276 – MINUTES Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7.30pm The Village Hall, No Man's Heath

## Present:

Cllr. G Hunt (GH) Chair Cllr. D Cox (DH) Vice Chair

Cllr. S Wilson (SW) Cllr. R Thirlby (RT) Cllr H White (HW) Mrs B Cox (BC) Clerk

Borough Cllr. D Humphreys (DH), Borough Cllr. B Ririe (BR) (arrived after meeting had commenced).

5 residents

## The meeting opened at 7.30pm

1. Apologies for absence: Mike Ruston (MR), County Cllr M Humphreys (MH)

2. Police Items: None

- **3. Open Forum:** Parishioners of Newton Regis, Seckington and No Man's Heath Parish are invited to address the council on any relevant matter for a maximum of three minutes per person.
  - a) A resident asked about the design of the new stile. It is high and there is no access for a dog. DH advised that MH had been advised by the County council that there are no regulations on the dimensions or height. GH is to speak to the owner.

## **ACTION GH**

b) The same resident asked about how they could book to play tennis without being a member of the club. GH is to speak to Rory Green with a view to put some information out to the village.

## **ACTION GH**

- c) Severn Trent have attended the recent flooding in Kings Lane. They had advised one of the residents that there had been a build up of silt which was causing a blockage but had cleared the blockage.
- d) A resident from No Man's Heath asked if the Council could arrange a walkabout in NMH like the recent one in Newton Regis. GH advised that it is planned and that MR, with the help of GH and DC is going to organise it.
- e) There is still an issue with speeding and lorries turning in NMH. See item number 11 below.
- 4. Declarations of interest: SW declared an interest in the Bowls Pavilion
- 5. Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 agreed unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

## 6. Matters arising:

- a) NMH Village Signs to be decided and discussed when the walkabout takes place.
- b) FONR Open Gardens Route garages in Townsend Close are still an issue. The Borough Council are unable to paint the garages before Open Gardens and are not happy with the villagers doing the work and therefore it is not advisable that FONR attempt to decorate them. GH is to refer the matter back to FONR.
- c) Henneys Pond more tree cuttings have been dumped and the area is starting to smell. Would this issue come under the Borough Council's Fly Tipping legislation. The pond is the responsibility of Thorpe Estate, so GH is to draft a letter to them which the Clerk will send on behalf of the Parish Council.

#### **ACTION GH/BC**

d) The residents of NR will cut the grass in addition to the Borough Council cuts but have no where to dispose of the cuttings. DH will see what can be done about getting an extra bin. GH is to advise DH of the exact area and size.

#### ACTION GH

e) There are two trees in Seckington Lane which need trimming. DH asked for a picture to be sent to the Borough Council who should attend to it.

- f) A Willow tree near the duckpond is overgrown by ivy. The clerk is to contact Arborcare to inspect it. **ACTION BC**
- g) The field has been cut but the play area needs cutting. To be arranged.
- h) it was noted that the footpath near the duckpond had been in a bad state of repair prior to Cameron Homes being in the village.
- i) no update on Ashby Road white lining
- i) village hall car park still needs attention see below item 10
- k) a temporary repair has been done to the village sign on Kings Lane.
- I) Dog fouling on the track at the side of the village hall is still a major issue. GH has had a positive conversation with the Chairman of the V H trustees regarding the installation of a Wi-Fi camera to act as a deterrent.

## 7.Planning matters: proposed development sites, recent decisions:

There has been no update on the proposed new 39 homes development. The Borough council have made two site visits.

a) Applications: none

#### b) Decisions

PAP/2024/0040 Newton House, Main Rd, Newton Regis. – Replace UPVC windows with framed box sash – Granted

PAP/2024/0042 Newton House, Main Rd, Newton Regis – Listed building consent for replacement of UPVC windows - granted.

#### 8. Appointment of Internal Auditor for 2023/2024 - Anita Allsopp

It was agreed that Anita should be appointed to audit the accounts for 2023/2024.

## 9. Financial Matters:

# a) bank balances.

General Account £ 653.01
Playing Field Account £ 33.05
Deposit Account £, 854.47.
Reserve Account £ 7,097.32

Total £ 8,637.85

# £2045.00 has been earmarked for the Duckpond Project £350.00 has been earmarked for the Wildflower Meadow Project

# b) payments made since last meeting

959 Newton Regis Village Hall - £24.00 room hire

960 B Cox - £24.65 - petrol & stationery

961 Hugo Fox - £11.91 - Website

962 HMRC - £47.60 PAYE for March

963 CPRE - £36.00 annual membership

964 B Cox - £190.40 - Salary for March

965 B Cox - £15.69 - Stationery

966 NPower - £138.28 - electricity

967 WALC - £264.80 - Subs

968 B Cox - £15.99 Printer ink

# c) Income Received

Interest - Deposit Account £1.96

Interest - Reserve Account £7.83

## 10. Village Issues:

## a) Newton Regis

- i) The Kubota mower is now working but Chris Wilson will be asked to service it for us.
- ii) The Parish council had put forward ideas to the Borough Council for Section 106 funding. There is £27k available. We should know their decision after 11<sup>th</sup> June.
- iii) The potholes and raised bricks on the village hall car park are becoming an issue. SW has removed some of the bricks, but GH is to meet up with SW to remove any others that need taking out and to fill any potholes.
- iv) Bowls Pavilion the health and safety of any users is of the upmost importance. One of the heaters recently tripped out the electrics whilst the Parish Council were meeting there.

The Parish Council are unable to vote on the future use of the Bowls Pavilion building at this stage so it will remain closed for now. All of the facts on the costs involved have to be established, the Fire Regulations must be determined, and the Health & Safety concerns fully investigated before any vote on its future can be taken.

v) the waste bin near the bus stop badly needs to be replaced. DH and BR agreed that they could maybe use their Community Fund to provide a replacement.

#### b) Seckington

i) A resident had complained about the state of the layby on Ashby Road/Hangmans Lane. The lay by is being fouled by lorry drivers overnighting and using it as a toilet. DH agreed to report the issue and check what can be done.

## c) No Man's Heath

issues discussed under Open Forum and item 11.

## 11. HGV Signs at No Man's Heath

HGV lorries are still turning into NMH from Ashby Rd. MH has provided funding and arranged that NO HGV signs be installed in the village. No date yet.

## 12. Disposal of Obsolete Defibrillator

It was agreed that the Clerk make arrangements for disposal.

## **ACTION BC**

## 13. Duckpond

Cameron Homes have very kindly donated £5000 to Newton Regis. This means that we can now draw up a Project Plan to de-silt the pond and make the area more pleasing for visitors and for the village community.

## 14. Wildflower Meadow

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

This project is being deferred until September as the weather has been far too wet.

- 15. Business, which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered as a matter of urgency under Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972. none
- **16. Confirmation Date of next Meeting -** 28<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm Newton Regis Village Hall. To include the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Chairman Cllr
Dato