

NEWTON ON THE MOOR AND SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held
on **Wednesday 26th September 2018 in Jubilee Hall, NotM.**

1.	Public Question Time (Max 15 minutes in total) – There were no members of the public present.	
2.	Present: Cllr D. Francis, Cllr Mrs S. Stanley, Cllr N. Mansfield, Cllr A. Ferguson, Cllr Ms E. Clarke, Cllr Mrs K. Howard-Row. County Cllr Trevor Thorne was in attendance. The Clerk was in attendance.	
3.	Apologies: Cllr S. Gallico, Cllr G. Anderson and Cllr S. Woolfrey.	
5.	Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda: None.	
6.	Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd August 2018 - The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.	
7.	<p>To consider matters arising from the meeting on 22nd August 2018:</p> <p>a. <u>Formal complaint about NCC Planning & NCC Planning Enforcement of Tree Protection Order (TPO) matters – complaint from local resident</u> – Cllr Francis provided an update following meeting with NCC Acting Head of Planning 7th September. The Planners took careful note of what was said and said they would think about a few of the matters raised and feed into reviews at the appropriate time. They agreed that pre-application advice in the Parish could have been better, and too much pre-app advice is given confidentially. They also agreed that their monitoring of the implementation of conditions is weak. Cllr Francis considered the PC's complaint had been 'got across'. At the meeting also raised issue about inconsistencies about settlement boundaries in the draft Local Plan, particularly the need of such a boundary in NotM. Cllr Francis had since attended meeting of formal NALC/NCC liaison meeting at which the officer compiling the local plan had announced they were totally on board with the need for consistency so settlement boundaries will be drawn up for places like NotM.</p> <p>7.09 – At this point, Cllr N. Mansfield joined the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Francis said that it looks like NCC do listen and the PC should welcome this. The Head of Planning had also said that locally based planning teams with local knowledge were now in place, and that they were aware of drainage concerns in Swarland. Swarland has got a boundary in the new draft local plan but it differs from the one in place under Alnwick District Council. Parish Councillors were concerned that the application for 2 bungalows in today for consultation on Park Road is setting precedent for an additional row of dwelling behind Park Road.</p> <p>b. <u>FOI request on PC declaring itself exempt from external audit in 2017/18, Vyner Park Accounts etc</u> – Cllr Francis provided an update and said that a Felton resident had raised an issue about the combination of finances of Vyner Park Charity and the PC which would put the PC over the £25K limit for declaring itself exempt from external audit for 2017/18 accounts. He explained that the accounts are NOT combined so the PC correctly claimed exemption. Follow-up response to go to resident.</p> <p>c. <u>Update on road markings associated with traffic calming works in NotM</u> – Clerk has sent email to NCC re: road markings needed in connection with traffic calming works and also re-doing road markings around Cook & Barker 'triangle'.</p> <p>d. <u>NCC Town & Parish Council Conference</u> – Cllr Francis is now unable to attend the conference. Cllr Rixon to attend instead.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk/Cllr Rixon</p>
8.	<p>Requested agenda items:</p> <p>a. <u>Vyner Park update</u> Cllr Stanley said that the Nelson's Review and Management meetings were held earlier in September. It was agreed to renew the PC / Nelson's licence for a further year from September 2018, with some minor clarifying amendments to Schedule 2, the working document.</p> <p>Main issues at the Management meeting were:</p> <p>1. Parking at VP, in response to concerns from a resident about the number of cars using The Avenue, the Vyner Park car park and some parking half on the footpath on Old Park Road. After lengthy discussion we decided to mark car parking bays in the car park to encourage sensible use of space, and will consider extending the car park if necessary but this would require future budgeting. As Old Park Road is public highway, we have no power to control parking (though the resident has now suggested we put signs on the grass verge).</p> <p>2. Maintenance of the Mere Burn (the VPC boundary is in the centre of it), in response to a</p>	

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	<p>Kenmore Road resident's concern that the drains from VP are silting up – members of the team will liaise with him and instigate whatever work is required.</p> <p>3. Trespass into a private garden, in response to the same resident's concern about VP users. It was agreed that we will install a sign by the burn stating 'No access beyond this point'.</p> <p>4. Financial matters and preliminary discussion re the draft 2019-20 budget which will have to include a substantial sum for tree works. Many of the trees have Ash Dieback, and though most are not in locations where they are a danger to the public, it is prudent to remove diseased trees as soon as possible.</p> <p>5. Cllr Rixon had chaired the Nelson Review meeting and mentioned the planned kitchen improvements. He has sent details of the LEADER grant programme to Nelsons which might be applicable especially as Nelson's provides local employment.</p> <p>6. The Clerk added that the VPC 2017/18 Accounts had been agreed and signed, and also gave the reminder that the Firework Party 2018 was to be held at Vyner Park this year on Friday 2nd November.</p> <p>b. <u>Remembrance Sunday 11th November 2018</u> – To take place at 12 Noon. (Clerk). Decision needed on who will lay Parish Council wreaths at Jubilee Hall NotM, and at Felton. It was agreed that Cllr Francis would do both. Posters to go on both PC noticeboards & item in the Column.</p> <p>c. <u>Request for letter (sent by PC to local resident regarding access to Vyner Park) to be rescinded</u> – discussion and decision on action to be taken. The resident had complained that there were inconsistencies as PC had suggested path from Cussins development site yet had sent letter to households backing onto Mere Burn in 2009 that access was not permitted. Cllr Francis and Cllr Stanley had visited the resident. Cllr Francis said that a licence could be granted to Kenmore Road residents if they asked. Cllr Stanley said a letter had gone to resident from VPC permitting a temporary bridge for ease of maintenance as and when necessary. May need reciprocal arrangement to allow maintenance of the VPC side of the burn. Clerk to draft letter of response from the PC to the resident.</p> <p>d. <u>Notification from NCC on changes to refuse collection changes in Northumberland October/November 2018</u> – the Clerk advised that no further details had been received since the original notification.</p> <p>e. <u>GDPR PC General Privacy Notices (Privacy Policy (Clerk))</u> – for discussion/approval. Appendix 2a and 2b. Adoption was agreed.</p> <p>f. <u>Local Transport Plan (LTP) Programme 2019-20</u>. Decision on the Parish Council's top three highways and transport priority issues for possible inclusion in the LTP Programme for 2019-20 by 30th September 2018. – Summary of public responses previously circulated. It was agreed the summary would be recirculated by Clerk and the three priorities agreed by email. It was suggested that the resurfacing of the remainder of Kenmore Rd could be included. Cllr Francis suggested widening the Longframlington road at Old Swarland. Cllr Clarke mentioned a stretch of road in Hazon which had been patched and may need to go in next years LTP.</p> <p>g. <u>Stakeholder consultation from Northern Gas Networks</u> – Decision needed on how response will be provided. Consultation noted but no response to be sent.</p> <p>h. <u>New Parish Map for website</u> – Decision needed on whether this is something the PC wish to pursue. Swarland has map in The Square and it was suggested that NotM might benefit from a similar map showing all properties. PC could do this itself. Swarland map is 10 yrs old and could do with updating. Cllr Ferguson to pursue re: possible use of drone. Clerk to decline offer from Company who offered service to design new plan for website.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cllr Francis</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cllr Ferguson</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Clerk</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Report by County Councillor and meetings attended by Councillors: Cllr Thorne said that refurbishment work at County Hall was progressing and staff were moving back into refurbished offices. Aim is to rent out office space to commercial users to raise income. NCC budget being planned for 2019/20 in the 2nd year of the new Administration and it is expected to be tough. It is hoped that the 3rd year will be more relaxed. Locally, work on the NotM to Longframlington road has not been started yet and may be done in two sections. Cllr Thorne said he had asked for tree pruning in the vicinity of Alnwick Fords bridge, and the traffic calming works around Swarland Primary School are proceeding. A second interactive speed monitoring sign will be funded by him in 2019/20 via the Small Grant Scheme. The draft Local Plan is proceeding quite well and will be delivered on time. Settlement boundaries for small settlements are being looked at again and he agreed they needed the same treatment as larger settlements. If an applicant obtains planning permission before a boundary is in place, then the planning permission stands. Footpath has been agreed as part of Section 106 agreement in connection with Cussins development east of Vyner Park subject to investigative works. It is hoped this can be delivered as Swarland is lacking in public footpaths. RE: Hazon, there were a lot of meetings last</p>	

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	<p>winter/spring and until now very little has been spent on this road. Water on the road surface is weakening it. NCC has been researching drainage to try to keep water off the road, but although it is better now than before, it is not good. He agreed more money and more investment are needed.</p> <p>Cllr Rixon said that the top road from Swarland to NotM [1130C390100020 – 30MPH Swarland (N) to C106 JC] is still a mess, damaged by large tractors so it is difficult for cars to keep on the road. Cllr Thorne said the school crossroads had been done but took on board the condition of the road from the school to the junction. Cllr Rixon also raised the issue of the potholes appearing on the south road from A1 into NotM. Cllr Francis encouraged everyone to log pothole problems and report them direct to NCC.</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Bank statements – Lloyds Treasurers Account £6,225.39 @ 31/9/2018 & Lloyds Instant Access £14,031.95@11/6/2018 b. Clerk’s salary £341.00 Clerks Expenses £37.10 HM Revenues & Customs PAYE = £68.20 Payment to Clerk = £341.00 + £37.10 - £68.20 = £309.90 c. Other receipts and payments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i)Receipts: NCC precept payment (balance for 2018/19) - £9,500. ii)Payments: Payment of balance of grant payable to Vyner Park Charity for 2017/18 – See Appendix 1 for details total £1651.35. d. Other – Payment for Fireworks (from Vyner Park Charity allocation) £884.97 (Not including VAT). Donation Request from HospiceCare North Northumberland – Grant of £50.00 agreed. Request from Jubilee Hall Committee for payment of £1800 grant. All the above were agreed. Additional invoice to come for fireworks but VAT will be reclaimable. The supplier is in state of transition regarding VAT registration and waiting for VAT registration. 	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To report on any planning decisions made by NCC: 18/01721/FELTPO 12 Chesterwell, Swarland NE65 9NA. Tree preservation order: T1 (Acer platanoides) – Tip back 3-4 branches by 0.5m, T2 (Fraxinus excelsior) – Remove 1 lower limb, T3 Lawson Cypress – Reduce tree by around 2m, T4 (Scots Pine) – Remove two lower branches, deadwood and crown thin by 20%, T5 (Lawson Cypress) – Remove 1 stem, T6 (Scots Pine) – Deadwood, clean up crown, crown thin by 20% and remove damaged limbs, T7 (Lawson Cypress) – Remove 1 limb and T8 (Scots Pine)- Fell tree.The Parish Council did not object to the application but asked that any felled trees be replaced. GRANTED Permission 24th August 2018. 18/02376/FELTPO Tree works at 2 The Avenue, Swarland NE65 9JL. Permission GRANTED 23rd August 2018. 18/02184/FUL Proposed two storey side and rear extension and dormer windows - 18 Park Road Swarland NE65 9JD. Parish Council supported the extension application but objected to design of the dormer window. Application REFUSED permission 18th September 2018. 18/02419/FELTPO Tree Preservation Order: Fell one Sycamore tree, 1 Chesterwell, Swarland NE65 9NA. Comments invited until 6th August 2018. Application PERMITTED 22nd August 2018. 18/02651/FELTPO - Field House, Studley Drive, Swarland NE65 9JT - Tree Preservation Order application. Fell T1 and T5 - Scots Pine. Fell T9, T10, T13 and T15 - Larch. Fell T11, T18, T19 and T20 Sycamore. T2 - Oak - Prune large limb (located at 6m above ground level to Northeast of stem) back to parent stem. Remove deadwood over 50mm diameter from crown. T3 - Oak - Reduce to 4.5m above ground level. T6 - Oak - Crown reduce to 9-10m above ground level. T7 and T8 - Oak - Remove deadwood over 50mm diameter. T17 - Beech - Reduce to 5m above ground level. Replacement planting. No objections from Parish Council. Application PERMITTED 12th September 2018. 18/02774/FELTPO - Tayarc, Nelson Drive, Swarland, NE65 9JR. 9 trees have branches over 	

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<p>highway. Recommendations for felling Beech (tag no.580) growing at base of pine (581) Ash (tag no. 586) lean, retrenching, severe dieback excessive growth. Heavy limb towards house. Root Heave, hazardous tree. Horse chestnut (tag no. 594) poor specimen severe damage up trunk decay. Removal will also help other trees to develop. Beech (tag no. 596) rot in roots large decay in trunk lean, hazardous tree. Recommendations for pruning Oak (tag no. 582) removal of one large lower limb growing over lawn towards bungalow along with removal of one damaged limb Beech (tag no. 590) remove one large limb growing over glasshouse, crown reduce by 2.5m and crown thin by 20% Beech (tag no. 595) remove 3 large limbs growing over glasshouse, crown reduce by 2.5m and crown thin by 20%. Application GRANTED permission 17th September 2018.</p>	
<p>17/04160/FUL Proposed new detached dwelling on land to the rear of 8 Newton on the Moor - Land North Of 8 Newton On The Moor Newton-On-The-Moor, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 9JY. Comments invited until 8th December 2017. Cllr Rixon pointed out that this application was in a conservation area. Parish Cllrs objected for various reasons including concern at the narrowness of the access to the site for fire engines to attend. Application REFUSED permission 3/9/2018. Cllr Rixon queried an application for the removal of a tree which had been linked to this application. Clerk to ask NCC about tree situation.</p>	Clerk
<p>b. Applications pending decision by NCC 17/00500/OUT Change of use to residential (C3 use) by erecting approximately 10 no. detached dwellings. Land South West of the Old Tweed Mill, Springwood, Swarland. Northumberland. Parish Council objected. Cllr noted this application had been ongoing for some time. Clerk to ask NCC what is happening with this application. If application is approved, PC wants to be involved in any S.106 agreement discussions. It was noted also that the application might affect the Mere Burn.</p>	Clerk
<p>18/01791/PRUTPO Tree Preservation Order: Crown reduce Larch trees (T1, T2, T7 and T8) to approx 4m and remove deadwood , crown reduce Lime trees (T3 and T5), Horse Chestnut trees (T4 and T9), Beech tree (T6) to approx 2m and crown thin by 15-20% to remove deadwood and Lime tree (T10) crown reduce to approx 2m, crown thin by 15-20% and remove deadwood - 3 Beechcroft Swarland Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9HA.. Parish Council asked for more information. Application declared 'invalid' in June 2018 but has now been resubmitted with additional Tree Hazard Evaluation Survey report and work to additional trees. Comments invited by 19th September 2018.</p>	
<p>18/02009/FUL Proposal for new detached dwelling (bungalow) Land West Of Pinegarth, Park Road, Swarland. Comments invited until 1st August 2018. Parish Council objected on range of grounds including proposed development outside settlement boundary. Planning Cttee Chairman has agreed (10/9/2018) this application will be delegated to Planning Officer to decide.</p>	
<p>18/02250/FUL Demolition of existing indoor riding arena and erection of 26 dwellings including 4 affordable homes, electric sub station and associated infrastructure. Land Parcels South West Of Liseswood, Old Park Road, Swarland. Parish Council did not object as permission already in place for site development but provided detailed response. Application to be considered by NCC Local Area Council 23rd August 2018.</p>	
<p>18/02272/FELTPO – Ashlea, Newton-On-The-Moor, Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9JY - Tree Preservation Order: Fell 1No. Mature Ash Tree. Parish Council objected until fully completed application submitted.</p>	
<p>c. Planning matters for Parish Council to consider 18/03077/FUL - 5 Studley Drive, Swarland, NE65 9JT - Demolition and rebuild of domestic garages. Comments invited until 25th September 2018.</p>	
<p>18/03235/FELTPO To allow construction of a surface water sewer that forms part of the development of housing under planning consent 18/02250/FUL connecting the SUDS depression to the watercourse, details of which have already been agreed with the LLFA - Land Parcels South West Of Liseswood, Old Park Road, Swarland, Northumberland. Comments invited until 3rd October 2018.</p>	Clerk

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	<p>Cllr Howard-Row raised concerns about the proposed loss of 12 trees including Oak Trees, and asked for information about how they would be replaced.</p> <p>18/03305/FUL Proposed addition of timber and double glazed garden room - 5 Studley Drive, Swarland, Northumberland, NE65 9JT. Comments invited until 8th October 2018.</p> <p>Cllr Rixon pointed out that with dualling of the A1 increasing accessibility in this area, this would add pressure to the potential development of Swarland behind Park Road. Cllr Francis said the proposed new village boundary is quite tight behind existing buildings.</p>	
12.	<p>Correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways England leaflet giving an overview of schemes either in progress or planned up until March 2019. Cllr Rixon asked when the proposed total closure of the A1 which was postponed due to public outcry – will take place. Clerk to check with HE. • Royal Mail leaflet on avoiding risks of Scam Mail. Cllr Stanley said an item on this was going in the next edition of The Column. • HMRC – New online service for PC's to claim VAT refunds – paper documents no longer needed. • NALC notification of AGM on 29th September 2019 at N'land National Parks Landscape Discovery Centre, The Sill, near Bardon Mill. 	Clerk
13.	<p>Urgent items: NCC Budget for 2019/20. Barry Scarr (Executive Director of Finance) has completed broad budget for the next three years. It is only late Oct/Nov when detail becomes clear then will be presented at the Local Area Committee meetings which are open to the public.</p>	
14.	<p>Requests for next agenda:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Detailed PC accounts including predicted year end figures. b. Report back from Cllrs Clarke and Rixon on the NCC/Town/Parish Council Conference. c. Proposed Council Tax reforms. 	Clerk
15.	<p>Date of Next Meeting - 24/10/2018 SVH, 28/11/2018 JH, No meeting in December, 23/1/2019 SVH, 27/2/2019 JH, 27/3/2019 SVH, 24/4/2019 JH.</p>	

Meeting finished at: 20.57

APPENDIX 1

Details of expenditure relating to balance of allocation from PC to VPC in the financial year 2017/18. Note the PC also paid insurance for VP (£900.00) which was intended to be in addition to the allocation.

VYNER PARK CHARITY
(registered Charity No.1163835)
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Year Ended 31st March 2018

Income	£
Allocation by PC from Precept	7140.00
Expenditure	£
MKM Building Supplies	84.73
Sean McWilliams, roof works	897.32
Ashley Wynne, carpet	691.67
NCC, grass cutting	1,508.00
Caretech, electrical	588.00
Greg Anderson, water heater purchased	93.99
N Power, refund of refund	1,499.74
Clerk, purchase of dog bags/spray and vpc domain name	35.20
Mark Ryder, plumbing	90.00
	<u>£5488.65</u>
Balance of Allocation held by Parish Council at 31st March 2018	£1651.35