

NEWTON ON THE MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Jubilee Hall, NotM
Wednesday 24th November 2021

1.	<p>Public Question Time (Max 15 minutes in total)</p> <p>A member of the public asked what the culvert issues were at Alexander Grove, Swarland and what was happening about these. Cllr Thorne said he'd spoken to Mr Cussins who said the culvert had been installed according to the plans and matting has now been installed. It was pointed out by Cllr Fallais that the matting was just on one side of the burn.</p> <p>Cllr Francis explained that the original planning permission for the site had conditions attached to be complied with 'before the houses were occupied'. Some of the conditions related to drainage, the culvert, and ecology and each needed a separate DISCON (discharge) application. Application 21/03675/DISCON relating to the culvert had been rejected by NCC for various reasons. The PC is very concerned that dwellings were allowed to be occupied despite these outstanding matters and the possibility that residents would be left with the responsibility for repair and maintenance before the matter is resolved. Cllr Thorne said he would contact Liz Sinnamon (Principal Planning Officer) for an update. It was asked whether residents could appoint their own engineer. Cllr Thorne advised waiting until a response was received from Planning. Cllr Woolfrey said NCC have asked for a consultant to do an inspection. If residents appointed their own they would have to pay for this and its not certain whether any report produced would be accepted by Planning. Cllr Woolfrey suggested that residents write to NCC asap to make sure Planning are aware of their concerns.</p>	
2.	<p>Present: Cllr D. Francis (Chair) Cllr E. Clark, Cllr G. Anderson, Cllr S. Woolfrey, Cllr D. Rixon, Cllr Stanley, Cllr C. Letts, Cllr J. Fallais, Cllr N. Mansfield. County Councillor Trevor Thorne The Clerk was in attendance and three members of the public.</p>	
3.	<p>Apologies for absence: Cllr K. Howard-Row,</p>	
4.	<p>Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda: None.</p>	
5.	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 27th October 2021 – Agreed.</p>	
6.	<p>To consider matters arising from meeting held on 7th October 2021:</p> <p>a. <u>Level of input to PC from County Councillor Thorne</u> – Update on letter to NCC. See item 8 below.</p> <p>b. <u>Alexander Grove site and culvert issues</u> - Update on DISCON applications. See item 8 below. The Clerk had contacted NCC for update but this had not been received.</p> <p>c. <u>Remote meeting/training session/feedback on drainage and other issues with NCC Director of Planning 14th Sept 2021</u> – Update. The Clerk had emailed Rob Murfin but had not had a reply. The PC still needs to hear back on his investigations into issues of Drainage, Percy Wood and affordable housing – Clerk to chase up again.</p> <p>d. <u>Traffic calming measures around Swarland School</u> – Comments from the Parish had been forwarded to NCC and Neil Snowdon had responded. This will be reported on in the December issue of the Column.</p> <p>e. <u>Regional Bus Strategy</u> – Cllr Letts said there had been a meeting in October and plans to have more but nothing had happened. The region is getting a smaller amount of funding which will probably be used to maintain existing bus services rather than new services. It is expected that more funding will be available in future.</p>	
7.	<p>Requested agenda items</p>	

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	<p>a. <u>Vyner Park Update</u> - Cllr Woolfrey said all is well at VP. Maintenance is continuing. Football is taking off with an adult team playing regularly and the possibility of junior players as well. The Management Committee is meeting in December and the Nelsons Review meeting is on 3rd December. The budget request for 22/23 has been submitted to the PC and is the same as in 21/22.</p> <p>b. <u>Preparing PC Budget 22/23</u> – Feedback from meeting of Finance Group. Draft budget attached at Appendix 1 for discussion and approval. Cllr Francis proposed a precept of £23,000 which is a slight increase. However, as the number of properties in the Parish has increased, residents overall will not have to pay more. This proposal was agreed.</p> <p>c. <u>Changes to PC Risk Assessment 2021</u> Feedback from Meeting of Finance Group for discussion and agreement. The Clerk will mark the proposed changes and circulate the proposed Risk Assessment for approval at the January meeting.</p> <p>d. <u>Update on Parish Plan and Climate Action Group (CAG)</u> – briefing note previously circulated. Cllr Clark summarised that the PC has declared a Climate Emergency and has set up a group of residents from throughout the Parish. Meeting planned on January 11th at Swarland Club. Suggestions invited for possible objectives for the group and projects with the aim of getting people to take ownership of the group. Suggestions also invited about other people/groups to invite to participate such as the school, caravan park and local landowners. Vyner Park is being invited to nominate a representative. Cllr Clark requested £30 to pay for the hire of the club for the meeting. This was agreed. With regard to the Parish Plan, the CAG and public transport will be part of the Parish Plan. More details are for later discussion.</p> <p>e. <u>Parking on C106 through Newton on the Moor</u> (Cllr Howard-Row).- To next meeting but request to keep clear of junctions and not park on pavements to be included in item for December's Column.</p> <p>f. <u>Condition of Swarland Roads</u> – Proposed site meeting with Cllr Thorne. This was discussed with Cllr Thorne. Need to have Highways Officer and a Planning Officer preferably Rob Murfin (Director). Whoever attends from NCC needs to be fully briefed. Cllrs Fallais and Woolfrey will attend and Parish Clerk. It was agreed to have a meeting beforehand to discuss strategy.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Report by County Councillor and meetings attended by Councillors: Cllr Thorne was welcomed to the meeting. Cllr Thorne updated the PC on the refurbishment of County Hall and his current activities. As Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee, Cllr Thorne has been involved with approving the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Britishvolt Gigaplant factory to be built in Cambois which is expected to be fully operational by 2028 bringing 3,000 jobs to SE Northumberland. • Northumberland Line with 3 new railway stations in Ashington, Seaton Delaval and Bedlington. • Quarry at Fourstones, Haydon Bridge. <p>Locally NCC has recently improved the road between Longframlington and NotM. Cllr Thorne has been on a site visit to look at Old Park Road and a repair scheme has been agreed. Cllr Thorne credited Cllr Rixon with requesting the new footpath between the crossroads and Vyner Park in Swarland. Cllr Francis asked if Cllr Thorne would consider supporting the recent suggestions made by the PC for the 2022/23 Local Transport Plan which includes improving unadopted roads in Swarland – Cllr Thorne said he would. Cllr Thorne said he had been litter picking on the A1 and invited potential</p>	

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	<p>volunteers to contact him. He is now a Director of 'Invest in Alnwick' (which is working to improve investment in Alnwick) and 'Rural Sparse' which is a group lobbying for services in sparsely populated areas. Cllr Thorne is also a Governor for the Royal Grammar School.</p> <p>Cllr Rixon asked if Cllr Thorne could do anything to address the complaints being made that GP's cannot be contacted. Cllr Thorne said he'd ask Cllr Veronica Jones (Spokesperson for Health & Wellbeing) to contact Cllr Rixon. Cllr Rixon also asked if Cllr Thorne could chase up the repainting of road markings in Swarland & NotM. Cllr Thorne undertook to do this.</p> <p>Cllr Thorne said he was sorry his absence from PC meetings had annoyed the PC and apologised.</p>							
<p>9.</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>a. Clerk's salary for November and December 2021 - £791.00</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Payment to HM Revenues & Customs PAYE</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">=</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;">£158.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Payment to Clerk = £791.00 plus expenses £59.64 - £158.20</td> <td style="text-align: center;">=</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£692.44</td> </tr> </table> <p>b. Other receipts and payments:</p> <p>i)Receipts: None.</p> <p>ii)Payments: None.</p> <p>c. Account balance as at 18th November 2021: £31,999.99</p> <p>All the above were agreed/noted and in addition the purchase of a Christmas Tree for The Square up to £150 in value.</p>	Payment to HM Revenues & Customs PAYE	=	£158.20	Payment to Clerk = £791.00 plus expenses £59.64 - £158.20	=	£692.44	
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<p>10.</p>	<p>Planning</p> <p>a. Decisions made by NCC</p> <p>21/01325/OUT – Outline permission for demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 2no detached dwellings (all matters reserved) – 4 Kenmore Drive, Swarland, NE65 9QT. Application withdrawn 19th November 2021.</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.</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>21/02359/FUL – One, one and a half storey dwelling - Plot 4 to rear of Kenmore Road, Swarland. The Parish Council had no objections to this application.</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>21/02986/FUL – Construction of single storey conservatory - Old Stable, Hartlaw, Acklington, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 9AR. The Parish Council had no objections to this application.</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.</p>							

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	<p>21/04103/FUL - Demolish existing rear conservatory and porch and replace with new extension. Replace existing white PVC double glazed windows, fascia boards and rainwater goods with new grey PVC double glazed windows, fascia boards and rainwater goods. Replace existing front porch - footprint, height and width will be like for-like - colour to be grey to match windows etc.1 Beechcroft, Swarland NE65 9HA. The Parish Council had no objections to this application.</p> <p>21/04252/FUL – Erection of single storey rear extension. The Willows, 3 The Old Tweed Mill, Swarland, NE65 9LX. The Parish Council had no objections to this application.</p> <p>c. Planning matters for Parish Council to consider</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. Comments invited until 13th December 2021.</p> <p>Cllrs discussed this application. It had been noted that the red line outlining the site includes beyond the site/ This is a significant application which already has outline permission in place.</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. • ‘No footpath’ sign at entrance of The Springwood knocked down. Reported to NCC - 22.10.20 • Overhanging branches on C106 from Alnwick Fords to Glantlees turnoff. • Pothole complaints A697 and Longframlington Road (Cllr Mansfield). • Pothole on Longframlington Road (Cllr Francis). • Footpath sign opposite Blue House NotM broken off – referred to NCC. • Weeds not being treated on footpath to south of The Square. • Damage to road north of NotM leading to A1 - 8.8.21 • Soil and other material in Bari Bar Car Park, Coast View, Swarland - 9.8.21. • Request for ‘No entry’ sign at Cherry Tree Drive due to Percy Wood visitors getting lost. - referred to NCC - 22.9.21. • Footpath sign broken off east of PW main entrance, Leamington Lane - referred to NCC- 22.9.21. • Complaint about condition of estate roads in Swarland ‘are we being taken for fools?’. • Request to NCC for road sign to The Old Tweed Mill, Swarland - 3.11.21 • 23.11.21 Query about planning permission being needed for touring caravan parking – Clerk to contact NCC not to make complaint but to enquire about use of site for caravans. <p>Three signs are now broken off and no response has been received from NCC. Clerk to chase this up.</p>	
<p>12.</p>	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>Revised register of Electors to be published 1st December 2021. Google Analytics October report for PC website – previously circulated.</p>	
<p>13.</p>	<p>Requests for next agenda;</p> <p>a. PC Risk Assessment. b. Parking on the C106 through NotM.</p>	
<p>14.</p>	<p>Urgent Items – None.</p>	
<p>15.</p>	<p>Dates of Next Meetings: No meeting in December, 26/1/2022 SVH, 23/2/2022 JH.</p>	

Meeting finished: 21:00

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Parish Council Income/Expenditure 2021/22 and proposed 22/23 spend.

APPENDIX A

	Original 21/22 Budget	Year End Forecast	Proposed 22/23 expenditure	Notes
EXPENDITURE:				
PC Insurance	471.70	1,319.00	471.70	VPC need to repay their insurance premium.
Audit Fee	270.00	265.00	65.00	On basis of no external audit being needed.
Clerks salary	4,888.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	Annual pay award not yet agreed.
Clerks expenses	450.00	400.00	450.00	
Donations	400.00	350.82	400.00	
Subscriptions	255.00	274.78	274.78	
IT Provision	180.00	180.00	180.00	
SVH Grant	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	
Newsletter	375.00	0.00	375.00	Printing has been foc during pandemic.
Jubilee Hall Grant	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Davisons Obelisk	200.00	549.32	550.00	£175 maintenance + £374.32 insurance
Cemetery & War memorial	1,417.67	1,479.53	1,479.53	war memorial ins 61.86
The Square	150.00	150.00	150.00	Christmas trees at The Square and JH
Defibrillators	100.00	50.00	150.00	Replacement pads needed at JH
VAT	100.00	400.00	100.00	
Vyner Park	7,000.00	10,687.06	7,000.00	Includes VAT repayment to vpc £3687.06
Contribution to Comm Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Contribution to Reserves	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
TOTAL	22,657.37	27,505.49	23,045.99	

PC Income	As at 18.11.21	Projected Year End	
Refund from Vyner Park	£0.00	£1000.00	tbc
VAT Refunds	£4104.00	£4104.00	
Precept	£22,700	£22,700	
Interest received	£0.00	£0.00	
SVK (Column)	£0.00	£60.00	
Cemeteries charge refund	£66.00	£66.00	
TOTAL	£26,870	£27,930	

Note:
Balance as at 18.11.21 in Current account:
£21,999.99