

NEWTON ON THE MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the electronic Parish Council Meeting held
Wednesday 24th June 2020 at 7.00pm online at **ZOOM**: <https://zoom.us/join>
DURING COVID 19 EMERGENCY

1.	Public Question Time (Max 15 minutes in total) – One member of the public present. No questions asked.	
2.	Present: Cllr D. Francis, Cllr D. Rixon, Cllr G. Anderson, Cllr Ms E. Clark, Cllr Mrs S. Stanley, Cllr N. Mansfield, Cllr S. Woolfrey. The Clerk was in attendance.	
3.	Apologies for absence: Cllrs S. Cutforth and Mrs K. Howard-Row.	
4.	Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda: None.	
5a.	Minutes of the ‘virtual’ Annual Parish Council meeting held on 24th May 2020: The Minutes were agreed as a true record subject to adding Cllr Ms Clarks attendance and amendment to title of item 8d, and approved for signing.	
5b.	To consider matters arising from the ‘virtual’ Annual Parish Council meeting held on 24th May 2020: a. <u>Potholes in road opposite Quarry House, NotM</u> – Clerk advised these had now been repaired. A question was asked about recent patching in Nelson Drive. Cllrs thought this had been done by NCC who will do occasional patching but not bring roads to adoptable standard. b. <u>Beware of deer signs on Leamington Lane, particularly past the school</u> – A request had been sent to NCC who had responded suggesting the PC adds this to its three priorities for the Local Transport Scheme 21/22.	
6.	Requested agenda items: a. <u>Request to reduce 60mph speed limit on Leamington Lane, Swarland.</u> For discussion and decision on way ahead. Email from resident and accident statistics (4 incidents) previously circulated. The Chairman explained the NCC Local Transport Plan procedure with 3 priorities being invited from PC though no guarantee these would be actioned. PC normally invited suggestions from residents in July/August Column. Member of the public asked how other speed limits in Parish had come about. The Chairman said originally all roads 60mph and gradually changes lobbied for by PC. Decision on speed limits down to NCC. A 20mph limit is planned for around school with interactive speed monitoring signs. b. <u>Vyner Park update</u> (Cllr Woolfrey) Management Team meeting planned via ZOOM for 30th June, and AGM will be later in the year. Nelsons to reopen late July but no date provided. Has been some pressure to re-open the play area. Advice on reopening to be researched and will be discussed at meeting. c. <u>Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20</u> – Note: PC Annual accounts for 2019/20, PC Asset Register and PC Risk Assessment were reviewed and agreed at the meeting at the meeting of 22 nd April 2020. AGAR 3 attached as Appendix 1. Internal audit has been completed and some recommendations on improvements received. Small error on expenditure (see Item 8 below). I. Confirm appointment of Internal Auditor – Agreed. II. Vyner Park Charity Accounts 2019/20 - Consider and approve (Appendix 2). Cllr Anderson said note 4 on the VPC accounts could be deleted.- Accounts noted/agreed.	

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	<p>III. To consider and agree any actions arising from the report of the internal auditor (If any). Internal auditor's comments on additional control measures have been passed to VPC Chairman/Treasurer.</p> <p>IV. To approve the Section 1 Annual Governance Statement (AGAR 3).Went through statements individually – all agreed and approved for signing.</p> <p>V. To approve the Section 2 Accounting Statements, Explanation of Variances and Bank reconciliation (AGAR 3). – Section 2 together with bank reconciliation and variances agreed and approved for signing.</p> <p>d. <u>Continuing Problems arising during Coronavirus Emergency eg. flytipping, public rights of way closure</u> – for discussion and decision on action (if any). Now NCC tips are open there have been no more fly tipping incidents. The issues of footpath obstruction had been addressed.</p> <p>e. <u>Section 106 Agreements in Planning</u> (Cllr Rixon) Discussion on making the most out of these opportunities and way forward. Chairman summarised some of the PC successes in achieving planning gain eg affordable housing when larger planning applications have been approved. Cllr Rixon said more pushing is needed to ensure developers don't renegotiate planning conditions once approval granted. Clerk to check Cussins Rosetta Gardens affordable housing requirement. To take this forward, the possibility of making planning gain recommendations will need to be considered by the PC for all future planning consultations.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Report by County Councillor and meetings attended by Councillors:</p> <p>a.Cemetery Committee – Cllr Anderson explained that the costs of Felton Cemetery are shared between Felton, Thirston and NotM& S PC's based on numbers in the Parish. The Felton Clerk has found letter from 2003 saying reduced rate should apply to whole of NotM & S Parish which may require an increased contribution from NotM & S PC and/or amendment to the Cemetery Constitution. This would also apply to Hazon residents. Clerk to obtain details for further discussion at the July/August PC meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Finance:</p> <p>a. Clerk's salary £362.95 Clerks Expenses £ 45.03 Payment to HM Revenues & Customs PAYE = £72.60 Payment to Clerk = £362.95 + £45.03 - £72.60 = £335.38</p> <p>b. Other receipts and payments: i)Receipts: NCC Grant for Parish Coronavirus Volunteer Group - £500 has been received. To be used for ongoing support for community use. Expenditure on this will need to be accounted for. ii)Payments: None.</p> <p>c. Account balance as at 18th June 2020 £22,567.41</p> <p>d. VAT reclaim applied for (not yet received) 2-4-2019 – 31.3.20. Total £2499.46.</p> <p>Minor discrepancy picked up during internal audit will be addressed in July pay. The Chairman said that he will be carrying out a review of the Clerks terms and conditions/pay soon as this had not been done since 2014/15. All the above were noted/agreed.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Planning:</p> <p>a. To report on any planning decisions made by NCC: 19/00823/FUL - Erection of 1 No. dwellinghouse (C3 use) plus new access - Land South West of Chesterhill Farm, Leamington Lane, Swarland Northumberland. The Parish Council objected to this application for several reasons including safety risks regarding the proposed new access onto Leamington Lane.The application was refused by NCC on 7th November and an Appeal was lodged with the Secretary of State Appeal Ref: APP/P2935/W/19/3241813. REFUSED.</p>	

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20/00369/FUL - Construction of 2no. bungalows and 1no. detached garage - Land To The Rear Of 2 Kenmore Road Swarland Morpeth Northumberland. The Parish Council objected to this application mainly on the basis that the site is too small for the proposed development. Application PERMITTED 12/6/20.

19/01688/FUL - Percy Wood Golf And Country Retreat, Sylvian House, Leamington Lane, Swarland, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 9JW - Reconfiguration of existing reception area with a new restaurant and storage facility, splash park, caravan sales area and associated parking. Parish Council objected on basis of appearance of proposed building and problems with disposal of water from splash park. PERMITTED. It was noted that the drainage issues raised by the PC had been integrated into the planning conditions.

b. Applications pending decision by NCC

19/00335/FUL - Construction of No7 New dwellings at land adjacent 3 Nelson Drive Morpeth - 3 Nelson Drive Swarland Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9JR. The Parish Council objected to this application on several grounds including too high a density and mass of development, no need for additional 4+ bedroomed houses in Swarland, and effects on tree belt.

19/01687/FUL - Change of use of land for the siting of up to 60 static caravans, along with associated infrastructure and hard and soft landscaping – Land north west of Springwood, Coast View, Swarland, Northumberland. The PC objected for a range of reasons including adverse visual impact, too close to existing buildings, sewerage and drainage capacity issues, and highways safety.

19/05021/FUL - Proposed new detached dwelling - 5 Kenmore Road, Swarland NE65 9JS. The Parish Council objected to this application for a range of reasons including that there was insufficient room for the development, and that the proposed development is out of keeping with neighbouring properties.

20/00163/FUL – Construction of new stables and access from private garden to field. 3 Old Park Road, Swarland, Northumberland. The Parish Council made no objections to this application. As at 19/6/20, awaiting decision.

20/00176/OUT - Outline planning permission with all matters reserved, except for access, for the construction of up to 9No residential units - Land South Of Mereburn House, Low Wood, Swarland, Northumberland. The Parish Council objected to this application for a range of reasons including lack of justification of the need for the development, traffic concerns, and highways issues. As at 19/6/20, awaiting decision.

20/01079/FUL – Proposed four bedroom detached dormer bungalow with attached double garage - Land South West Of 2 The Orchard, Nelson Drive, Swarland, Northumberland. The Parish Council asked for a TPO's tree to be protected, and for a contribution to the repair of Nelson Drive.

20/01279/REM - Reserved matters application relating to 17/03283/OUT seeking approval of details for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale - Land East And North East Of 8 Kenmore Road, Swarland NE65 9JS. The Parish Council did not object to this application but suggested white render instead of brick finish.

20/00717/FUL – Construction of detached garage - The Old Pheantry, 5 Home Farm Cottages Swarland NE65 9JH. The Parish Council had no objections. As at 19/6/20, awaiting decision.

20/00570/CLEXIS - Certificate of lawful development for existing vehicular access to Pine Lodge off B6345 Pine Lodge, Old Swarland, Swarland, Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9HU. The Parish Council objected to this application on grounds including that it was of the opinion the access was unlawful having only been established in 2019.

20/01191/REM - Reserved matters application for layout, scale, appearance and landscaping of approved planning application 16/04129/OUT. Land South Of Mereburn House, Low Wood,

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	<p>Swarland. The Parish Council objected to this application on grounds which included that the application was incomplete, highways safety issues a etc.</p> <p>20/01037/OUT - Resubmission Outline permission for the development of 2 dwellings, all matters reserved. Land South Of Bowling Green U3135 Swarland Village Loop Road, Swarland Northumberland. The Parish Council did not object to this application but made several comments including suggestions for improving the appearance of the buildings, and the need to protect trees and shrubs on the site.</p> <p>20/01343/PRUTPO - Land Adjacent To Plot 15 Old Park Road Swarland Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 9HJ - Tree Preservation Order: T740 - Ash tree - remove top 2m of tree and removal of remaining vertical stem, T739 - Ash tree - Broken branch at 4m to be removed and 3m to be removed from lower branch and deadwood to be removed where present at 8m, Tree T739a - Lime tree - remove at its base the minor offshoot on north east side of the tree and small Lime tree - partial crown reduction by 1m on north east side of tree. The Parish Council had no objections to this application but raised concerns about possible damage to trees on site.</p> <p>c. Planning matters for Parish Council to consider. None current.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>Complaints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report from Local Resident of unconverted (to LED) street light, Swarland No 79NE– reported to NCC 19th September 2019. Advised by resident that works completed 12.6.20. • Missing Horse awareness signs – reported to NCC 30th November 2019. • Report from NCC officer – green slime on pavement beside Obelisk is slipping hazard – passed to Felton PC 5th December 2019. 19.3.2020 Felton PC advised work completed. • Loose sign at Leamington Lane/The Avenue crossroads. Reported to NCC 15.1.2020. Sign removed. To be replaced. • Right hand turn sign broken off in NotM (beside Ash Cottage) reported to NCC 23.1.2020. Chased up with NCC Area Highways Manager 19.2.2020 and 28.4.2020. The Chairman said the sign has now been fixed. • Leamington Lane drain and manhole outside Swarland Primary school – blockage issues referred to NCC 5.2.2020. Being taken up by NCC/OpenReach. • Complaint from residents (repeated) defective streetlight on corner of The Avenue/Kenmore Road , Swarland – No. 11NE – (originally reported to NCC 18th October 2019 & Repaired 30th November 2019). Reported again 10.2.2020 and 28.4.2020. Resident advised 22.5.20 now repaired and working. • Potholes opposite Quarry House, NotM reported to NCC 12/2/20 & photos sent in. Reported again 20.3.20 with additional photos. Site checked 1.6.20 work done. • Worn road markings at NotM reported 10.3.2020. • Broken off directions footpath sign on Footpath No 35 (south end) reported to NCC 10.3.20 and photos sent in to Countryside Officer. • Request for street sign to Old Park Road – referred to NCC 20.3.2020 who have placed order for sign. Temporary sign put in place by Cussins. • Possible infestation of Japanese Knotweed on agricultural land NotM. Advice sought from NCC 1.5.20. Landowner and neighbour informed. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for 'beware of deer sign' on Leamington Lane sent to NCC 4.6.20. <p>Cllr Clark said that with regard to the ongoing road condition problems at Hazon, she will be attending a site meeting with NCC on Friday 26th June to look at flooding issues which will need to be addressed before the road surface can be improved.</p>	
12.	<p>Correspondence: Receipt from St Oswald's Hospice for £30 donation. FOI Query on length of service of parish councillors. Response sent. Update from Northumbria Police (Alnwick Police Station) on local issues. Request for apology regarding footpath obstruction issue.</p>	
13.	<p>Requests for Next Agenda: a.Cemetery Committee – apportionment of costs.</p>	
14.	<p>Urgent items: a.Wall adjacent to Highway NotM – Cllr Rixon has noticed wall in village bulging possibly due to pressure from tree behind it. Would like NCC to look at this in case of risk to Highway. Landowners to be advised.</p>	
15.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: 22/7/2020 SVH (as Jubilee Hall is currently not available), 26/8/2020 SVH, 23/9/2020 JH.</p>	

Meeting finished at: 20.05