

NEWTON ON THE MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Swarland Village Hall
Wednesday 23rd March 2022

1.	Public Question Time (Max 15 minutes in total) None.	
2.	Present: Cllr D. Francis (Chair) Cllr G. Anderson, Cllr Stanley, Cllr C. Letts, Cllr K. Howard-Row, Cllr J. Fallais, Cllr D. Rixon and Cllr L. Clark. County Councillor Trevor Thorne The Clerk was in attendance and one member of the public.	
3.	Apologies for absence: Cllrs S. Woolfrey and N. Mansfield.	
4.	Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda: None.	
5.	Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February 2022: These were agreed.	
6.	<p>To consider matters arising from meeting held on 23rd February 2022:</p> <p>a. <u>Remote meeting/training session/feedback/ on drainage and other issues with NCC Interim Director of Planning & Local Services 14th Sept 2021</u> – See b.</p> <p>b. <u>Request for site meeting about Swarland roads with NCC Interim Director of Planning & Local Services</u> – Cllr Francis said that Rob Murfin had contacted him to give a progress report on the unadopted roads and they had had an online meeting. RM said his objective is to have all the roads brought up to a ‘decent standard’. Some roads could not be made up to adoptable standards eg. no room for a pavement to be constructed. NCC exploring feasibility of adopting sections of road where it was possible. Also, bringing other stretches to a safe standard and thereafter maintaining them. RM said he would confirm this in writing and update Cllr Thorne. Cllr Thorne and the member of the public said that they still wanted a site meeting with an authoritative person/RM. Clerk to try to get meeting date. Cllr Rixon suggested that it would be worth asking Northumbria Water to look at surface water drainage and capacity issues before road surface works were done to avoid having to re-excavate. Clerk to contact NW.</p> <p>c. <u>Resilient Communities</u> – NCC Emergency Planning had responded and offered to attend PC meeting and have sent a Community Plan template. Cllr Francis said that it would be essential to have the community involved in this although the PC could and should offer help and facilitate this especially given the concern in the Parish following Storm Arwen. It was agreed that a public meeting would be arranged to which the Emergency Planning Officer would be invited. Clerk to get dates.</p> <p>d. <u>Car parking at NotM.</u> – Cllr Anderson said he had raised this issue at the Jubilee Hall Cttee meeting. They are going to write to user groups and encourage them to park more sensitively. A sign to this effect will be put up in the hall. Cllr Francis said he had made contact with the resident whose car was damaged while parked on the C106. Clerk and Cllr Francis to meet with the resident soon.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Francis & Clerk</p>
7.	<p>Requested agenda items:</p> <p>a. <u>Vyner Park Update</u> (Cllr Woolfrey). The Clerk said that the next meeting of the Vyner Park Management Committee was to be on 7th April. The VPC has just been awarded an Omicron Hospitality and Leisure grant of £2600 by NCC.</p> <p>b. <u>Climate Action Group</u> – Cllr Clark provided an update. So far, SNAC has had 3 meetings and is running around 6 main projects including a bus use survey in the April Column, a survey of paths and bridleways in the Parish, extension of recycling provision, and tree planting. A composting seminar is to be held in May, and an application is being submitted to the NCC Jubilee fund for 2 specimen trees and other planting. The total cost of planting/signs will be £560</p>	

NEWTON ON THE MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

	<p>and therefore a £60 donation is requested from the PC. This was agreed and the application is to be submitted in the name of the PC.</p> <p>c. <u>Planning Application 19/01687/FUL</u> – Discussion and agreement on content on presentation to NCC North Area Council Planning Committee for 24th March. Cllr Stanley is registered to attend the meeting to speak. She has circulated a draft of her presentation by email and various comments have been made. There is real concern in the community about potential disturbance from holiday lets so close to existing dwellings. Cllrs considered it was important to maintain a green space as separation. Density is also of concern. Compared to the existing Percy Wood site the proposed site is about 25% more dense. A local resident is also registered to speak against the application and has been liaising with Cllr Stanley.</p> <p>d. <u>Review of PC standing orders and financial regs</u> – update from Finance Group. Draft document attached at Appendix A. The Finance group met on 9th March and went through the NALC model document to update it and make relevant to the PC. The resultant document has been circulated and was agreed by the PC.</p> <p>e. <u>Recharge of Insurance cost to Vyner Park Charity Management Committee</u> – Between 2018-2021 the PC/VPC were insured with Zurich Municipal and the annual premium was £1517. Zurich were unable to give a complete split of the insurance cover but said that £990 of this was for the Pavilion. In consequence VPC paid back £990 each year.</p> <p>In 2021 a three year contract was set up with BHiB Ltd. Cost of Insurance for PC and VPC as a Committee of the PC is £1063.59 per annum. BHiB say they cannot provide a split in the insurance. This was considered by the PC's Finance Group on 9th March and it was suggested that VPC reimburse on a pro-rata basis ie 65.26% of the total amount. This equates to £694.00. This arrangement was agreed by the PC. In future years nett off against grant.</p>													
<p>8.</p>	<p>Report by County Councillor and meetings attended by Councillors: Cllr Thorne said that NCC has agreed its budget for 22/23 with an emphasis of protecting front line services. NCC is also investing and working to attract industry into the corridor around the proposed railway line. Borderlands funding is being used mainly for the 7 towns in Northumberland including Alnwick. A c Climate change plan has been produced and investment is to be made in home insulation and car charging points. Spending on affordable housing was agreed because current developments are not providing enough affordable housing. Cllr Thorne is working with the Rural Sparse project which is looking at the particular difficulties that rural communities have, and levelling up access to services, transport & connectivity across communities. Cllr Francis asked about the safety measures around Swarland school which seem to have come to a stop. Cllr Thorne assured the PC that it was moving forward.</p>													
<p>9.</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>a. Clerk's salary for March 2022 - £395.50</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Payment to HM Revenues & Customs PAYE</td> <td style="text-align: right;">=</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£79.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Payment to Clerk = £395.50 plus expenses £10.70 - £79.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">=</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£327.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>b. Other receipts and payments:</p> <p>i) Receipts: None.</p> <p>ii) Payments: Podium Creative Ltd – Domain name 2020 - £18.00 & 2022 - £18.00 both inc VAT = £36.00</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Felton Parish Council – Insurance for War Memorial and Davison's obelisk</td> <td style="text-align: right;">=</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£466.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Felton Parish Council – Felton Cemetery Parish Contribution</td> <td style="text-align: right;">=</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1223.36</td> </tr> </table> <p>Note: Invoice for grounds maintenance of Davison's obelisk not yet submitted.</p>	Payment to HM Revenues & Customs PAYE	=	£79.20	Payment to Clerk = £395.50 plus expenses £10.70 - £79.00	=	£327.00	Felton Parish Council – Insurance for War Memorial and Davison's obelisk	=	£466.33	Felton Parish Council – Felton Cemetery Parish Contribution	=	£1223.36	
Payment to HM Revenues & Customs PAYE	=	£79.20												
Payment to Clerk = £395.50 plus expenses £10.70 - £79.00	=	£327.00												
Felton Parish Council – Insurance for War Memorial and Davison's obelisk	=	£466.33												
Felton Parish Council – Felton Cemetery Parish Contribution	=	£1223.36												

NEWTON ON THE MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

	<p>c. Account balance as at 15th March 2022: £30,255.37 All the above were agreed/noted. The Nationally negotiated pay award for 21/22 has been agreed and the amendment will be submitted to the next PC meeting.</p> <p>d. Additional: The Clerk has received grant requests from Northumberland Citizens Advice Bureau and from Age Concern. A sum of £25.00 each was agreed. Cllr Rixon asked if an additional grant could be made to the Great North Air Ambulance due to recent fuel cost increases. A sum of £50 was agreed. £2400 for Annual grant to Swarland Village Hall 21/22 - agreed Cllr Stanley said that during the Covid pandemic, NCC had been printing The Column free of charge. This was coming to an end but SVA will continue to use NCC as it is cheaper than the previous supplier and the copies are provided both folded and stapled.</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>Planning</p> <p>a. Decisions made by NCC</p> <p>21/02986/FUL – Construction of single storey conservatory - Old Stable, Hartlaw, Acklington, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 9AR. The Parish Council had no objections to this application. Application REFUSED 27/7/21.</p> <p>21/04588/FUL - Two storey garage and bedroom extension to side of property.12 Low Wood, Swarland, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 9PB.The Parish Council had no objections to this application. Application PERMITTED 22/2/22.</p> <p>21/04028/FUL - Land To North Of Kiln Cottage, Newton-On-The-Moor, Northumberland. The Parish Council objected to this application for several reasons including being contrary to policy STP 1 g, access to the A1, destruction of natural habitat etc. Application REFUSED 15th March 2022.</p> <p>21/04602/DISCON - Land South Of Mereburn House, Low Wood, Swarland, Northumberland. Discharge of conditons : 4 (SUDS), 5 (watercourse) and 6 (watercourse) pursuant to planning approval 20/03622/FUL . The Parish Council objected to this application as it considered that a sufficient engineers report Had not yet been provided. Application partially REFUSED 1st March 2022.</p> <p>b. Applications pending decision by NCC</p> <p>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. Archaeological report received 09.2.2021 and amended site location plan received 26.02.21. Land North West of Springwood, Coast View, Swarland, Northumberland. The PC originally objected to this application for a range of reasons including adverse visual impact, too close to existing buildings, sewerage and drainage capacity issues, and highways safety. For decision by NCC North Area Council 24th March 2022.</p> <p>20/02884/CCMEIA - Land North Of Shiel Dykes, U3050 Swarland Junction To Stouphill Junction, Swarland, Northumberland. Phased extraction of approximately 5 million tonnes of hard rock and importation of inert material for use in restoration using overburden from site and imported inert materials over 30 year period . This application is not within the Parish but may impact on the area. The Parish Council did not object to the application subject to a range of comments. Cllrs Cutforth and Howard-Row objected to the development.</p> <p>21/02696/S106A - Hawkshaw, Old Swarland, Swarland, Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9H. The Parish Council objected to this application to lift a s106 agreement condition to ensure the property was kept for local people.</p> <p>21/04446/FUL - Construction of 7no. detached bungalows and associated road and ground works on former grazing land. Land North Of 3 Nelson Drive, Nelson Drive, Swarland, Northumberland. The PC made a detailed objection to this application on several grounds including overdevelopment of the site.</p> <p>21/04600/DISCON, 21/04601/DISCON and 21/04602/DISCON - Drainage and the culvert at Alexander Grove, Swarland. The Parish Council objected to these applications on the grounds that sufficient evidence of an Engineering inspection had not been provided.</p>	

NEWTON ON THE MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

	<p>21/04808/FUL Retrospective- Extension to existing air gun shooting range to provide a range store, pistol range, stores and rest room Goose Green Swarland Airgun Club, Dykehead, Newton-On-The-Moor, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 9LP - The PC did not object to this application but asked for a condition to retain the hedge to help minimise noise impact on passers by.</p> <p>21/03288/SN – Street Naming - Land North Of 3 Nelson Drive Nelson Drive Swarland. Proposal for 1-7 Trafalgar Drive. The Parish Council did not object to the proposed name but did object to it being for 1-7 properties as this was objected to in application 21/04446/FUL.</p> <p>22/00196/FUL – Land south of Newton on the Moor. New field entrance and hard standing. The Parish Council objected to this application for a range of reasons including, no information had been provided as to the reason for the application, Highways safety, and errors on the application form.</p> <p>22/00292/REM – Reserved matters application for access, appearance, landscaping, Layout, scale, boundary treatment, car parking arrangements and cycle parking for 2no dwellings on approved application 20/01037/OUT. Land South Of Bowling Green U3135 Swarland Village Loop Road, Swarland. The Parish Council objected to this application mainly as a two storey house was considered unsuitable for this site. Cllr Stanley has looked at the trees on the site – some of which are covered by a Woodland Protection Order. She suggested that the PC rely on the Order and hopefully the trees on the south side of the development will be kept but they were not good specimens.</p> <p>c. Planning matters for Parish Council to consider None.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>Complaints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leamington Lane drain and manhole outside Swarland Primary school – blockage issues referred to NCC 5.2.2020. Being taken up by NCC/OpenReach. – All signs reported to NCC and to be reinstated spring or summer 22. • ‘No footpath’ sign at entrance of The Springwood knocked down. Footpath sign opposite Blue House NotM broken off. • Request for ‘No entry’ sign at Cherry Tree Drive due to Percy Wood visitors getting lost. - referred to NCC - 22.9.21. • Overhanging branches on C106 from Alnwick Fords to Glantlees turnoff. • Resident complaint about ‘waste’ on the Percy Wood site. – This was discussed. Cllrs felt that the material was on private land and the material was to be re-used. The site is fenced off and so its not really a PC issue. Clerk to flag this up with PW Manager and advise the complainant this has been done. 	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p>Correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northumbria Police – Launch of Northumbria Connected for Police updates and exchange of messages. • NCC quote for street sign. • Age UK Scam prevention • National Highways Yorkshire & North East stakeholder assessment survey until 1.3.2023. • Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust Consultation on where improvements can be made. • Northumbria Police update – warning about being aware of potential fuel thefts. Information to be included in the PC section of The Column. 	
<p>13.</p>	<p>Requests for next agenda;</p> <p>a. Parish Council Audit 2021/22 (could be delayed until the May meeting if necessary).</p>	
<p>14.</p>	<p>Urgent Items:</p> <p>a. <u>Ultrafast broadband</u> – Cllr Rixon said that tis needs urgent action as Incom</p>	

NEWTON ON THE MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

	<p>have only got 47 expressions of interest and need 90 for the project to be viable. Alncom are producing an update for The Column, however an update also needs to go on Facebook. After discussion it was agreed to include a comparison of charges. Cllr Stanley will ask the PW Manager about internet provision in the caravan park.</p> <p>b. <u>Parish Litter Pick</u> – Cllr Francis thanked Cllr Anderson for his work organising the annual Parish Litter pick and also to all the residents who had participated.</p>	
15.	Dates of Next Meetings: 27/4/22 JH, 25/5/22 SVH, 22/6/22 JH.	

Meeting finished: 20.35.