added that he has looked at the last Housing Survey carried out in 2011 which states 12 residential homes are needed.

17.5.21 action 8: The clerk to send an email to James Wilson, the Interim Head of Housing to ask if a new Housing Needs Survey could be initiated. This was sent, but to Customer Services to be forward to James Wilson. A reply had not been received as at 14.6.21.

ACTION 2: The clerk to resend the request to Housing.

233/21a): Remote meeting consultation, closes 17.6.21 (Ncalc update 1.4.21) (This agenda item was deferred from the April meeting)

ACTION 3: The clerk to send the resolution to Ncalc within the next two days.

17.5.21 action 10: Broadband facility - the clerk to write to Gigaclear as there was a promise when they gave a presentation to install a connection in the Village Hall. This has not yet happened.

The clerk advised that the request had been sent, will need chasing in two weeks.

ACTION 4: The clerk to action the above.

238//21: FINANCE

a) Bank statements.

Community account statement	as at 17.5.21	£64,517.78
Business Saver account	as at 17.5.21	£10,780.21

b) Accounts received

None

c) Accounts for payment: -

Geddington Village Hall- ch.101937	Hire of main hall 17.5.21	£56.00
Reids Playground Maintenance Ltd Ch.101936	To remove graffiti from playground items of equipment. May 21	£960.00
Anita Curtis- ch.101940	1/4ly salary Apr – Jun 21.	£1106.85
Anita Curtis (PAYE already pd via AC's own debit card). Ch101941.	PAYE Apr – Jun 21	£276.60
Anita Curtis. Ch.101942	Agreed 1/4ly depreciation of equipment.	£ 60.00
Anita Curtis- Ch.101890	Expenses Apr – Jun 21 – Printer ink £13.96, special del. posting for accounts documents £6.85. Two reams paper £9.99. Total £30.80	£30.80
TJ Electrical Ltd- Ch.101938	Repair to lights by the Queen Eleanor Cross.	£352.36

Proposed by Cllr Padwick that the payments be approved for payment, seconded by Cllr Lomasney, approved by all councillors present.

ACTION 5: Cllr Goode will ask TJ Electrical Ltd for a key to the padlock (for the lights by the Cross).

d) Approval of the Parish Council accounts for 2020 – 2021.

One councillor was satisfied with the Financial Statements overall, but had a query with the General fund (on the Balance sheet). He did not wish this to hold up sending the Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the external auditors, but asked the clerk to query one figure for the General fund with Fortus. It was proposed by Cllr Batchelor that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21 be approved. Seconded by Cllr Rowley, approved by all councillors present.

ACTION 6: The clerk to contact Fortus.

e) Approval of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21, to include the certificate of exemption.

f) Accounting statements 2020/21 as per the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21.

It was proposed by Cllr Rowley that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21 including the Certificate of exemption and the Accounting Statements 2020/21 as per the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21 be approved. Seconded by Cllr Goode, approved by all councillors present.

PLANNING

Cllr Rowley abstained from taking part in this Agenda item.

a) KBC Decision notices

NK/2021/0193, Mr J Riding-Felce 1 Corby Road, Little Oakley.

Erection of agricultural barn.

Withdrawn

b) Planning Applications for consideration.

KET/2020/0369: Larkfleet Homes, Stamford Road (land off), Geddington.

26 no. dwellings and all other associated infrastructure including access, drainage and public open space. Full Application

Documentation is still missing from the planning application on the website. See 237/21(17.5.21 action 6) above for full update.

NK/2021/0366 and NK/2021/0364 :

Mr & Mrs Hardy, The Manor House, Access Road To Manor House, Newton.

Replacement conservatory. ABABABA and ACACACA

It was noted by councillors that the current conservatory does not enhance the house or the surrounding area. The site of the conservatory is not visible from the road. There is a resident belief that there is a discrepancy between the heritage statements and the drawings.

Proposed by Cllr Bailey that there be no objection to the application, seconded by Cllr Buckseall, approved by all councillors present except for one abstention.

NK/2021/0367 and NK/2021/0365

Mr & Mrs Hardy, The Manor House, Access Road To Manor House, Newton.

Erection of porch. BAABAAA and ACACACA

The Newton councillor wished it to be relayed that one Newton resident has a belief that there is a discrepancy between the heritage statements and the drawings. The observation to be relayed to the NNC Planning department Also noted that some other buildings in Newton have a red pantile roof. Historically a red pantile roof denotes a lesser status than a thatched roof in Newton. This is not however a planning consideration.

Proposed by Cllr Buckseall that there be no objection to the application, seconded by Cllr Bailey, approved by all councillors present except for one abstention.

NK/2021/0444: Mr Barley, 7-8 Access Road To Newton House, Newton.

Change of use of land to residential garden

The parish councillor for Newton noted that the area had been a garden for many years, as per Boughton Estates.

The area has been enclosed for at least 20 years.

It was proposed by Cllr Batchelor that there be no objection to the application. Seconded by Cllr Bailey, agreed by all councillors present with one abstention.

NK/2021/0098 and 0097: Mr P Frampton, 48 West Street, Geddington.

Replace 8 no. box sash windows and erect hazel hurdle fence to front.

It was proposed by Cllr Batchelor that there be no objection to the application. Seconded by Cllr Padwick. All councillors present approved of the motion except for one abstention.

NK/2021/0469: Mr & Mrs P Coleman: 22 Queen Eleanor Road, Geddington.

Replace outbuildings with single storey side and rear extensions and replace rear window with patio doors.

It was commented that there would be very little of the application that would be viewable from the road. It was proposed by Cllr Buckseall that there be no objection to the application. Seconded by Cllr Lomasney. All councillors present approved of the motion except for one abstention.

NK/2021/0458: Mr & Mrs C Scott, Boughton Wood Lodge, Boughton Wood Lodge Road, Geddington. Demolition of house and outbuildings and erection of 1 no. house and garage, to include photovoltaic panels and ground source heat pump

Noted by councillors that this application is virtually identical to the previous application submitted, with just minor changes. The house will be virtually unseen, and councillors approved it last time.

Proposed by Cllr Buckseall that there be no objection to the application, seconded by Cllr Batchelor, approved by all those present except for one abstention.

239/21: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND CIRCULATED, to note or comment upon.

An email had been received from Cllr Hakewell, who has organized a meeting for councillors from Kettering and Corby area villages concerning any future Rural Forum and to discuss options as to how it could work. At the last Rural Forum run by KBC, councillors with wards in rural areas agreed that a continuation of a Rural Form was desirable. Councillors were informed however that the formation of a new Rural Forum by NNC is currently under way. Councillors present decided therefore to wait and see what happens over the short term relating to if a new forum is formed.

ACTION 7: The clerk to acknowledge the invitation but to state that based on recent information councillors understand that there will be a new Rural Forum formed.

Councillors will then liaise with the unitary authority.

240/21. FIRST RESPONDERS - to discuss and agree whether to fund the defibrillator and if so, on what basis.

An email has been received from Rosemary Guthrie, Parish Council Fundraising Lead. She clarified her role within First Responders, and added that liaison with the Parish needed to start from the beginning again. She added that the original person who had contacted the Parish Council for funding opportunities was not now with the organisation. Ideally, she would like to see three First Responders, one for each of Geddington, Newton and Little Oakley. Volunteers appointed do have to pay for their own uniform and training. If a call is received for Geddington, the call goes through to the First Responders at the same time that it goes to the Ambulance Service.

She asked if the Parish Council was willing to support the scheme, and help with funding.

Comments made:

It appears to be a worthwhile scheme .

There are some medically trained people in the scheme.

Four hours a week on call is not a good return for £1500.00 given for a defibrillator.

There were six attendances in Geddington in April.

What happens to the defibrillator for the rest of the time?

Each person in the scheme has to commit to being on call for 200 hours a year.

Does the Parish Council have any say if the appointed person leaves and the replacement is not considered suitable?

The volunteers are encouraged to link into sponsorship, funding and assistance.

The fundraising lead would like to attend but is unavailable for June and July. The Parish Council would like attendance by the relevant person at the September meeting if possible.

ACTION 8: the clerk to convey the attendance request to First Responders.

241/21: ENVIRONMENT.

a) Labosport UK/Cricket Club update.

The Planning Officer who has been dealing with the proposed car park extension has left. No new person is in post yet.

Planning needs to consult again with Sport England and the English Cricket Board.

New warning signs will be installed shortly.

A company has attended the recreation field concerning nets (on behalf of the Cricket Club).

b) Proposal for working party to be formed concerning the Queen St/ Bridge St parking issues, as per the April Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Padwick offered to lead on this as it sits within the Parish Plan. Residents in the affected area will be asked what are their views as to any new suggestion put forward.

In summary, the working group will receive and put forward a range of suggestions and possibilities. Cllr Goode offered to be part of the working group and Cllr Johnson may wish to join it. The Working Group to report back to the September meeting.

c) Update on flooding issues.

Cllr Rowley reported that nobody replied to him in the last two weeks.

He will speak to Cllr Bailey concerning Little Oakley.

d) Stone pit land – progress?

Cllr Bailey confirmed that there was no progress at the present time. He had been told that it may take until December for any progress. The two leases for Stonepit land expire in December, but they can be rolled over or the lease renewal can be delayed.

ACTION 9: Cllr Bailey asked to be reminded to chase this with Land Registry.

e) Proposed road run 30th August 2021 – for information and discussion.

The Parish Council previously said this was a nice idea but the Parish Council did not support it. A letter from Highways was forwarded by the organisers and the road closure and race has been authorised. Cllr Rowley added that 48 people have signed up for the race.

Cllr Goode has taken the matter up with Highways, informing the meeting that a Kerry Palmer has signed the order. He stated that the Parish Council were not consulted on the road closure order, and was informed that Highways are supporting this type of activity.

ACTION 10: The route has not been circulated. The clerk will find this and forward it on to councillors.

It may need to be added to the Facebook page. Issues such as toilets and parking are serious concerns.

The postcode given for the location is the village green, Church Hill. There may be up to 200 runners, marshals and several water stations.

Cllr Padwick asked if anything could be done to stop the activity taking place in this location, and added that villagers needed to be aware of the activity.

It was expressed by councillors again that they cannot support this activity, but it was also reiterated that Highways said this is not a matter that the Parish Council can be consulted on.

ACTION 11: Cllr Rowley will email the relevant officer to query why it is being allowed to go ahead.

The discussion was summarised by Cllr Bailey stating that the Parish Council needs to write to Highways, stating how concerned the implications are for the residents particularly in the most affected part of Geddington, and they need to get back to us quickly.

ACTION 12: The Clerk will write to Highways as above.

ACTION 13: The clerk to write to Polka dot expressing the same concerns, and ask how are they going to manage the event.

f) The ford - popularity issues. Discussion to include whether to secure the access to the area, bin removal and requesting NNC wardens to attend.

At this stage of the meeting there was only six minutes left. It was decided that the issue warranted a longer time frame than that. Noted that the weekend of 11th, 12th and 13th saw parties in the berm and there are several resident complaints concerning the ford and the berm. The car park had not been full, but people were ignoring the no waiting signs and parking on the slip roads to the ford and in an inconsiderable manner. One councillor raised the possibility of physical barriers, with boulders down the side of the ford's slipways to prevent parking. Residents have a responsibility to telephone 101 for the enforcement role, but direct reporting to the rural Police is really needed. Some of the issues could be brought to the working group..

ACTION 14: The clerk to add the issue to the July agenda. The agenda issue to include voting on the berm (locking of the berm).

242/21 CODE OF CONDUCT, discussion and decision – for the Parish Council to have its own Code of Conduct or to adopt the NNC Code of Conduct.

Parts of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct document is out of date. The adoption of the NNC Code of Conduct resolves this.

After a short discussion it was proposed by Cllr Goode that the Parish Council adopts the NNC document. Seconded by Cllr Padwick, agreed by all councillors present.

ACTION 15: The clerk to ask councillors to sign the code of conduct forms as soon as possible.

NEWTON

No issues raised.

LITTLE OAKLEY

No issues raised.

AOB

No issues raised.

The meeting finished at 10.00pm.