

Newton and Biggin Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Newton and Biggin Parish Council held at 8pm on 28th May 2015 at Newton Village Hall.

- 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), Frank Preston (FP), Judith Leggatt (JL), Jim Hotten (JH)
- 3. Apologies:** Anne Davis Vice Chair (AD), Leigh Hunt (LH)
- 4. Election of Chair:** JH proposed DC should take the role of Chair. This was seconded by JL. As there were no other nominations and all were in agreement DC was re-appointed Chair.
- 5. Election of Vice Chair:** JL proposed that JH should take the role of Vice-chair. This was seconded by DC. As there were no other nominations and all were in agreement JH was appointed Vice-chair.
- 6. Declarations of interest and dispensations**
 - To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda: None
 - To receive written requests for the dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests: None
 - To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate: None
- 7. Minutes of extra ordinary meeting on 21.05.15 at 8pm:** JH had proposed that a referendum on the proposed development adjacent to The Leys not DC as stated. The minutes were altered and initialled by the clerk and then signed as being correct. All were in agreement.

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8. Matters arising from minutes of meeting held on 21.05.15 at 8pm: An extension to the return by date of the grant evaluation form had been requested to allow time for monies to be spent and receipts to be submitted to RBC.
Sarah Palmer is to be approached to internally audit the accounts

9. Appointment of sub committees / miscellaneous representatives:

- a. **Burial Committee:** DC proposed and FP seconded that JL and JH should continue representing NBPC and all were in agreement.
- b. **Charities:** DC nominated AD and all were in agreement
- c. **Allotments:** No representative was elected as NBPC had written last year to allotments offering support, advice by contacting the clerk.
- d. **Emergencies:** DC nominated himself and AD to continue as previously and all were in agreement.
- e. **Village Hall:** FP volunteered to continue and all present were in agreement. FP explained the structure of the village hall committee as being a fluid arrangement with representative from many of the village hall users taking an interest and involving many of the community.

10. Referendum planning for the proposed development adjacent to The Leys:

There was a discussion about the fairest and most accessible way of running the referendum agreed at the previous meeting.

DC proposed that the referendum should be run according to his draft letter to residents detailing the process as below:

Newton and Biggin Parish Council Planning Referendum

Dear resident(s),

You were all recently informed of a planning proposal for the Leys field to the North of the village and you may also have attended a presentation by the development agents, Strutt and Parker.

An application has now been lodged with Rugby Borough Council and due to the size of the potential development, Newton and Biggin Parish Council have decided to carry out a village referendum in order to ascertain the position of residents.

All village residents aged 16 years and over are encouraged to vote on the issue regardless of whether you support or oppose the proposal. To cast your vote you can visit the village hall on Thursday the 11th of June between 5:00 and 7:00 pm or Saturday the 27th of June between 2:00 and 6:00 pm. If you are unable to attend either of the above dates but wish to use your vote, please contact one of the parish councillors below who will deliver and collect your vote(s). Regardless of which method you choose, each individual may only vote once and parish councillors are unable to advise you how to vote.

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The closing date for submitting your vote will be on Saturday the 27th of June at 6:00 pm and following independent verification, the outcome will be published on the notice boards by the Stag & Pheasant and outside the village hall by Monday the 29th of June.

The Parish Council will use the result to formulate their response to the Borough Council

To view the application you can visit the web site at <http://www.rugby.gov.uk/planning> or, visit Rugby Borough Council offices between 9 and 5 Monday to Friday or, attend one of the voting sessions at the village hall.

Contacts

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Ann Davis 860465

Jim Hotten 869041

Judith Leggatt 860429

Frank Preston 860375

FP and JL seconded the proposal and all were in agreement.

It was also decided that the area to be included in the referendum would be restricted to the village area only and the cottages that would be most affected by the proposed development and any increase in traffic.

JH wanted to see LED street lighting in the new development, should planning permission be agreed.

11. Telephone Box: It was agreed that a book exchange scheme could be trialled for a year to utilise the 'phone box.

12. Correspondence: None

13. Finances:

a. Accounts for approval: There was no change from the last meeting. JL pointed out an error in the excel formulae on the accounts from the end of year audit, which clerk is to correct before internal audit.

b. Payments due: None

14. Items for inclusion in next meeting.

Mike Cunningham from WCC is to give a talk on LED street lighting at 7.30pm 11.06.15, to precede the next meeting of NBPC.

15. Date of next meeting: 11.06.15 at 8pm, preceded by talk on LED street Lighting