



NRS&NMHPC

Newton Regis, Seckington and No Man's Heath Parish Council

Three villages, one community

No 273 – Minutes

Tuesday 23rd January 2024 at 7.30pm
The Village Hall, Newton Regis

Present:

Cllr. G Hunt (GH) Chair
Cllr. D Cox (DH) Vice Chair
Cllr. M Ruston (MR)
Cllr. S Wilson (SW)
Cllr. R Thirlby
Mrs B Cox (BC) Clerk

Borough Cllr. D Humphreys

7 Residents

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

1. Apologies for absence

County Cllr. M Humphreys

2. Police Items - there were no police present, but PC Hodson had provided a report that had no major incidents.

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) Two residents from No Man's Heath advised the council of recent incidents whereby HGV lorries coming from Ashby Road were entering into Church Lane/Back Lane and causing serious damage to property, walls, and power poles. The lorries appear to be working for DSV and the residents request that the parish council write to the company concerned.

DH agreed to make a site visit with the Highways Manager with a view to installing weight limit signs.

MR offered to speak directly to the company at the next scheduled meeting at Mercia Park.

MR also advised that the traffic mirror in No Man's Heath is damaged. GH will investigate.

ACTION DH MR GH

- b) A resident from Newton Regis thanked the Parish Council for their efforts in clearing the footpaths.
- c) Nigel Willmott had agreed dates with FONR of 19th and 26th May when volunteers would tidy and paint in readiness for Open Gardens. FONR would like to buy a flower trough to site at the entrance of the village. DH advised that permission would be needed from the Highways Department. DH is to investigate. The residents of No Man's Heath would like a welcome gate in their village. DH will make a site visit to assess viability. GH and DH will liaise with Nigel.

ACTION DH GH

- d) Nigel reported that Henney's pond was full of rubbish along with fallen trees and needs to be cleared. The land belongs to Thorpe Esates and SW has already mentioned it to their agent but will speak to them again.

ACTION SW

4. Declarations of Interest – None

5. Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting 12th December 2023

These were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

6. Matters arising

- a) Co-Option of a new Councillor.
Having gone through the required legal process to appoint a new Councillor without success the Parish Council wish to Co-Opt Harry White to the position. This was proposed by GH and seconded by MR and agreed unanimously. Harry White is therefore formally appointed as a Councillor.
- b) Wildflower Grant
The Parish Council have received a grant of £350 from WCC Councillor's Fund. This is to be used to plant a Wildflower Meadow on the bowling green.
- c) Cricket Trophy – Deferred to next meeting
- d) Green Waste Bins.
The PC will consult with DH on the areas that are being cut by residents. DH will advise if he is able to provide the bins.
ACTION GH DH
- e) The junction of Hangman's Lane and Ashby Road
A traffic survey is needed as the junction is very busy and becoming more dangerous. Double white lines may be the solution. DH agreed to visit the site with the Highways Engineer.
ACTION DH
- f) At the last meeting there were discussions about the suitability of the stile that had been installed by the landowner. There is no official standard. DH wondered if the owner would rather use a kissing gate if one could be provided free of charge. DH is to inquire.
ACTION DH

7. Planning matters: proposed development sites, recent decisions

There has been no update regarding the Planning Applications for the 39 new homes or the application next to Lime Grove

Applications:

- i) PAP/2023/0532 The Old Rectory, Church Lane, Seckington. – Proposed detached garage (Renewal of PAP/2016/0700)

8. Financial matters:

- i) **bank balances, cheques for signature, cheques raised since last meeting & expected bills.**

Bank Balances (adjusted for unrepresented items)

➤ General Account	£ 795.68.
➤ Playing Field Account	£ 257.69
➤ Deposit Account	£ 2,350.27
➤ Reserve Account	£ 7,081.67
Total	£ 10,485.31

£2045.00 has been earmarked for the Duckpond Project

£350.00 has been earmarked for the Wildflower Meadow Project

Payments made since last meeting

1319 D Cox £39.02 – Refreshments for Lights Switch On
1320 Newton Regis Village Hall £24.00 – Room Hire
1321 N Willmott £49.92 – Tree lights & batteries
1324 G Hunt £265.95 - Christmas Lights
1323 HMRC £47.60 – Payroll December
DD Hugo Fox £11.99 - Website December
SO Clerks salary £190.40 -December
TFR NWBC £247.69 – Election Charges
TFR NPower £132.17 Electricity Charges
DD Hugo Fox £11.99 – Website January
TFR Source For Business £130.56 – Water

Income Received

Deposit Account £2.85 interest
WCC - £350 Grant for Wildflower Meadow
Reserve Account £7.31 Interest

ii) Banking Arrangements – Online applications

This is working well and is a great improvement. Currently the Clerk and the Chairman have access and it is hoped that the other members of the Council will have access soon.

9. Village Issues:

a) Newton Regis

i) Walkabout

GH and DC had taken a walk around the village and identified areas in need of attention. Their report was circulated at the meeting and GH asked DH to advise who he should approach at the Borough Council about the issues identified. DH will chase the Borough Council regarding the state of the garages in Townsend Close.

SW is to speak to Cameron Homes regarding the repair needed to the footpaths opposite their development.

The waste bins need to be repaired and painted but may need replacing if that is not viable.

Another dog waste bin is needed at the other end of the village, but a suitable site needs to be identified.

Some sort of drainage channel is needed in the car park to solve the problem of the puddles.

The tension wires holding the electric poles on the car park are damaged and the pole is leaning. The PC are to chase Western Power.

The Poplar Trees near the pond have been taken down and the owner of Newton House has kindly agreed to remove the stumps and secure his boundary wall.

The sign on Kings Lane still needs replacing by the Highways Department but a temporary repair may be possible.

ii) Dog Fouling

The track at the side of the village hall is particularly bad. CCTV could provide evidence to be able to challenge people. New signs are being ordered for Newton Regis and No Man's Heath where there is also a problem.

iii) The Goosewalk went very well. The Parish Council are very grateful to the Queens Head for their assistance.

iv) There are issues where cars are parked on the grass verges at school drop off/pick up. The cars are churning up the grass and leaving wheel ruts. The PC are to investigate the cost of installing parking poles.

ACTION BC

b) Seckington none reported

c) No Man's Heath

i) Dog Signs – 5 new signs x 2 sizes will be provided as No Man's Heath still have a major issue from dog fouling.

ii) HGV traffic was discussed in Open Forum above.

10. Section 106 Funding

DH advised that funding may be available for green spaces and leisure facilities. The sum available could range from £27,000 to £41,000. DH is to put GH in touch with Simon Powell/Becky Evans to discuss further.

11. Bowls Club House

Recent use by the Craft Group has been well received but consideration must be given to the best use and what investment would be needed to comply with relevant Health and Safety regulations.

12. Playing Field

The field was previously cut by David Waithman which saved a lot of money. The PC is getting a quote from a contractor to cut the grass. The cricket club have offered to cut the field free of charge, but this saving would be offset by the cost of the upkeep of the cricket square which would fall to the PC. The cricket club will not be using the field on any Saturday which would make the field available for use by residents and the Village Hall.

13. Duckpond - no update.

14. 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.

i) News and Views had asked the PC for a donation towards the cost of printing their magazine. GH proposed that the Council make a one-off donation of £100. Seconded by DC and agreed unanimously.

ii) It was agreed to continue with the litter picking sessions. DC to propose some provisional dates.

The PC agreed to purchase two sets of litter picking equipment for use of the residents of No Man's Heath.

ACTION BC

iii) DC raised the issue of the recent flooding in Newton Regis. DH advised that she should send pictures of the flooding to Steve Maxey at NWBC.

15. Confirmation Date of next Meeting - 5th March 2024 at 7.30pm at Newton Regis Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.45pm