

**GEDDINGTON, NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors N Batchelor (Chair), C Buckseall, P Goode, J Padwick, P Johnson and D Lomasney.

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors T Bailey and M Rowley.

**026/22: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Batchelor declared an interest in agenda item 6d) – as the householder.

**027/22: PUBLIC SESSION**

**a) Questions sent in by the public.**

None.

**PLANNING**

**a) Decisions.**

*NK/2021/0366: Mr & Mrs Hardy, The Manor House, Access Road To Manor House, Newton,  
Replacement conservatory. Approved.*

*NK/2021/0364: Mr & Mrs Hardy, The Manor House, Access Road To Manor House, Newton,  
Replacement conservatory. Approved.*

*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. Approved.*

*NK/2021/0155*

*Mr Barley: 8 Access Road To Newton House, Newton.*

*Single storey side extension with solar panels, installation of air source heat pump,  
replacement windows and doors, block up 2 no. first floor side windows, replace side shop  
window and central door with windows to match existing. Insert 2 no. roof lights. Porch to  
front. Expansion of driveway and landscaping. Approved.*

*NK/2021/0512: The Udder Pre-School, Cobley Lodge Farm, Stamford Road, Little Oakley.*

*Single storey side extension to nursery. Approved.*

*NK/2021/0593: Mr & Mrs S Arthur, 52 Chase View Road, Geddington.*

*Two storey rear extension with Juliette balcony, single storey porch extension to the front and additional window to first floor side elevation.*

Approved.

**b) NNC Right to Speak notices for:-**

*KET/2020/0876 Moat Farm, Little Oakley*

*KET/2020/0895 Moat Farm, Little Oakley*

There were no objections to the application so no action to be taken.

**028/22: PARISH PLAN**

**a) Parking Survey from the Working Group - next steps and actions.**

A survey in Bridge Street and Queen Street has been undertaken with a reasonable response was received – 33% of respondents replied (18 residents).

An overview of the responses received were as follows:-

- The majority of responders believe that the bridge and Café Oak areas were of the greatest concern.
- Abusive people were a concern.
- The safety of children was a concern.
- The summer holidays were the worst time for parking issues, abuse received etc, but it was acknowledged that covid and lockdowns had meant it was a particularly bad year for these issues.
- Boulders to prevent parking on the ford slipways was thought to be a good idea.

The working group will come back with some proposals by the next meeting.

Cllr Johnson had plotted where the responses had been received from on a map covering the ford to the Cross.

Cllrs Johnson, Padwick and Goode as the working group will meet again before the October meeting. They are both keen to reply to residents with a response.

**ACTION 1:** Quotes for boulders will be obtained, with one quotation to come from the Unitary Council (Kettering). The size of suitable boulders will also need to be determined.

**029/22: CONSULTATION ON THE SPATIAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE ARC, which opened on 20 July 2021 and closes on 12 October 2021.**

This consultation concerns the Oxford/Cambridge development area. Northamptonshire abuts it therefore it is included in the consultation.

Councillors did not feel that there was relevance of discussing this at a parish council level.

It was proposed by Cllr Goode that no formal comment be made on the consultation.

Seconded by Cllr Batchelor, agreed by all councillors present.

**030/22: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND CIRCULATED - to note or comment upon.**

**a) Police Liaison Representative scheme – update as to Geddington representation.**

An article will be written for the newsletter to explain what the scheme is and to enquire if a resident would like to be a Police Liaison Representative. This will be submitted for inclusion in the next newsletter (published 15<sup>th</sup> November).

**ACTION 2: Cllr Batchelor will add an article to Facebook shortly to promote this scheme.**

**b) Email from resident concerning Stone Pit Land – car parking area.**

The letter summarised the background to the land being used by the Youth Club and then for the charity Geddington Volunteer Fire Brigade. The footprint on which the buildings stand was covered by rental agreements with the Parish Council.

Following an article in the newsletter concerning usage of the car park, security and vandalism, the resident urged the Parish Council to remind the Youth Club management of the Stone Pit land's original use and that it should be used for the benefit of the whole community.

A discussion ensued regarding usage of the car park. This has risen to the forefront in recent months., with the Parish Council being more focussed on use of the Stone Pit land and the car park in particular.

**ACTION 3: The clerk was asked to thank the resident for the letter, and the Parish Council will bear these thoughts in mind when considering usage of the land.**

**c) 74<sup>th</sup> Northants CALC Conference & AGM – bookings deadline is 27<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021.**

Noted that the booking close at end of today.

**d) Email from resident concerning road markings request – east end of West Street.**

Cllr Batchelor had declared an interest in this agenda item. He therefore stepped outside the room and Cllr Goode as Vice Chair led the meeting for this agenda item.

Cllr Goode explained that the thatched roof of 1 West Street overhangs the road, and the larger lorries often catch the corner of the thatched roof. The yellow lines have been replaced in July this year as they were quite worn, but the area further along between the yellow lines and the small path should be marked with diagonal white lines. Golden gravel would be a better option for floor marking as it would make this area look like a path, but this would have to come out of a different budget. Diagonal white lines could be painted by Highways, with the Parish Council being asked if they will support this. It does not increase the parking restrictions. Councillors expressed their support for it, with one councillor saying that it would be beneficial to see additional measures put in place for this area.

It was proposed by Cllr Buckseall that the addition of diagonal white lines be supported.

Seconded by Cllr Lomasney, approved by all councillors present.

**ACTION 4: The clerk to convey the approval of the Parish Council of diagonal white lines being painted to Ian Boyes (WNC).**

**e) Public Consultation on NNC Draft Summary Corporate Plan Consultation – expiry date for comments is 3.10.21.**

Both individual councillor responses as well as a Parish Council response were encouraged, and at least one councillor had submitted a response. The draft corporate plan was seen as an attempt to state an “aims” process rather than focussing on residents, and there was no reference to financial controls. An example was given – high speed broadband is listed, but there was no mention of making communities feel safe.

There was no weight to the document; it was stating values and aims. It was felt that for what it is, it is an acceptable document.

Comments made: -

- There does not appear to be any relevant Parish Council role mentioned.
- There are no quantified ambitions or targets.
- We would hope that in the next stage of this that there is more detail as to how you are going to engage with rural parish councils, going forward.
- We look forward to seeing in the detailed plan consistency with consulting and liaising with local councils as they are the closest to the communities.
- We look forward to the next level of detail and liaison with Parish Councils as the next level of democratic services.

**ACTION 5: The clerk to submit the comments to the survey.**

**f) Email from John and Beryl Goodall 12.9.21 concerning break-in at the Youth Club.**

An email had been received informing the Parish Council of a break-in at the Youth Club, and the unhelpful response from the Police when they were informed of this.

A short discussion ensued on the response of the Police for both this incident and other similar crimes that have been reported.

**ACTION 6: The Parish Council needs a list of “who does what” with the Police, as the Parish Council would like a more open and inclusive relationship with the Police. The clerk to request such a list.**

It was felt that this perfectly illustrated how a Police Liaison volunteer would be a positive step forward, and Cllr Batchelor reminded the meeting that he is going to add an article to Facebook to see if a resident would be interested in taking on the role.

**ACTION 7: The clerk to reply to John and Beryl Goodall. Councillors stated that they share their frustration, and that other people have also experienced a similar response when a break-in has been reported. To also convey that the Parish Council are looking to facilitate a Police Liaison Representative which will be advertised in due course.**

**031/22: ENVIRONMENT.**

**a) Parking on the slip roads to the ford – update.**

It was noted that this issue will be included in the overview of parking in the centre of the village as a whole.

**b) Extension car park application /Cricket Club update.**

The target date for the decision was 8<sup>th</sup> October. The Case Officer has reconsulted with Sport England and they have given a positive response.

**c) Stone pit land – to consider progress, next steps and whether assistance/answers are needed for Cllr Bailey**

Cllr Bailey is instructing the chartered surveyors to carry out a valuation of the land.

**d)Environmental awareness and plans: climate, greener villages, Jubilee tree planting, policies. - Commencement of discussion required.**

Cllr Lomasney will explore this topic at a local level to find out what can be initiated to encourage greener more sustainable living within the immediate area. One or two residents have mentioned tying up different initiatives to move this issue forward. Initiatives such as Jubilee tree planting may have already been carried out in the local area – this needs to be checked.

It was noted that woodland trees were currently being supplied by Ncalc on a first come first served basis.

He will also explore the possibility of electric car charging points in the Village Hall car park.

He will put some ideas together and bring them to the November meeting. The meeting was reminded that anything that is suggested must be tangible and able to be Parish Council - responsible.

Cllr Padwick thought that tree planting should involve the community, by asking how can you help? what can you do? and should be included in the next Parish Plan.

It was also noted that possibly the Parish Council 's own policies ought to be reviewed as to where services are bought in from. Best Value should now incorporate sustainability, and ACRE may be useful to explore this avenue.

**ACTION 8: Cllr Lomasney will carry out some research and come back with specific items or possible actions.**

**NEWTON.**

A resident has shown interest in becoming a parish councillor.

**ACTION 9: Cllr Lomasney will ask him if he would like to attend the November meeting.**

**LITTLE OAKLEY.**

No issues raised.

**032/22: CODE OF CONDUCT** *(carried over from 13.9.21 meeting).*

The model code of conduct needs the title altering to this Parish's name.

**ACTION 10: The clerk will change this.**

**033/22: REVISION OF STANDING ORDERS.** *(carried over from 13.9.21 meeting).*

A working party of Cllrs D Lomasney, P Goode and P Johnson have read through the new model of Standing Orders and populated it with the existing standing orders. The results will be circulated, but as the resulting discussion will dominate a general meeting an extraordinary Council meeting will be needed. It was pointed out that as they are the structures on which the Council runs, a detailed discussion of the many points was needed.

**ACTION 11: Cllr Goode will circulate the marked-up document in advance of an extraordinary meeting.**

**ACTION 12: Cllr Goode will propose an extraordinary Parish Council meeting at the October monthly meeting.**

**034/22: POLKA DOT ROAD RACE.** – re-scheduled to April 2022 – discussion *(carried over from 13.9.21 meeting).*

Cllr Johnson stated that the organizer had responded, but councillors had not been able to discuss the item through lack of time. The organisers have rescheduled the race to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and this has been advertised on Facebook. They have asked the Village Hall Committee for use of the village hall to use as a pub and car park on the day for the staging area. They have offered five free places that can be run for charities, and the Parish Council has been offered £250 to spend how it wishes. The maximum number of runners is 200.

Comments made: -

- The August 2021 date was the bank holiday and with other activities taking place it was entirely unsuitable. An April date may be different.
  - How would parking for up to 200 runners plus vehicles for organisers and marshals work? The current list of runners does not indicate that many are Parish residents therefore most runners would need to travel to the event.
  - The centre of the village would be closed off for the event.
  - £250 to the Parish Council is not really applicable for this issue, or the five free places.
  - The fundamental problem is an event this size in a village the size of Geddington.
  - Have the organisers engaged with residents in West Street and Queen Street. How are they going to consult with residents in the areas that would be closed?
  - Is anything else happening in the village on that day?
  - Even if the whole of the car park was allocated to them for that day, 44 spaces is not enough.
  - Have they explored an out of village field for car parking? Or the Youth Club car park, or the field where Larkfleet Homes have submitted a planning application?
  - We would be closing the village for a private organisation that would be making a profit.
  - The event will only accommodate the physically fit.
  - The road is closed – no vehicles would be able to move out of the village until the roads re-open at midday.
  - Out of 200 runners it appears that only 10% will be from the village. (Approximation from the previous race breakdown).
  - The Parish Council cannot stop it – the Parish Council were not consulted on the road closure scheme.
  - The organisers need to be asked (again) for a parking plan.
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- If we cannot stop it, we need to minimise the chaos.

Cllr Batchelor had met with the organiser who had agreed to move the date to 2022. He was explicit that parking must be in place for 200 visitors. He added that the Parish Council cannot tell them where to park as there is nowhere and they have not yet submitted a parking solution. It was confirmed that since Cllr Batchelor met with the organiser, they have not engaged with the Parish Council.

Cllr Padwick proposed that a letter be sent to the organisers stating that the Parish Council cannot support the event unless and until a parking plan is viewed. The event may be able to be reconsidered once this has been seen and discussed. Seconded by Cllr Goode, agreed by all councillors present.

**ACTION 13: The clerk to write to the organiser, advising that without a comprehensive parking plan the Parish Council cannot support the event. If they can forward the parking plan councillors will be happy to consider it and possibly reconsider its position.**

**ACTION 13: Cllr Goode will report the Parish Council position to the Village Hall Management Committee. The VHMC could not in any case guarantee sole use of the car park.**

**AOB**

None

*There being no further business, the meeting finished at 9.49pm.*