

NEWTON ON THE MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held
on **Wednesday 20th November 2019 in Swarland Village Hall**

1.	<p>Public Question Time (Max 15 minutes in total) – Four members of the public present.</p> <p>a. <u>Speed Monitoring</u> – A resident said the speed monitoring devices that had been installed in NotM (outside Cook & Barker & the top of the hill) were in the wrong place to monitor speeding vehicles. The resident also said they had had verbal abuse from drivers asked to slow down. Had rung the Police but been told CCTV or dashcam footage was needed as supporting evidence before any action could be taken. Clerk will contact NCC to see if monitors could be moved.</p> <p>b. <u>Water on the road by Quarry House, NotM</u> – A resident said that the water flow was worsening, and very hazardous when it freezes. Cllr Rixon said that the water was probably supplemented by a spring opposite Quarry House. The Clerk said the possible presence of the spring had been reported to NCC who have written to the landowner for the ditch to be cleared. NCC say they have to follow an agreed process with an informal approach before any formal action can be considered.</p> <p>c. <u>Horse Safety Awareness Signs</u> – The same resident said the sign at the south of NotM had disappeared, at that at the north side had been damaged. The Clerk said she had brought this to the attention of NCC Highways (Park Road sign has also gone) and had asked for the installation of more robust signs to be installed.</p>	Clerk
2.	<p>Present: Cllr D. Francis, Cllr S. Woolfrey, Cllr D. Rixon, Cllr G. Anderson, Cllr Ms E. Clark, Cllr Mrs S. Stanley, Cllr Mrs K. Howard-Row, Cllr N. Mansfield, Cllr S. Cutforth.</p> <p>The Clerk was in attendance.</p>	
3.	<p>Apologies for absence and consent for absence -</p> <p>Cllr Francis welcomed Stuart Cutforth to his first meeting as a Parish Councillor. Apologies had been received from Cllr Ferguson. The Chairman said that Cllr Ferguson- because of continuing personal issues - was unable to attend meetings but continued to play a full role in PC business by email. To avoid falling foul of the 6 month rule ie the automatic ceasing to be a member of the Council unless a leave of absence has been given by the Council before the expiry of that six month period (s.85 Local Government Act 1972) Cllr Francis proposed a grant of absence upto and including the PC meeting on 25th March 2020 – This was agreed.</p>	
4.	<p>Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda: None.</p>	
5.	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd October 2019 – The Minutes were agreed as a true record and signed.</p>	
6.	<p>To consider matters arising from the meeting on 23rd October 2019.</p> <p>a. <u>Highways Issues</u> : Update on signs warning of presence of horses (Clerk) (see item 1c – Clerk will contact County Councillor Glen Sanderson about signs if no response. Update on condition of road at Hazon (Cllr Clark) Cllr Clark said ditch has been cleared between High Hazon and Hazon but it hasn't made much difference. Dale Rumney at NCC asked for details of landowners which have been supplied but they haven't been contacted yet.</p> <p>Installation of speed monitoring equipment in NotM and Swarland (Clerk) (see item 1a above) Monitors are by the Cook & Barker, the top of the hill and outside No 17. Clerk to ask NCC if monitors could be moved to just inside the two 20mph limit signs.</p> <p>b. <u>Condition of the north end of Kenmore Road, Swarland (unadopted)</u> – Update</p>	

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<p>pursuing Northumbrian Water (NW) vigorously to identify the source of the problem. Cllr Rixon said the sewage problem was identified 30 years ago and suggested that the PC got more aggressive with NW as the situation is not acceptable. Planning comments have to emphasise the issue – Cllrs agreed with this, and the suggestion that Cllr Ferguson increase the pressure on NW. Clerk said she had an OFWAT document which might be useful and will pass on to Cllr Woolfrey. Next VPC meeting is 12th February 2020.</p>	<p align="right">Cllr Ferguson</p>
<p>b. <u>PC budget and precept for 2020/21</u> – For discussion and agreement. Cllr Francis said the process had begun in September inviting suggestions from residents via The Column but no suggestions had come forward. PC Finance group had met to look at preliminary figures. A draft budget had been produced by the Clerk and circulated together with income expenditure docs for November 2019. PC has time to do further work on this as NCC deadline is 27th January. It was agreed to add a further £100 each to the grants to the Jubilee Hall, and Swarland Village Hall. The funding for new projects was for noticeboards in Hazon and Hartlaw – Cllr Clark will confirm the situation regarding Hazon and Hartlaw. Cllr Francis said the intention would be that that the PC’s Community Fund would cover any emergency expenditure needed for community asset projects. It was agreed to take out ‘New Projects’ in 2020/21 as nothing specific has been highlighted. Re’ Leamington Lane bus stop – no further information has been received back from Felton PC as to what works are needed and/or likely cost. Nothing back from NotM resident about NotM bus shelter – any bus shelter expenditure could be paid from the Community Fund. Clerk suggested possible grant from PC towards VPC car park and/or outdoor gym. Cllr Francis said that the PC also needs to consider how best to present the finance information so it answers any questions resident might have. At present the end of year position is a projected surplus of £19,400 which is very healthy and would mean there was probably no need to increase the precept. Cllr Francis said that the VPC accounts had been circulated to the PC by Cllr Ferguson (‘ask’ for 2020/21 is £7000). Cllr Francis suggested an explanatory note for the website around the PC’s funding of VPC which he would draft. Cllr Rixon said residents had asked him about VPC funding and suggested that the pC take back the responsibility of paying the grasscutting contract direct rather than through VPC. This suggestion wasn’t supported. Cllr Stanley pointed out that explanatory notes had been done regularly, and the number of complaints was reducing. Cllr Francis said he would write a budget progress report for the December edition of the Column and will produce a paper for the budget agenda item at the January PC meeting.</p>	<p align="right">Clerk</p>
<p>c. <u>Defibrillators</u> – Replacement of Vyner Park defibrillator battery and update on Jubilee Hall defibrillator installation. Clerk said all the equipment had arrived. Need to apply for Listed Building consent before installation. Training needs to be arranged for new Guardians. Cllr Clark said it would be useful for residents of Hazon who hadn’t been able to attend previous training. Clerk to chase up.</p>	<p align="right">Cllr Francis</p>
<p>d. <u>NCC proposal to renew the Council’s Public Spaces Protection Order for the Control of Dogs</u> – For discussion and agreement on comments (if any). Comments requested by NCC by 6th December 2019. Cllr Francis said he had read the legislation and queried the specification for the land covered by the order. He has already raised this with NCC. Cllr Francis suggested that the</p>	<p align="right">Cllr Francis</p> <p align="right">Clerk</p>

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	Clerk write to NCC to say the PC supports the aims and will be happy to supply any information and data needed.	
8.	<p>Report by County Councillor and meetings attended by Councillors: <u>Felton Cemetery Joint Committee</u> - Cllr Anderson had attended the meeting of the Felton Cemetery Joint Committee on 21st November 2019. They had reviewed the Remembrance Day proceedings at Felton which was well attended and went smoothly. Fees were reviewed for cemetery plots, and the payments to the Clerk and Gardener were slightly raised. The additional costs were balanced by the fees. It was decided to maintain the charge to the Parish Councils at the same level in 2020/21. Cllr Francis requested a copy of the Committee accounts.</p> <p><u>Persistent Complainers</u> – The Clerk had attended the NALC course on 11th November. A handout had been provided which will be circulated.</p>	
9.	<p>Finance:</p> <p>a. Note: Payment for November AND December 2019 Clerk’s salary £725.90 Clerks Expenses £40.25 Payment to HM Revenues & Customs PAYE = £145.20 Payment to Clerk = £725.90 + £40.25 - £145.20 = £620.95</p> <p>b. Other receipts and payments: i) Receipts: NCC County Cllrs Small Grant towards Vyner Park Outdoor Gym £2000. ii) Payments: Felton Parish Council - Cemetery payment 2019/20 £1090.55. The payment is less than expected as an overpayment was made in 2018/19.</p> <p>Wel Medical Ltd Defibrillator package and external cabinet for Jubilee Hall plus replacement battery for The Pavilion, Swarland. £1686.00 including VAT. Note: PC has agreed £400 donation towards new installation and expects repayment from the JH Cttee of £965 unless additional costs arise.</p> <p>Purchase of Christmas Tree for The Square, Bockenfield Green Burials £110.</p> <p>Repayment to Cllr Greg Anderson for purchase of wire for Vyner Park (from Vyner Park Grant funds held by the Parish Council) - £165.72 inc VAT.</p> <p>iii) Payment of budgeted grant to Swarland Village Hall 2019/20 – £2200.</p>	
10.	<p>Planning:</p> <p>a. To report on any planning decisions made by NCC: 19/00823/FUL - Erection of 1 No. dwellinghouse (C3 use) plus new access - Land South West of Chesterhill Farm, Leamington Lane, Swarland Northumberland. The Parish Council objected to this application for several reasons including safety risks regarding the proposed new access onto Leamington Lane. Application REFUSED by NCC 7.11.2019.</p> <p>19/03839/FUL – Proposed replacement of existing boundary fence and additional fence above existing stone wall – Pine Lodge, Old Swarland, Swarland, NE65 9HU. The Parish Council objected to the application mainly because the proposed access is unsuitable for this location, which has restricted visibility on a 60mph stretch of road. Application WITHDRAWN by applicant 12.11.2019.</p> <p>b. Applications pending decision by NCC 19/00335/FUL - Construction of No7 New dwellings at land adjacent 3 Nelson</p>	

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Drive Morpeth - 3 Nelson Drive Swarland Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9JR. The Parish Council objected to this application on several grounds including too high a density and mass of development, no need for additional 4+ bedroomed houses in Swarland, and effects on tree belt.

19/01637/FUL - Land parcels south west of Liseswood, Old Park Road - Proposal for the erection of 5 dwellings (to replace 4 dwellings consented under planning permission 18/02250/FUL). The PC objected on the grounds of development creep and that the more cramped design doesn't fit with the characteristic spaciousness of Swarland as a whole, and the need for affordable housing.

19/01688/FUL - Percy Wood Golf And Country Retreat, Sylvian House, Leamington Lane, Swarland, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 9JW - Reconfiguration of existing reception area with a new restaurant and storage facility, splash park, caravan sales area and associated parking. Parish Council objected on basis of appearance of proposed building and problems with disposal of water from splash park.

19/00624/OUT – Outline application for development of 1 no. dwellinghouse (C3 use) – all matters reserved. Land South West of Old Gardens, Park Road, Swarland, NE65 9HZ. Application REFUSED by NCC but has been submitted to Secretary of State on grounds of Appeal against refusal. Further written representations to the Planning Inspectorate must be submitted by 6th September 2019.

19/03610/BT - Proposal to remove phone box 01670787382 - ADJ Bus Shelter PCO1 The Square Swarland Morpeth NE65 9JQ. The PC had no objections.

19/03685/OUT - Outline permission for development of 2no. dwellings all matters reserved. Land South Of Bowling Green U3135 Swarland Village Loop Road, Swarland, Northumberland. Parish Council did not object to application but requested application of several conditions regarding design and tree protection.

19/03839/FUL – Proposed replacement of existing boundary fence and additional fence above existing stone wall – Pine Lodge, Old Swarland, Swarland, NE65 9HU. The Parish Council objected to the application mainly because the proposed access is unsuitable for this location, which has restricted visibility on a 60mph stretch of road. Application WITHDRAWN by applicant 12.11.2019.

19/04108/OUT - Demolition of existing golf club house and associated buildings, and development of up to 16 dwellings with all matters reserved apart from access. Percy Wood Golf Club And Country Retreat Coast View Swarland Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9JW. Comments invited until 6th November 2019. The PC objected on a range of reasons including highway safety and concerns about lack of capacity on the existing sewerage system. The PC asked for improvements to the unadopted section of Coast View.

19/04182/FELTPO - Tree Preservation Order application to fell 2no. Oak trees (4 and 5) and cut branches of 1no. Oak tree (6) back to the trunk to prevent

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	<p>severe leaning toward neighbouring property - 1 Old Park Road Swarland Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9HJ. The PC objected to this application because of the lack of an expert report on the condition of the trees, and the historic importance of the trees.</p> <p>19/04021/FUL - Single storey side extension - 8 Kenmore Road Swarland NE65 9JS. The PC had no objections.</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 – Land north west of Springwood, Coast View, Swarland, Northumberland. Comments invited until 28th October 2019. The PC objected for a range of reasons including adverse visual impact, too close to existing dwellings, sewerage and drainage capacity issues, and highway safety.</p> <p>18/04479/OUT – Outline Application for development of 5 No bungalows (C3 Use) with all matters reserved – Land West of 42 Park Road, Park Road, Swarland. This application was originally refused by NCC and an Appeal has been lodged with the Secretary of State. Additional comments have to be submitted in writing to The Planning Inspectorate within 5 weeks of 9th October 2019 (ie by 13/11/2019).</p> <p>c. Planning matters for Parish Council to consider</p> <p>19/04270/FUL – Removal of old cladding to all dormers and replacement with new cladding to effect renovation and repair work. All existing fascias, guttering and down pipes attached to the cladding are to be replaced on a 'like for like' basis. – 11 C106 Newton on the Moor, NE65 9JY. Comments invited until 26th November 2019.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>Complaints:</p> <p>Report from Local Resident of unconverted (to LED) street light, Swarland No 79NE– reported to NCC 19th September 2019.</p> <p>Report from Local Resident of defective streetlight on The Avenue , Swarland – No. 11NE – reported to NCC 18th October 2019.</p> <p>Potholes on road north of Newton on the Moor, reported to NCC – repaired 13.11.19.</p> <p>Park Road, Swarland – road edge crumbled at 'Slow' sign. Reported to NCC</p> <p>Water on road opposite Quarry House, NotM from old spring/obstructed ditch – reported to NCC 4th November 2019.</p> <p>Query about drainage investigation works Percy Drive, Swarland 13/11/2019 – completed.</p>	
<p>12.</p>	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>Great North Air Ambulance Service letter of thanks for donation.</p> <p>CAN email of thanks for donation.</p> <p>OFGEM call for evidence – people not on electricity distribution network by 2/12/2019.</p> <p>NCC Local Plan – notification of examination hearing (Chapter 13) Managing natural resources 5th and 6th February 2020.</p>	
<p>13.</p>	<p>Requests for Next Agenda: PC Budget 20/21 and Precept 20/21.</p>	
<p>14.</p>	<p>Urgent items: None.</p>	
<p>15.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting – No meeting in December 2019, 22/1/2020 JH, 26/2/2020 SVA, 25/3/2020 JH.</p>	

Meeting finished at: 20.50