

NEWTON on the MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.00pm
on **Wednesday 26th November 2014** in the Jubilee Hall, Newton on the Moor.

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs S. Stanley, Cllr Mrs S. Richardson, Cllr Mrs H. Handyside, Cllr G. Cunningham, Cllr C. Heal, Cllr R. Brotherton. Cllr Ms S. Spurling, Cllr D. Francis, Cllr N. Mansfield.

The Clerk in attendance.

ACTION

1. **Public questions and Reports (including Police Updates)** (Max 15 minutes in total)
 - a. Mrs Vaggs – In connection with a current planning application which is in Felton Parish but right on the border and affecting this Parish, she asked whether the Parish Council would consider asking for a boundary change. It was agreed this would be put on the next Agenda. Clerk
 - b. Mr Rixon – Spoke regarding the status of Superfast Broadband in NotM. He has been told there is a problem with the primary supply box which is in Hampeth as it has no electricity supply. The supply box in NotM is a secondary box and BT have said they would not update secondary boxes, however, Thropton has a secondary box which has been upgraded. Mr Rixon has been told by BT that there is no chance for NotM being upgraded until the extra funding is available in 2017, unless we can get something done in the next month. Mr Rixon asked that the Parish Council does all it can. This information from Mr Rixon was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Simon Robeson at BT copying in John Cooper at NCC. Clerk
 - c. Mr Henderson – Following the presentation by Northumbrian Water at the meeting of the PC on 22nd October, Mr Henderson gave an update. A full NW team had been in the Percy Drive area and done a complete survey including new houses. A number of issues were found. A new area plan has been drafted which is currently with their development section & planning. Not just existing houses causing issues.
 - d. Mr Henderson – Has written to MP Sir Alan Beith re: road works on A1 and has had feedback that Aone have been slow to respond to queries because they have been inundated. Preparation work was supposed to be in already (26th November) The works are going to go ahead but they hope to avoid the situation again in future where A1 works are being carried out at the same time as local NCC road works. Barry Rowland Director of Local Services at NCC will be putting out a statement.
2. **Apologies and resignation of Cllr Mrs Preston** - Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs E. Sells and Cllr G. Anderson. The Chairman read out Cllr Mrs Preston's letter of resignation.
3. **Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda** – Cllrs declared an interest in planning items as follows;

Cllr Ms. Spurling	14/03822/FUL
Cllr Mrs Richardson	14/03822/FUL
Cllr Mrs Stanley	14/03340/FUL, 14/03513/FUL and 14/03514 /FUL
Cllr Francis	14/02644/FUL
Cllr Mrs Handyside	14/03123/FUL
Cllr Brotherton	14/03340/FUL

Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd October 2014 – These were agreed as a true

NEWTON on the MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

4. record.

To consider matters arising from the meeting on 22nd October 2014.

5. **a. Pot holes at Overgrass** – Cllr Heal reported these had been repaired.
- b. Repairs to B6345 from Old Swarland to Felton** – No action reported, road still a problem.
- c. Potholes at crossroads near school** – No action reported.
- d. Blackhouse Bank pothole** – The Clerk reported that the pothole had been filled but was sinking again. She had taken photographs and would take up the matter with NCC Clerk
- e. Extension of yellow lines outside Swarland 1st School** – The Clerk reported that confirmation of the works had been sent to NCC subject to satisfactory consultation. The works are to be paid from Cllr Thorne Members Scheme. Letter of thanks to go to Cllr Thorne. Clerk
- f. Coast View** – for costs to making this up to an adoptable standard – still to be sought. Cllr Stanley has received a complaint about the condition of the road. Cllr Richardson said in wet weather, water misses the drain on the cut leading to The Square and suggested the camber on the road needs grading again – also the adopted part of the road should be checked to see if it drains correctly. Cllr Francis queried the ownership of the road – had NCC taken over ownership? Information should be held on Land Registry – Clerk to pursue. Clerk
6. **g. Update on Superfast Broadband** – See 1b – nothing more to add.

Requested agenda items

a. Update on Vyner Park Charity

(i) Feedback on Public Meeting 19th November 2014 – Cllr Brotherton reported that there had been an excellent turnout at the meeting and a good, 'let's get on with it!' attitude. There are several people now who want to be part of the Management Committee. A meeting was held on 24th November to examine the things brought up at the public meeting. The first formal meeting of the Vyner Park Charity will be on 10th December. Cllr Brotherton had provided notes from 24th November, and went through these. First decision made was to give Swarland 1st School access to the Pavilion free of charge for the remainder of the financial year. The School had provided a list of the facilities they would like to use and are prepared to pay for the facilities. With regard to Community use, the suggestion of leaving open the multi use court for free use will be looked at more closely. There have also been some commercial ideas suggested which may need to go out to tender depending on their value so may need to work through a tender document. The Management Committee want to help people develop their ideas, and Cllr Brotherton is going to see if Business Northumberland will help with this.

Cllr Brotherton said he was aiming for everything to start at Easter 2015. He reported that Bob Ryan is helping with football, and the Committee is working with Action Northumberland to develop the sports side of things. All the ideas received will need to be prioritised and agreed.

The first formal meeting of the Vyner Park Charity will be at 7.00pm on Wednesday 10th December at the Vyner Park Pavilion. There will be a short slot at the beginning of the meeting for public questions, and the budget for the Charity will need to be agreed.

Cllr Spurling asked for clarification on the Charity governance arrangements – the Parish Council is the Vyner Park Charity's sole Trustee. She said that the PC will need to consider how people can have their voices heard through the Co-optees. The way the VP Management Committee was structured was briefly discussed, and it was suggested that there would need to be a majority of Councillors as PC money was being spent.

Cllr Brotherton pointed out that the Vyner Park Charity covered all of Vyner Park, not just the parts that were previously leased to Swarland Sports Club, and these areas had historically been paid for and maintained by the Parish Council. It was agreed that a report would be provided by the Vyner Park Management Committee to the January meeting of the PC, outlining a proposed restructure of the Management Committee including voting rights.

NEWTON on the MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

(ii) A decision is needed on replacement Parish Councillor for Cllr Preston on Vyner Park Charity Management Committee – Cllr Brotherton proposed a vote of thanks to Clare Preston for all her hard work – agreed.

Clerk

After a brief discussion it was agreed that a job description for the post would be put together by Cllr Brotherton and this would be considered again at the January PC meeting.

b. Amendment to VP terms of reference – In view of the update provided by Cllr Brotherton (6a above), Cllr Ms Spurling withdrew her proposal that the terms of reference for the Vyner Park Charity be amended to allow for non-parish council committee members (co-optees) to be afforded voting rights.

Cllr
Brotherton/
Clerk

c. Replacement on Complaints Committee following resignation of Cllr Preston – It was agreed that a copy of the Complaints procedure would be circulated, and the matter would be revisited at the next PC meeting.

It was also agreed that a list of all the representations would be produced with descriptions of what Cllrs were required to do, and this would also be circulated.

d. New PC representative on Swarland Village Hall Committee following resignation of Cllr Lewney – It was agreed that Cllr Spurling would represent the Parish Council.

Cllr Stanley/
Clerk

e. Public Questions and Standing Orders - Cllr Stanley explained the need to clarify whether public questions were part of the official PC meeting or not. Cllr Francis said that this hinges on new legislation which permits filming of official PC meetings – do the public wish to be filmed or not? If public question time is held before the meeting proper starts they would not have to be filmed although notes could still be taken. It was agreed that;

i. Public question time would be outside the meeting proper.

ii. The Parish Council's Standing Orders need to be reviewed – report to be produced by Cllr Francis and the Clerk.

f. Planning meetings – membership & timing – A proposal for consideration had been produced and circulated in the form of a flowchart by Cllr Handyside. The main aim was to improve transparency of the process and communication with local residents. It was emphasised that all comments made by Parish Councillors would continue to be copied to their fellow Cllrs. It was agreed that as part of the process, a list of current applications would be put up weekly on the public notice boards with details of where further information could be found. It was felt that a written document needed to be produced alongside the flowchart to incorporate some of the clauses in the existing procedure. Cllr Handyside will incorporate feedback and come back to January meeting with revisions.

Cllr Francis/
Clerk

g. Priorities for Parish Council in 2015/16 – Before setting precept for the Parish, work needs to be done on needs of Vyner Park Charity, Jubilee Hall Committee and Swarland Village Hall. Cllr Stanley will contact Swarland Village Hall Sec. It was agreed that a small group would be set up consisting of Clerk, Cllrs Francis, Handyside and Mansfield to go through existing budget, and suggest budget for 2015/16.

Cllr
Handyside

Report by County Councillor and meetings attended by Councillors – None.

Cllr Stanley

Finance

7.
 - a. Bank statements – Lloyds Treasurers Account £10,164.90 & Lloyds Instant Access £863.28 (to be confirmed). Treasury £15,000.
 - b. Clerks' salary and expenses (£270.27 - £54): £216.27 plus expenses £34.44 = £250.71 – Agreed.
8.
 - c. Other receipts and payments:
 - i) Receipts: £288.50 Get Going Grant for October 2014 Bus Service NCC. Lloyds Bank Interest £20.79. Mid Coquet Cluster repayment - £62.90, Northern Powergrid £50.00 compensation, SVH £1489.80 – to be queried.

Cllrs
Francis,
Handyside,
Mansfield &
Clerk

NEWTON on the MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

- ii) Payments: Aln Fire Protection Services £125.00 + VAT (Fire extinguisher servicing Vyner Park pavilion) – Agreed.
- Councillor Brotherton, repayment of Electricity Bill Vyner Park – Agreed.
- Solo Manufacturing – Blinds for Swarland Village Hall - £1787.76 inc VAT – Agreed. Check on donation/reimbursement status.

Planning

a. To report on any planning decisions:

9. 14/00648/LBC - Newton Hall - convert existing outbuildings into flats and houses – Pending Consideration (as at 20.11.14). Clerk
- 14/02284/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 consideration (as at 20.11.14).
- 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 later amended to Rebuilding of greenhouses and potting sheds with new build pavilion extension to create a single private dwelling house, construction of associated garage block, new sewage treatment plant and access route, and renovation of the walled garden – Pending consideration (as at 20.11.14).
- 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 – Pending Consideration (as at 20.11.14).
- 14/02644/FUL Single storey detached dwelling, single storey detached garage/scooter store, off street parking and turning head to brown field site forming part of garden to current residence .Site Adjoining Field House Newton-On-The-Moor Morpeth Northumberland Pending Consideration (as at 20.11.14).
- 14/02880/FUL Rear Extention [sic] for use as pool room. Swarland Working Men's Club High View Swarland Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9JF. Permission GRANTED 20.10.14.
- 14/01464/FUL – Land North of Equestrian Centre, detached house and garage – Pending Decision (as at 20.11.14).
- 14/02692/COU Retrospective - Change of use of extension (granted under 14/00541/FUL) from domestic/residential to home office 11 Low Wood Swarland Morpeth NE65 9PB. Pending Decision (as at 20.11.14).
- 14/03513/FUL – Construction of single storey dwelling at 3 Studley Drive, Swarland (pending consideration as at 20.11.14).
- 14/03514/FUL – Extension to 3 Studley Drive, Swarland (pending consideration as at 20.11.14).
- 14/03452/BT – Removal of BT Phone Box opposite The Square, Swarland. (Pending consideration as at 20.11.14 but further consultation invited.)
- 14/03123/FUL- Residential of two dwellings, land south west of 8 Park Road, Coast View, Swarland. Application withdrawn (as at 26.11.14).

b. To consider any planning matters

14/03340/FUL – Development of 20 houses, Leamington Lane, Swarland. This application is in Felton Parish. Closing date for PC comments to be submitted to NCC 30th November 2014.

14/03797/FUL – New dwelling Land south of Quarry House, Newton on the Moor. Closing date for comments to NCC 10th December 2014.

14/03822/FUL – Demolition of conservatory for replacement with replacement at 7 Home Farm Cottages, Swarland NE65 9JH. Closing date for comments to NCC 10th December 2014.

The NCC North area planning meeting is on Thurs 4th December at 5pm. Items on the agenda include **14/01464/FUL** – House on land north of Equestrian Centre, and 14/02284/OUT - Residential development in Percy Drive. It has previously agreed that a Councillor would attend and speak in connection with application 14/01464/FUL with prior agreement on what would be said. Cllr Spurling agreed to attend if meeting starts

NEWTON on the MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

at 6pm (start time to be checked), and draft the response to be read out. Comments were (in addition to those already made) that there was no change of use application, the car park was larger and part of the build was still on green field site.

14/03452/BT – (Removal of BT phone box opposite The Square) Cllr Francis has checked on the new PC website hosted by NCC, and NCC is being consulted on the removal of a number of phone boxes which is why there is a new consultation period to 18th December. The more objections there are - the better. The Swarland phone box has **b** very low useage (because it's broken). Since original planning comments were made, it's been agreed to have a defibrillator at the nearby Vyner Park Pavilion, and because of poor phone reception on the area, the availability of a public landline could be crucial.

Cllr Spurling

14/03340/FUL – 20 Houses development Leamington Lane – Cllrs Brotherton and Stanley left the room and Cllr Francis Chaired the meeting. Cllr Francis read a summary of the comments made by Councillors on this application. It was further pointed out that there was reference in the application to a bus service which is now only weekly, also there is no need for development here as there are other sites available, and there is no provision or room for provision for a footpath to the village from the proposed development. It was agreed that the Clerk would add these comments to the formal response made to NCC and submit it.

Clerk

Cllrs Brotherton and Stanley returned to the meeting. The Chairman proposed suspending standing orders so that the meeting could continue as it was 9.05 – Agreed.

Clerk

14/03123/FUL – Cllr Handyside pointed out that this application was not listed on the Agenda for which the Clerk apologised.

Cllr Cunningham asked if there was any guidance on planning to help new Cllrs make comments on planning applications. Cllr Francis suggested looking at the Alnwick District Plan.

Correspondence

10.

NCC Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy Update and notification of consultation process/dates – Previously circulated for comments which need to be passed to Clerk. Community Action Northumberland News (Nov 2014). Letter from NCC Lead Executive Director – Council Tax Support Scheme. Archaeology in Northumberland Volume 21 from NCC. NCC Local Services Who's who and how to contact them. Northumberland Town & Parish Council Charter and Draft Action Plan.

All

Urgent items

11.

A1/NotM roadworks - Cllr Cunningham had asked for this item which was raised as part of public question time. The combination of roadworks on the A1 and NotM is going to make things very difficult for residents and for the Cook & Barker. It will be possible to get around the roadworks but this will take considerable local knowledge. There were concerns that Emergency Services would have problems. Aone & NCC seem to be unaware of each others works. Cllr Cunningham reported strong local feeling on this. A1 signs said works starting 24th November but nothing happened. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to NCC copying in County Cllr Thorne, that residents were pleased works to be done, but were annoyed at situation. Clerk to ring Barry Rowland to see if works could be delayed, ask Aone to stagger gap closures, and let Police/Fire & Ambulance know of situation.

Requests for next agenda

12.

Presentation from Northumberland County Council Planning in connection with Planning Strategy, and how planning applications are handled and approved – this was discussed and it was agreed that this should go to the February meeting, and concentrate on the day to day planning approval process.

Clerk

13.

Date of Next Meeting to be held on **28 January 2015 at 7.00pm** in Swarland Village Hall.

Clerk

NEWTON on the MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Future Meetings; 25/2/2015 JH, 25/3/2015 SVH, 22/4/2015 JH. 27/5/15 SVH, 24/6/14 JH.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Flowchart for Item 6 f. Cllr Handyside

