

Newton and Biggin Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Newton and Biggin Parish Council held at 8pm on 23rd July 2015 at Newton Village Hall at 8pm.

1. **Announcement read by Chair regarding recording or filming of parish council meeting:** In the interests of openness and transparency, councillors and members of the public are reminded that the law permits any person to film, record, photograph or use social media in order to report on the proceedings of a meeting of the Council or its committees when they are open to the public. This does not extend to live verbal commentary.

Filming and photography will only be permitted from the area designated. No flash photography or additional lighting should be used without prior consent.

Anyone wishing to report on the meeting should notify the Clerk or Chairman so that they can be afforded reasonable facilities.

People under the age of 18 or other members of the public not wishing to be filmed or photographed should notify the Clerk or Chairman and should sit in the area designated for this purpose.

Improper conduct or any disruptive behaviour could result in expulsion from the meeting.

2. **Present:** Cllrs Dave Carter, Chair (DC), Jim Hotten, Vice Chair (JH), Frank Preston (FP), Judith Leggatt (JL), Ann Davies (AD), Leigh Hunt (LH) RBC, Philp Morris-Jones (PM-J) WCC.

3. **Apologies:** PC Sharon Crabbe-Bailey

4. **Declarations of interest and dispensations**

- a. **To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda:** None
- b. **To receive written requests for the dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests:** None
- c. **To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate:** None

5. **Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11th June 2015 at 8pm.** Agreed and signed as correct.

6. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11 June 2015 at 8pm:** None

7. **Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25th June 2015 at 8pm.** Agreed and signed as correct.

8. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25th June 2015 at 8pm:** None

9. **Planning**

- a. **R14/1658, Proposed development adjacent to The Leys.** Prior to meeting, immediately after the second and last of the "Have your Say" events held to allow the

Newton and Biggin Parish Council

villagers to let the Parish council know their views on the proposed development of land adjacent to The Leys, the clerk opened the sealed box in which villagers had posted their opinions and comments regarding the proposed development.

34 comments were made and from these comments the majority of the people who had turned up were either against the proposed development or made comments that were about the negative impacts that they felt the development would have on the village's character, traffic, bus service and school places.

After the planning application was discussed in detail by the council and the councillors all voiced other pros and cons of the proposed development, AD proposed the following response to the application:

At the Newton and Biggin Parish Council meeting held yesterday evening on 23.07.15 It was decided that Newton and Biggin Parish Council opposed the planning application Ref: R14/1658 for the proposed development to land adjacent to The Leys because:-

in 'The Adopted Rugby Local Plan', this designation reflects the lack of facilities in the village which means that it is not a "sustainable" location when it comes to accommodating an increased population.

Since the adoption of the local Plan the Government has produced its National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which, amongst other things, requires Planning Authorities to be able to demonstrate a 5 year supply of housing land with planning permission. Rugby isn't in that position and so is expected to look favourably on applications for housing unless there compelling reasons for refusals. Newton and Biggin Council suggest there are such reasons-

- *Newton is not a sustainable location for development of this scale. the absence of local facilities (no shop, limited public transport) puts an over reliance on the use of the car.*
- *the site is beyond the confines of the village and it's development would sub-urbanise the northern approach.*

However if the application is to be approved then the landowner should be required to mitigate its impact by-

- *High quality landscaping to the site boundaries.*
- *Financial contributions to -*
 - a) The adjacent picnic site and butterfly area*
 - b) The village Hall*
 - c) Appropriate improvements to St Thomas's Cross road junction*
 - d) Enhancement of the bus stops in the village, including provision of additional shelters.*

The proposal was seconded by JH and all were in agreement.

- b. R15/0865, 31 Betony Road, Rugby, Warwickshire:** notification has been received that retrospective temporary planning permission had been declined.
- c. R15/0625 Hi Speed Services, Watling St, Rugby, Cv23 0AP : demolition of existing buildings and proposed replacement warehouse building with ancillary offices (B1, B2, B8) together with associated service yard area and installation of a solar PV panel array along the full extent of the roof on the south-west elevation:** It was decided that no comment were to be made.

Newton and Biggin Parish Council

10. Correspondence:

- a. Items for circulation: distributed
- b. No reported police incident
- c. Invitation from mayor for armed forces day declined

11. Picnic site: To give update of progress and approve quotations as necessary. JH reported that half a load of aggregate had been delivered but the digger had failed to turn up. A strimmer had been bought and strimming done.

FP said more aggregate was needed and he would approach Mr. Riley to see if he could provide any. A stolen chainsaw had been recovered and when the birds had stopped nesting that work would continue.

LH had been asked if she knew of any local projects that needed voluntary labour provided by BT community action. She had suggested the picnic site and would liaise with JH and FP to sort out suitable work and time in August and September.

12. Highways:

- a. State of the roads: PM-J wanted to know about progress re: St Thomas's Cross improvements and LH said that at a recent meeting in Clifton she had spoken to Pro Logis and there was a possibility that some of their calming budget might be able to be allocated to improvements at St Thomas's Cross. There was to be a meeting on 13.08.15 with developers and, RBC portfolio holders and highways to look into the traffic calming and hopefully include funding is available for the junction improvements at St Thomas's Cross.
- b. Footpath between The Leys and Newton Manor Lane: There were delays to this due to traffic management.

13. Burial Committee: Members to give up date and raise any issues: It was reported that despite recent frequent changes at Clifton Parish Council, the last burial committee was fully attended, although Bill has since resigned from PCC and a replacement for him on the burial committee was awaited. JL is the chair, with JH as vice chair. There was concern that a member representing CPC had spoken to a film company wanting to film at Sci-Fi film at the cemetery, as this was considered inappropriate by other members, St Mary's and the diocese. Permission had been refused.

14. IT: Storage problems for clerks emails: It was decided that the clerk and DC would ask contacts for advice regarding the problem

LH updated the council regarding the superfast broadband; it is definitely coming to Newton and all residents are urged to register their street, postcode and land line at www.csw.broadband.org.uk in order to get their superfast broadband connection.

15. Finances:

- a. Statement of accounts: Presented and distributed
- b. Accounts for payment
 - i. Eon Street Lighting electricity:
 - ii. Clerk's salary

Newton and Biggin Parish Council

- iii. Paye payment
- iv. Eon street Light maintenance.

16. Items for inclusion in next meeting: None

17. Date of next meeting. 03rd September 2015 at 8pm and 15th October 2015 at 8pm in the village Hall