

NEWTON ON THE MOOR AND SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL
MAY 2015

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 27th May 2015
in Swarland Village Hall

Members of the public present:

Mr R Brotherton, Mrs H Handyside, Mr G Anderson, Mrs S Richardson, Mrs E Sells, Ms S Spurling, Mr G Cunningham, Mr C Heal, Councillor T Thorne, Mr D Rixon, Mr K. Walters, Mr A Lisle, Mr S Woolfrey, Mrs S Brotherton, Mr J Henderson, Mrs C Thomas, Mrs J Peacock, Mr A Vaggs and Mrs V Vaggs.

Cllr D Francis was Chairman for the meeting.

The Clerk was in attendance.

1. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th May 2014** were summarised by the Chairman and were accepted and signed as a correct record of the meeting.
2. **Chairman's report:** Councillor Francis read out the report (see p 1161) which had been produced by Cllr Mrs Stanley which was accepted.
3. **Committee and Representatives' Reports**
 - a. **Vyner Park Charity Management Committee** (see p1163) was presented by Cllr R Brotherton and was accepted.
 - b. **Joint Cemetery Committee** report (see p1167) was presented by Cllr G Anderson and was accepted.
 - c. **Swarland Village Hall** report was presented by Mr Steven Woolfrey (see p1168) and was accepted.
 - d. **Swarland Village Action** – The Clerk reported that she had been advised by Mr Bryan Stanley that no report had been produced because there had been little activity to report on.
 - e. **Any other reports** – None presented.
4. **Any Questions, Comments or Resolutions**
 - Mrs Peacock said that rumours had been heard that caravans/static caravans would be coming onto Vyner Park. She asked if this was the case. Mr Brotherton said this proposal was 'not on the table'.
 - Mrs Peacock asked about music events in Vyner Park as she was concerned about noise levels and when the events would take place. Mr Brotherton replied that there could be some music events. There would be consultation and the intention was to keep residents informed and up to date.
 - Mrs Vaggs pointed out that there was a Covenant in place which restricted activities possible in Vyner Park.
 - Mr Walters said that a considerable part of the Parish Council budget was earmarked for Vyner Park and he hoped that VP was a success but he felt that there was a need for the VP Management Committee to consider a worst case scenario. He was worried that there would be a 25% year on year

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increase in the Parish Precept. Mr Brotherton said he hoped that it wouldn't be necessary to spend what was budgeted and that he agreed with having a contingency plan in place.

- Mrs Vaggs commented in connection with the Cemeteries report that Peter does an excellent job in keeping the cemetery and Davison's Obelisk in good order.
- Mr Rixon said that the work that had been done by Northumberland County Council in resurfacing the road through Newton on the Moor in winter 2014 was appreciated but there were a considerable problems with potholes in the Parish and with the Old Swarland to Felton Road there was a danger of falling off the edge of the road. Mr Rixon also complained about the amount of mud etc being left by farm tractors in the Parish and suggested a letter to farmers. He also said there was a lot of water running from ditches which weren't being maintained properly, so that in icy weather the roads were treacherous.
- Mr Rixon asked about the Parish Council website and Ms Spurling responded that about half a days work was needed on this. Mr Rixon then asked if meeting minutes could go on the notice boards more quickly as they used to be up less than a week after PC meetings and now it's nearly two weeks.
- Mr Waters commented that information from Planning which had been asked for at a previous Parish Council meeting ie whether official statistics for the Parish take into consideration the numbers of residents in the Country Park, had not yet been answered. Councillor Thorne offered to take up all the matters relating to NCC if the Clerk would provide him with a list.
- A member of the public asked if the application for 20 houses in Leamington Lane (14/03340/FUL) had been to committee yet. Cllr Francis said there had been a site visit a few months ago but the application hadn't yet been considered by a Planning Committee. Councillor Thorne suggested that the Parish Council could send a letter to NCC planning asking for this application to be considered at Committee as it would change the nature of Swarland.
- Mrs Vaggs asked Councillor Thorne what happened to the article 'Trevor's Bit' in The Column. Councillor Thorne said if he could be provided with a reminder by editor Bryan Stanley, he would do his best.