

# NEWTON on the MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council  
Meeting held at 7pm on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2014** in Swarland Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs G.R. Anderson, R. Brotherton, D. Francis, Mrs H. Handyside, Mrs S. Richardson, Mrs E. Sells, Ms S. Spurling, Mrs S. Stanley

The Clerk was in attendance.

		ACTIONS
1.	<p><b>Apologies</b> – Cllrs Mrs D. Lewney, N. Mansfield, Mrs C. Preston. Cllr Stanley advised the Parish Council that Cllr L. Fahy had today resigned from the Parish Council and the Vyner Park Charity Management Committee with immediate effect.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Declarations of Interest in items of the agenda</b> <b>Cllr Richardson</b> – item 11 re: Percy Drive.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Public questions and Reports (including Police Updates)</b> (Max 15 minutes)</p> <p><b>a. Correction to Swarland Show Poster</b> – Mrs Vaggs pointed out that on the schedule for the Show, there was reference to Vyner Park also being known as ‘Swarland Park’. From her extensive researches on Local History, she was able to state that this was incorrect.</p> <p><b>b. Road Sign cleaning</b> – Mrs Vaggs said she had noticed someone cleaning road signs (Cllr Anderson) on the Low Swarland to Felton Road and said this was much appreciated.</p> <p><b>c. LOVE Northumberland Community Awards 2014</b> – Mrs Vaggs said that the Pegswood Community Forest and the Shilbottle War Memorial received awards in the 2014 Love Northumberland Community Awards scheme. She was disappointed that the recently completed forest path in Swarland didn’t get an award and asked how the projects were selected.</p> <p><b>d. Superfast Broadband</b> – Mr Wolfrey asked what the current position was regarding Superfast Broadband . He had been told that Swarland should have the system but there appears to be a problem. Newton on the Moor residents were told they were getting the system but now aren’t. This issue was discussed by the Parish Council and it was agreed that a request would be sent to the iNorthumberland team asking them to come to the next Parish Council meeting to explain the situation.</p> <p><b>e. Planning Decisions</b> - Mr Walters asked if the Parish Council would formally ask Northumberland County Council if the person who is making delegated planning decisions would come to a Parish Council meeting to explain how decisions are being made. His reason for asking was that in his view, the infrastructure in Swarland - particularly the drainage system - could not sustain any additional properties. The Clerk advised that a letter had been sent to NCC following the July Parish Council meeting (where a similar question had been raised) asking for a details of how planning decisions were made. A response had not yet been received.</p> <p><b>f. Equestrian Centre Planning Application</b> – Mr David Blackshaw had recently submitted a planning application for a new detached dwelling adjacent to the Equestrian Centre to which the Parish Council had objected. Firstly he wished to thank the Parish Council for their work in repairing the drainage at the bottom of Vyner Park which he said was a complete success. However, in connection with the planning application he asked if the Parish Council would reverse its decision to object to the application. The Parish Council discussed the matter and agreed that this issue would be put on the next Parish Council agenda, and invited Mr Blackshaw to put his case in writing via the Clerk.</p> <p><b>g. Northumbria Police Coquetdale community message</b> – The Clerk read the recent community message received on 13<sup>th</sup> August regarding a suspect male wanted in connection with a burglary near Rothbury Road, Longframlington. Cllr Handyside said she was aware that a shed had been looked at’ by persons unknown in Kenmore Road, Swarland, and residents should be on the alert.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
4.	<p><b>Presentation from Mr Steve Keeney, Parish Council Liaison Officer for Northern Powergrid.</b> – Mr Keeney covers the whole of the North East as Parish Liaison and spoke to the Parish Council about works which have been going on in the Swarland area. Two years ago the overhead line system was rebuilt to modern standards for the Felton/Swarland area and low voltage cable undergrounding work is being done now lasting for another 3 – 4 weeks, and he apologised for the inconvenience. When the electrical work is complete, the holes will be filled in temporarily, allowed to settle and then will be permanently reinstated following which they will be inspected by NCC and if they pass inspection, will be guaranteed for two years. Swarland will then have a good High and Low voltage system which will prevent some of the electrical supply issues experienced in the past. Mr Keeney explained the scheme available for vulnerable people (Priority service customers) such as those who need electricity to power medical equipment. The scheme is available via the Northern Powergrid website so people can register and then, if there is a problem, small generators can be</p>	

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	<p>installed until the main system can be reinstated.                  Website address for scheme: <a href="http://www.northernpowergrid.com/page/powercuts/priority.cfm">http://www.northernpowergrid.com/page/powercuts/priority.cfm</a></p>	
5.	<p><b>Presentation from Mr Thomas Hague, General Manager, Percy Wood Country Retreat</b>– Mr Hague has recently taken over as Manager of Percy Wood site. He was keen to do anything they could to help with Vyner Park and the village in order to be good neighbours. Mr Hague’s parents own the caravan park and he described award winning works they have done with villages in Yorkshire where they also have sites.                  The Parish Council were very appreciative of Mr Hague’s offer and commitment. Parish Council contact details to be sent to Mr Hague for future reference.</p>	Clerk
6.	<p><b>Minutes of the meeting held on 23 July 2014</b> – were agreed as a true record.</p>	
7.	<p><b>To consider matters arising from the meeting on 25 June 2014</b></p> <p><b>a.</b> N. Water future programme of drainage works in village – NW offer to attend next available PC meeting – Agreed though later amended to suggest October 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting in Swarland.</p> <p><b>b.</b> Pot holes at Overgrass, Repairs to B6345 from Old Swarland to Felton, Potholes at crossroads near school, Extension of yellow lines outside Swarland 1<sup>st</sup> School – The Clerk advised that a response had been received from NCC on 27.9.14.                  An order has been raised to fill potholes on the U3049 Newmoor Hall Junction to Dykehead Hall junction. An investigation will be carried out to locate water leak or surface water causing potholes at crossroads near school. A meeting is to take place on Wednesday 3rd September re: yellow lines.                  An issue had also been raised with NCC about potholes on Blackhouse Bank and Cllr Richardson clarified the location of this site. Clerk to advise NCC.</p> <p><b>c.</b> Coast View – for costs to making this up to an adoptable standard – still to be sought.</p> <p><b>d.</b> Funding suggestions for Newton on the Moor from CC Thorne’s Members Scheme – Feedback from Cllr Thorne received. Quotes needed for railing at Vyner Park Pavilion. Cllr Anderson to attend to this.</p> <p><b>e.</b> Form of words for dealing with letters from the Public – Article in ‘The Column’ No. 72 and displayed on PC Notice Boards.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Anderson</p>
8.	<p><b>Requested agenda items</b></p> <p><b>a. Local Transport Plan Programme 2015/16</b> – In response to the annual request from NCC a decision on top three highways and transport priority issues for Parish was discussed. Feedback to NCC is required by 26<sup>th</sup> September 2014. Cllr Stanley went through the items on the list currently held by NCC and the following three items were agreed:</p> <p><b>i.</b> Footpath from the top of Kenmore Road along the east side of The Avenue to the Vyner Park entrance/bus stop as adults and children have to walk in the road to access the play area and sports facilities.</p> <p><b>ii.</b> Footpath along Park Road from North Lodge to the entrance to the recently completed woodland footpath beyond Douglas Crescent.</p> <p><b>iii.</b> Request for road widening / realignment of the B6345 between Swarland Fence and Old Swarland as the road is narrow and badly aligned at this location.</p> <p><b>b. Bank Account with HSBC for Vyner Park Charity</b> – a minuted decision is required on who the signatories for the Charity will be. It was agreed these would be Cllrs Brotherton, Handyside and Stanley. Any two of three. Clerk to advise HSBC.</p> <p><b>c. Parish Council Notice boards – Permission sought from Cllr Anderson to sand &amp; re-varnish notice boards.</b> This was agreed. If information such as Agendas need to be displayed whilst the Notice boards are removed for refurbishing, these will be displayed on the Jubilee Hall (NotM) and The Square (Swarland) notice boards.</p> <p><b>d. Request from Mrs Vera Vaggs for Notice Board in Old Swarland</b> – it was agreed that a public board would be useful, although public soundings by Cllr Stanley had suggested there was not a great deal of demand. Clerk to obtain costs.</p> <p><b>e. Planning meetings – membership &amp; timing</b> – The process to be followed by Parish Council to discuss &amp; comment on Planning Applications was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Handyside would write a proposal, circulate it and the issue would be considered at the next meeting.</p> <p><b>f. Development of Local Flood Risk Strategy for Northumberland. Views &amp; Experiences invited – Cllr Francis.</b> Northumberland County Council has produced an on-line questionnaire to get both factual information and feelings of residents concerning flooding in the County. It was agreed that the Clerk would send a pdf copy of the questionnaire to Cllrs which is easier to follow, and that Parish Councillors would send information on known flooding incidents to the Clerk to co-ordinate a response.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Anderson</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Handyside</p> <p>Clerk All Clerk</p>

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9.	<b>Report by County Councillor</b> – None received.	
10.	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>a. Bank statements – Lloyds Current, £4,979.75, Lloyds Instant Access – unable to get figure, Treasury £15,000.</p> <p>b. Clerks’ salary and expenses: £216.27 plus expenses £62.31= £278.58 – agreed. HM Revenues &amp; Customs PAYE £54.00 – agreed.</p> <p>c. Other receipts and payments:</p> <p>i) Receipts: £288.50 Get Going Grant for July 2014 Bus Service NCC.</p> <p>ii) Reimbursement to Cllr Brotherton £10, closure of Swarland Sports &amp; Recreation Club Ltd (Outstanding from last meeting) – Not now required. Vyner Park Charity printing payment to Bryan Stanley Column inserts £24.49 - agreed Reimbursement to Cllr Anderson for Oak plank to repair see-saw - £45 – agreed. Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd printing ‘The Column 70’ £75.00 – agreed. WRCS Ltd Drainage works at Vyner Park £3,725.02 – agreed.</p>	
11.	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>a. To report on any planning decisions:</b></p> <p>14/00648/LBC - Newton Hall - convert existing outbuildings into flats and houses – Pending consideration.</p> <p>14/01464/FUL – Land North of Equestrian Centre, detached house and garage – Pending consideration.</p> <p>14/016421/FUL - Retrospective - Erection of agricultural building to store hay and straw for livestock. Hay storage shed will be 14.5 metres long x 7.27 metres. Newton Low Hall Newton-On-The-Moor Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9LD – Application withdrawn.</p> <p>14/01980/OUT – Land Northwest of the Larches, Nelson Drive. Outline, construction of 1 residential dwelling with associated change of use of land to residential curtilage – Permitted.14/02294/FELTPO - Tree Preservation Order: Remove 3 trees, two Scots pine and a sycamore tree that overhang 14 Chesterwell Swarland Morpeth NE65 9NA - Objections made by PC. Pending.</p> <p>4/02284/OUT - 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. Pending.</p>	
	<p><b>b. To consider any planning matters:</b></p> <p>14/02535/FUL Restoration/conversion of existing plotting [sic] sheds, greenhouses, outbuildings into new single dwelling. Newton Hall, Newton on the Moor, Morpeth NE65 9JU.</p> <p>14/02536/LBC Listed Building consent for restoration/conservation of existing plotting [sic] sheds, greenhouses, outbuildings into new single dwelling. Newton Hall, Newton on the Moor, Morpeth NE65 9JU.</p> <p>Cllr Stanley suggested 14/02599/FUL and 14/02598/FUL were both non-contentious applications they could be dealt with by email. No need for meeting – Agreed.</p>	All
12	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>Invitation to First Annual Town &amp; Parish Councils Conference 25th September 2014, County Hall, Morpeth. Sessions 1pm or 6pm – Cllr Stanley and the Clerk to attend.</p> <p>Joint Northumberland CC and Town and Parish Council Meetings – Invitation to meeting (four dates available in October) – details to be circulated to Cllrs.</p> <p>Invitation to Clerk &amp; Councillors to NALC AGM - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October, Storey Park, Morpeth.</p> <p>Northumberland Strategic Housing Land Assessment – Notice of site assessment consultation Cllr Francis said this was a list of sites for possible development and he recommended that Cllrs had a look at the list on the NCC website. Consultations are until 24th September.</p> <p>Email on Planning conditions placed on developers re: making up roads – Cllr Stanley had received an email from Mr Derek Baugh remarking on the state of the junction of Nelson Drive and Kenmore Road. He recalled that there had been a condition in the planning consent to make good the road which had not been enforced. It was agreed that this would be checked and pursued if correct. Cllr Stanley agreed to find reference of relevant Planning Application and pass to Clerk for action.</p> <p>Email objecting to proposal of 20mph limit outside Swarland 1<sup>st</sup> School – covered as part of item 8a.</p>	<p>Cllr Stanley &amp; Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>All</p> <p>Cllr Stanley Clerk</p>

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	<p><i>[At this point it was 9.05 and Cllr Stanley proposed suspended standing orders to allow the meeting continue which was agreed.]</i></p> <p>NALC Survey on Provision of Burial Facilities (forwarded to Cllrs Richardson &amp; Anderson) – Cllr Francis explained this was being requested as part of work to determine current County capacity. He expected that the survey would be completed by Lisa Hamlin as Clerk to the Cemetery Cttee. Defibrillators – An offer from Rothbury WI had been received inviting expressions of interest in defibrillators. It was agreed that Cllr Stanley would respond expressing a provisional interest. NALC Training courses – it was agreed Clerk should attend the Finance course.</p>	<p>Cllr Stanley Clerk</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p><b>Urgent items</b></p> <p><b>a. Lambs and Sheep killed and seriously injured by dogs at Swarland Old Hall Farm</b> Cllr Stanley reported that she had spoken to the Proctors in connection with recent attacks on their sheep and lambs by loose dogs. They have lost 35 lambs this year and others have been left brain damaged. One Labrador has been shot but a Bull Terrier type dog wearing a black harness has also been seen more than once, including an occasion when it was seen savaging a lamb. The Proctors have asked the Parish Council to help publicise the fact that in future, dogs seen loose on their land will be shot in order to stop them from worrying their livestock. Standing orders were suspended to allow Mr Haig to say that Police have checked the Caravan Park as they were concerned (erroneously) that the dog was from the Park, and they have put an item in their Newsletter about this. As the next issue of 'The Column' isn't until October it was agreed that a Notice about this will be put on the Parish Council notice boards.</p> <p><b>b. Firework Display in Vyner Park Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014.</b> Cllr Brotherton said that people were needed to help on the day of the Firework Display and it will be assumed everyone is available unless they advise Cllr Brotherton otherwise!</p> <p><b>c. Swarland Show Saturday 30th August 2014</b> Cllr Handyside reminded the Parish Council that the Swarland Show was on Saturday, all welcome.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>All</p> <p>All</p>
<p>14.</p>	<p><b>Requests for next agenda</b></p> <p><b>a. Superfast Broadband</b> It was agreed that an invitation would be sent to John Cooper of the iNorthumberland Broadband programme and BT to explain what was happening in connection with superfast broadband provision in the Parish, particularly in Newton on the Moor where superfast broadband had been planned, but where it may not now be provided.</p> <p><b>b. Northumbrian Water</b> Northumbrian Water has offered to send a representative to a future meeting of the Parish Council. It was agreed that they would be invited to attend the October meeting to be held in Swarland, as this is where the problems with sewerage are occurring.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>15.</p>	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> to be held on <b>24 September 2014</b> at <b>7.00pm</b> in Jubilee Hall, Newton on the Moor. The meeting closed at 9.20pm</p>	