



www.newnham-parish.org.uk

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 5th December 2022 in the Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillors	Mr T Regan (Chair)
	Mr T Collins
	Mr G Hammersley
	Mr J Simpson
Clerk	Mrs M Money

West Northants Councillor Rupert Frost was also present

01.12.22 To receive and approve apologies for absence

There were no apologies.

02.12.22 Declarations of Interest for items on the agenda

No interests disclosed

03.12.22 To approve and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th November 2022

Subject to inclusion of comments from Cllr Simpson email of 25/11/22, and on a proposal by Cllr T Collins it was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 7th November be approved and signed.

04.12.22 Public Time (3 minutes per speaker)

Cllr R Frost reported that community grants are available at six monthly intervals. Cost of living support is also available subject to certain conditions. Cllr Hammersley suggest that this funding should be promoted through The Link, Website and on the Community Facebook page.

National Grid had closed the top of Church Street without notifying the Parish Council. Cllr Frost will look into this.

West Northants Council original Budget had shown a cost saving but now austerity measures are having to be introduced. A decision on where cost savings can be achieved has yet to be decided.

Cllr R Frost left the meeting at 8.00.p.m.

The Clerk, Marion Money has decided to retire and has given her notice. At this point the Chairman asked the Council's thanks be recorded for the Clerk's dedication and support of the village over her 15-year tenure as Clerk. She was asked if she could defer her retirement to the end of January to allow for a replacement to be recruited. The Clerk was happy to do this.

05.12.22 i) Vacancies for Parish Councillors

Despite continuous advertising of the vacancies nobody has shown any interest. It was suggested that a special event in the Romer should be held "Parish in the Pub" where residents could get a better idea of what is involved in being a Parish Councillor. The date suggested is Wednesday 18th January 2023. Event to be confirmed.

06.12.22 Traffic calming

a) Data and Update of Speed Indicator Devices (SID)

The data has still not been collected and this will be done in the very near future.

b) Update with SID Badby Road/Bradbury Road junction

The keys have not yet been returned by Steve Chandler. A volunteer has come forward to be responsible for the SID's.

c) Weedon Road

A Section 50 Amendment is needed by Pells who will be carrying out the work. Cllr Hammersley will follow this up.

07.12.22 Correspondence and AD Hoc items

a) Blockage/standing water in Badby Road, from drainage/ditches behind "Brookside)

The limescale has still be to be removed and should be completed within 6 months. An action log will be started to follow progress and enable the item to be removed from the agenda.

b) Update on street light maintenance

The Clerk is still pursuing this.

c) Consider quotes for contractor to clear land north and south of Daventry Road/Staverton Road crossroads and outside Burial Ground – Working party to help if required

Two quotes (one for each area) have been received from Daventry Driveways in the sums of £710.00 and £940.00. It was agreed to accept the quotes on the understanding that it includes removal of the tree roots.

d) Update on discussions with Norse regarding emptying the bin now located outside The Romer

There has been no further discussion and this item will be removed from the agenda.

e) Update on tree work including schedule for completing the work

Cllr Simpson will write to James at Cutting Edge to move this forward.

f) Local Government Boundary review

Initial Consultation by WNC on revising Ward boundaries is now closed. A Consultation on the draft recommendations will be held between 7/2/23 and 17/4/23.

g) Update on request for water supply to allotments

The Clerk reported that she has written again to Anglian Water without any response and will chase again

h) Update on provision of broadband to Village Hall

BT and Gigaclear have both given quotes. Cllr T Collins is awaiting clarification from BT. It was agreed that the Gigaclear quote of £30 per complete month (ex vat) for a minimum term of 24 months along with an activation cost of £166.67 (ex vat) be approved and that Gigaclear be the accepted contractor subject to it remaining cheaper than BT,

i) Potential planting locations for 29 Jubilee saplings

Sue Venner is happy to keep them in the short term. Cllr Simpson has identified two possible areas and will be speaking to the landowners shortly.

j) Coronation of King Charles III on 6th May

The Jubilee Committee have agreed to take on organisation of events for the weekend. The cost of renting a marquee is just under £2,500.00. The Parish Council will underwrite this. A deposit of £665.82 is required and approval was given to pay this

k) Change of date of May meeting scheduled for 8th May

As 8th May is now a bank holiday for the Kings Coronation, this meeting will be moved to 15th May.

l) Village entrance sign

The current signs need to be more welcoming with wording such as “Welcome to Newnham”. It has been suggested that structures across the verge could be introduced. Highways approval will be necessary, and Cllr Hammersley agreed to start the conversation initially with Steve Barber

m) Condition of plant troughs

These need replacing and quotes will be obtained in time for the next meeting.

n) Approve additional inscription to the Burrows headstone

Approved.

o) Waste bin in playing field

This has now been emptied and will be monitored.

p) Request from Chayomer to lay gas connection across The Green

The Council is waiting to hear from Mr Gidley.

08.12.22 Financial

a) Bank balance on 5th December 2022 is £55,197.93. of which £30,858.87 is held as General & Earmarked Reserves

b) To approve payment of the following accounts

	Payee	Details	Amount	VAT	Total	Stat.Power
B/P	Mrs M Money	Salary/Expenses	416.50.		416.50	LGA 72 - Sec 112
B/P	Anthony Collins	Legal work for Futures Housing re: Allotment lease	1106.00	220.00	1326.00	LGA 72- Sec 111
B/P	T Regan	Christmas Tree	44.95 (not		44.95 (not	LGA 72-sec 111

			49.95 as per agenda)		49.95 as per agenda)	
--	--	--	----------------------------	--	----------------------------	--

Cllr Simpson proposed payment of the above invoices which was approved.

Cllr Simpson also proposed payment of the following accounts with ratification to take place at the next meeting. All the payments were approved

	Payee	Details	Amount	VAT	Total	Stat.Power
B/P	Mrs M Money	Arrears of salary following NJC award <i>To be ratified at January meeting</i>	240.00		240.00	LGA 72 – Sec 112
B/P	Communicorp	Clerks & Councils Direct magazine <i>To be ratified at January meeting</i>	14.00		14.00	LGA 72 – Sec 111
B/P	Village Hall Committee	November meeting <i>To be ratified at January meeting</i>	17.00		17.00	LGA 72 – Sec 111
B/P`	Intents Marquees	Hire deposit – Coronation <i>To be ratified at January meeting</i>	665.82		665.82	LGA 72 – Sec 111

d) **Monies received** - £95 re burial of Mr A K Burrows and £60.00 re headstone Miss J Edmunds

e) **Budget proposals for next year – 1/4/23 to 31/3/24**

Cllr T Collins had circulated a revised budget proposal. The budget figures were approved in principle with some discussion on the level of reserves. A final decision on the Budget and level of precept will be made at the January meeting.

f) **CIL report**

Cllr Simpson had prepared this years report which was approved and would be submitted to WNC. The Parish Council had not been in receipt of any CIL money during the year to 31/3/22.

09.12.22 Planning

a) Issues

Conservation area review – outcome of WNC Planning Committee Review

Nothing to report – the review has not yet appeared as an agenda item on the Planning Policy Committee

b) Applications - None received.

c) Decisions – None notified.

10.12.22 Handyperson

Update on recruitment of new handyperson

Due to an increase in his other work, Steve Chandler is no longer able to undertake work on our behalf. To date there have been no responses to the advert, which includes a revised rate of £15 per hour. A decision needs to be made on whether the person appointed should be self-employed or on the Council's payroll. The Clerk to clarify the position with regard to insurance.

11.12.22 Health and Safety

a) Burial Ground – The shed door is sticking.

b) Churchyard – (i) installation of handrails along the slopes leading down to the dip and up towards Mounts Lane – Still waiting for a decision from the Diocese

c) Play Area – Checklist to be reviewed in line with work for the new handyperson.

12.12.22 Grass cutting and burial ground hedges

a) Review and update of 2023 contract to include improvement/usage

Cllr Hammersley will contact Luke Costello about signing the Contract although verbal agreement has been reached.

b) Update on any quote for hedge cutting/laying

Cllr Hammersley will follow this up.

13.12.22 Review Annual Parish Meeting held on 26th May 2022

Update on items arising from written reports

This item is now complete.

14.12.22 Update on Annual Tree Survey of trees on The Green.

The quote from Cutting Edge has been accepted. Cllr Simpson will contact James to push for a date for the work to be done.

Discussion then turned to putting the lights in the trees for Christmas and connecting to the power source. Cutting Edge might put the lights in the trees when they do the tree work. Cllr T Regan will continue to pursue an electrician to connect the power

from the street lights to the Bus Shelter and from which the additional tree lights can then connect

15.12.22 Items for next meeting

Approval of £200 payment to Citizens Advice

16.12.22 Date of next meeting

Monday 9th January 2023 at 7.30.p.m. in the Village Hall

Contact details

Marion Money – Clerk to Newnham Parish Council
2 Western Row,
Daventry, NN11 4UD

Email:- Clerk@newnham-parish.org.uk

Tel:- 07955 644587