

NEWTON on the MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.00pm
on **Wednesday 23rd November 2016** in the Jubilee Hall, Newton on the Moor.

1.	Public Question Time (Max 15 minutes in total)	Action
	None.	
2.	<p>Present: Cllr D. Francis (Chairman), Cllr G. Anderson, Cllr Mrs S. Richardson, Cllr Mrs S. Stanley, Cllr B. Ryan, Cllr M. Bettel, Cllr P. Lewney, Cllr G. Cunningham, Cllr R. Brotherton, Cllr Mrs H. Handyside, Cllr N. Mansfield.</p> <p>The Clerk was in attendance.</p>	
3.	Apologies – Cllr Ms S. Spurling.	
4.	Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda None.	
5.	Minutes of the meeting held on 26 October 2016 – These were agreed and signed.	
6.	<p>To consider matters arising from the meeting on 26 October 2016.</p> <p>a. <u>Speeding and safety issues on roads in Newton on the Moor</u> – Cllr Ryan had nothing to report. Letter has been sent by Clerk to Mrs Oliver advising her of action taken by PC so far. Cllr Cunningham said that recent wet weather had caused problems around the south A1 junction to NotM. Drainage can't cope with run off from fields and leads to debris on road, potholes and ice sheets. Agreed that letters to go to AONE/NCC including possible improvements to ditches to intercept runoff. Number for reporting problems to NCC to be included in this month's item for the Column.</p> <p>Cllr Handyside reported that the square pothole on the A1 just north of the north NotM/A1 junction, was again showing signs of wear – to be reported again to AONE.</p> <p>b. <u>Condition of Roads in Swarland</u> – Cllr Richardson reported that the longstanding bollard which has been marking the defective drain on the west side of The Avenue, has gone but been replaced by the Club using one of their bollards. The issue has been reported to NCC but no action taken. Clerk to send letter and photo to Chief Exec at NCC.</p> <p>c. <u>Adoption of roads</u> – Cllr Brotherton has had an acknowledgement of request from NCC Head of Highways but nothing concrete about meeting. Will contact NCC again. Meeting to include Planning officer as planning enforcement could improve situation.</p> <p>d. <u>Repair of brick planter in The Square, and planter by 1st School, Swarland.</u> - Cllr Anderson advised this matter was still in progress.</p> <p>e. <u>Parish Council Liaison</u> – Cllr Francis said he had now sent a letter out to other PC's in the area suggesting informal cluster meetings.</p> <p>f. <u>Dangerous trees</u> – Cllr Brotherton reported that the NCC Tree Officer had written to the owner of trees between Percy Drive/The Lea and another site. Work had been completed to make safe under an emergency order last week.</p> <p>g. <u>Firework Night & Remembrance Day Services</u> - Cllr Francis thanked everyone for their attendance at the Remembrance Day Services and for their help and support with the Firework Night at Vyner Park.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cllr Brotherton</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cllr Anderson</p>
7.	<p>Requested agenda items</p> <p>a. Vyner Park update (Councillor Stanley/Councillor Brotherton). Cllr Brotherton confirmed the PC/ VPC Lease was signed, and with the Solicitor to be registered. Cllr Handyside and Brotherton will then sort out the vesting with the Charity Commission. Cllr Brotherton presented Cllr Francis with a jar of peppercorns as the token lease payment. Cllr Brotherton will now contact Sport England to take things forward on the grant reassignment.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Stanley gave an update on groundworks at VP carried out by a professional gardener on 1st November to clean up around trees and make future maintenance easier. She has also walked VP with the NCC Tree Officer (Barry Wilson) to check for tree condition. A couple of trees have been identified as possibly needing attention in the future. The Firework night on 4th November was very successful with a surplus in excess of £2000. Invoicing for tennis has been sorted out, and VP has been approached by a couple of local sports groups wanting to use the facilities on a regular basis. The draft VP budget has been prepared ready for the November PC meeting (draft 'ask' is £8800). This will be circulated and comments need to go to Cllr Stanley.</p> <p>b. Draft PC budget – A no growth draft budget for 2017-18 had been drawn up by the Clerk</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cllr Brotherton</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Clerk</p>

NEWTON on the MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

	<p>and circulated to Councillors. Cllr Francis suggested some additions which could be considered as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Clerks salary/pension. • Heritage group project • Refreshing of the Parish Plan • Increase of grants to Jubilee Hall/Swarland Village Hall. <p>Cllr Ryan said he'd like to see the budget for VP reduced by 5% (£440). Cllr Cunningham asked what this parishes precept was like in comparison with others. Cllr Francis said it was £40-£50 for a band D property [£37.45] which compared with the highest at about £150 and the lowest at about £10 elsewhere in the County.</p> <p>Any suggestions about the draft budget should go to the Clerk in the next few days. The Finance group will meet in January with the aim of the PC being able to agree the budget at its January meeting.</p> <p>NCC to be advised that PC will not be able to meet the NCC imposed deadline of 21st January for submission of precept request but it will follow shortly after PC meeting on 25th January 2017.[Clerks note: NCC Deadline is 27th January 2017].</p> <p>c. Diversion from A1 re: Slip Roads – Cllr Mansfield asked if any information had been provided by AONE about how they intend to divert local traffic when the planned 'bell mouth' works are done in early 2017. The Clerk had received no information to date.</p> <p>d. Update on NCC progress on provision of bus service – The Clerk confirmed that NEED have started running the service which seems quite well received. Timetables and posters have been provided by NEED which will be put up in the usual places. The service now links to Longframlington and the Clerk has given NEED contact details for Fram News and will advise the Parish Clerk.</p> <p>e. Funding applications - Active Northumberland, Northumberland Age Concern, Great North Air Ambulance, Age UK and now Alnwick Playhouse. – A decision is needed on providing funding but the Clerk had been unable to scan the documents, these will be sent out before the January meeting.</p> <p>f. Affordable housing and how this is integrated by developers - Cllr Francis suggested the PC needs to 'sharpen' its thinking on affordable housing and consider a strategy document at after reading the housing section of the Community Plan. Cllr Francis said he thought the Parish Local plan should be refreshed and asked for any volunteers to decide how to do this e.g. discussion groups, surveys, contacting the NCC affordable housing officer etc. In response to Cllr Ryan's question about the practical benefits of such a plan, Cllr Francis said that it provides evidence of public opinion to inform spending decisions. It could be used to find out how residents want the PC to respond on planning decisions eg look for growth or not. Cllrs Bettel, Ryan, Cunningham and Brotherton agreed to assist Cllr Francis.</p> <p>g. Consideration on how the Parish Council influences its service providers – Proposal from Cllr Brotherton that a task and finish group be set up to action this. It was agreed that Cllrs Bettel, Ryan, Cunningham, Brotherton and Francis. Would look at this.</p> <p>h. Request from Swarland 1st School for Parish Council to consider requesting applying for a 20mph zone, zebra crossing or patrol person at the Leamington Lane/Park Road crossroads? (Cllr Stanley). Parish Councillors agreed with the principle of further traffic calming in the vicinity of the school, although it was felt that a scheme which reduced vehicle speeds at key times would be more acceptable than for example a 20mph limit applied 24/7. Cllr Stanley will follow this matter up and liaise with Head Teacher.</p> <p>i. Request from resident for PC intervention in having repairs done to French drain by bridge in Swarland - Cllr Stanley has been contacted on this issue and been to look at the reported defect. This was discussed and it was felt problem was not on a footpath. Cllr Stanley to feedback to resident.</p> <p>j. NCC – Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy. Pre-Submission Draft – Proposed further major modifications consultation until 23rd December 2016. On agenda for Parish Cllrs to consider response. Cllr Francis has looked at this in detail and felt there was nothing affecting our Parish so no comment was needed from the PC.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Cllrs Francis, Bettel, Ryan, Cunningham & Brotherton</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Cllrs Francis, Bettel, Ryan, Cunningham & Brotherton</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Cllr Stanley</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Cllr Stanley</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Report by County Councillor and meetings attended by Councillors</p> <p>a. County Councillor Report - No report provided.</p> <p>b. A1 Dualling – Consultation is open until 23rd December 2016. Cllr Brotherton had attended the recent event held in the Northumberland al in Alnwick, and will write an item for The Column. One of the issues he had raised at the event was the need to improve junction safety in our Parish and it seemed that this was in hand.</p> <p>c. Planning training – This was attended by Cllrs Ryan, Bettel and Lewney. Cllr Ryan said he felt main concern of NCC Planners was meeting time targets, not the quality of decisions,</p>	

NEWTON on the MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

	<p>support for Parish Councils or other considerations. Emphasis had been placed on the need for PC responses to application to state in first sentence whether they were objecting, supporting or commenting on applications. Useful information is to be provided on planning which all Cllrs would find of interest and this will be circulated on receipt.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>a. Bank statements - Lloyds Treasurers Account £9,517.22 & Lloyds Instant Access £16,019.29@30/9/2016 – Noted.</p> <p>b. Clerk’s salary (for November 2016) £334.29 Clerk’s expenses £34.65 HM Revenues & Customs PAYE (For November 2016) - £66.80 Payment to Clerk = £334.29 + £34.65 - £66.80 = £302.14 Payment to HM Revenues & Customs PAYE - £ 66.80 - both payments agreed.</p> <p>c. Other receipts and payments:</p> <p>i) Receipts: Cheque for £100 for Vyner Park Charity Firework raffle (made out to PC in error).</p> <p>i) Payments: Vyner Park Charity (see i above) £100. David Flanighan Joiner – Railings (Covered by Vyner Park Grant) - £640.00 MKM (Alnwick) Ltd Invoice Materials (Covered by Vyner Park grant) - £159.76 Cllr Greg Anderson reimbursement for wood for VP railings - £679.99. All the above payments were agreed.</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>Planning</p> <p>a.To report on any planning decisions made by NCC:</p> <p>16/03606/FUL Replace double glazing, extend pitch roof to replace two flat roof sections. Modify existing layout to change use of three rooms to become a garage, utility room and bedroom, internal modifications of kitchen lounge area. Briardene Coast View Swarland Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9JG . PC made no objections. Application approved 24/10/16</p> <p>16/03546/PRUTPO Tree Preservation Order: Crown reduction and thinning by 25%, remove weight of side branches overhanging on north side of tree, general thinning of side branches to improve shape by 10% and uplifting of lower branches by 10% to one sycamore tree - 2 Chesterwell, Swarland, Morpeth, Northumberland NE65 9NA. No objections from PC. Granted 10th November 2016.</p> <p>b.Applications pending decision by NCC</p> <p>14/02284/OUT - APPEAL TO SECRETARY OF STATE Residential development of detached houses with access road and turning area to enable vehicles to enter and leave onto Percy Drive in a forward facing direction. Provision of widened vehicle access to improve vehicle passing on Percy Drive. – Objections made by PC. Appeal lodged on basis of non determination by NCC. 5 weeks from 18/10/16 to make additional comments/changes/withdrawals. Procedure to be followed discussed. Cllr Francis said he had checked on line and found issue seems difference of opinion between NCC officers and the applicant on the soakaway proposals for surface water.</p> <p>16/01703/OUT Outline planning application including access with all matters reserved for up to 5 detached dwellings (amended number of dwellings and red line boundary submitted 12.7.16) Land East Of Old Hall Farm Old Swarland, Swarland NE65 9HU. Parish Council made objections.</p> <p>16/03164/OUT Outline permission for the development of a small motorhome site to include approximately 10 pitches plus a site managers chalet. Land East of the A1 Felton, Northumberland. Objections made by PC.</p> <p>16/03457/BT Removal of Telephone Box Number 01670787382 ADJ Bus Shelter, The Square, Swarland, Morpeth, Northumberland. Majority of Cllrs objected to removal.</p> <p>c. Planning matters for Parish Council to consider</p> <p>16/03546/PRUTPO Tree Preservation Order: Crown reduction and thinning by 25%, remove weight of side branches overhanging on north side of tree, general thinning of side branches to improve shape by 10% and uplifting of lower branches by 10% to one sycamore tree - 2 Chesterwell, Swarland, Morpeth, Northumberland NE65 9NA. Comments invited until 1/11/2016.</p>	

NEWTON on the MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

	<p>In connection with the new pre-application planning consultation process, it was queried whether Parish Cllrs are advised of the outcome of discussions. The Clerk advised that no feedback was provided. Cllrs asked if NCC could be contacted to see if they are carrying out any evaluation of the process which came in about 1 year ago, and also if statistics could be sought on the numbers of pre-applications which have been carried out in this parish which have not involved the PC (if any).</p> <p>Cllr Stanley said that she felt the PC should check on the conditions made on approved applications and said that with some sites hedges have been ripped out and replace with fences which had not been covered by the planning approval. Need to monitor planning conditions as NCC didn't have resources to do this.</p>	Clerk
11.	<p>Correspondence NCC Notification of granting of Tree Preservation Order on trees on land west of Park Road, Swarland. (Temporary for six months). Alnwick Playhouse – request for funding.</p>	Clerk
12.	<p>Urgent items a. Christmas Trees for The Square & Jubilee Hall – It was agreed that two trees be purchased from the Forestry Commission (as in 2015) upto a maximum of £150. b. Old Quarry site west of track to Newton Low Steads – Cllr Anderson said he'd been contacted by a resident concerned that this excavated area could be a risk to horses and their riders and fencing is needed. Cllr Cunningham agreed to speak to landowner.</p>	<p>Cllr Richardson</p> <p>Cllr Cunningham</p>
13.	<p>Requests for next agenda a.Update on bus service - requested by Cllr Mansfield.</p>	Clerk
14.	<p>Date of Next Meeting - No meeting in December, 25/1/2017 SVH, 22/2/2017 JH, 22/3/2017 SVH.</p>	

Meeting finished at 20.40