



# NRS&NMHPC

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

*Three villages, one community*

**No 272**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30pm**

**The Village Hall, Newton Regis**

**(due to be held at the Bowls club but moved due to weather conditions)**

**Present:**

Cllr. G Hunt (GH) Chair

Cllr. D Cox (DH)

Cllr. M Ruston (MR)

Cllr. S Wilson (SW)

Mrs B Cox (BC) Clerk

Mr P Horobin (resident)

**The meeting opened at 7.30pm**

1. **Apologies for absence** Cllr R Thirlby, County Cllr. M Humphreys
2. **Police Items - No** police were present. GH went through the report that PCSO Hodson had provided.  
Crime prevention events were planned for 15<sup>th</sup> December at Newton Regis Garden Centre and Dobbies Garden Centre
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.**  
PH raised the issue about the condition of the garages at Townsend Close. The issue is ongoing, and the Parish Council will continue to pursue this. PH also noted that some of the streetlights had been attended to.
4. **Declarations of interest** - None
5. **Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023**  
These were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
6. **Matters Arising: -**
  - a) **Election of Vice Chairman.**  
DC offered to take on the position in the short term. Proposed by MR and seconded by GH. Agreed unanimously.
  - b) **Co-option of a new Councillor**  
A decision will be made at the next meeting.
  - c) A stile has been erected on the entrance to the footpath on Seckington Lane. The stile is not suitable, and the Parish Council were advised that the issue had been reported to Footways.  
There have been no recent reported issues at Salt Street, but MR is to check at the weekend.  
**ACTION MR.**
  - d) Traffic is still very bad at the junction of Ashby Road and Hangman's Lane.
  - e) GH advised that the Planning Committee has still not visited the site of the planned new housing development and that no decision will be made until they have. He had received a reply from Jeff Brown confirming that the concerns that GH had raised had been forwarded to the applicant and the Highways department.
  - f) The vegetation around the kissing gate has still not been cleared but GH is to follow it up.  
**ACTION GH**
  - g) The clerk was asked to follow up the email she had sent in November asking for 2 green bins for grass cuttings.  
**ACTION BC**

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

### a) Applications:

i) PAP/2019/0619 – Newton Farm, Main Rd, Newton Regis – Erection of one dwelling and associated landscaping. GH has spoken to Planning who confirmed that the objections initially made by the Parish council are still valid and will be considered.

### b) Determined:

i) PAP/2023/0409 – School House, Newton Regis, Mature Lombardy Poplar, Fell due to root encroachment to neighbouring wall. – NO OBJECTION  
ii) PAP/2022/0547 St Mary's Church, NMH. – works to Oak Tree. TPO GRANTED

## 8. Financial matters:

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

### Bank Balances (adjusted for cheques to be signed at meeting)

➤ General Account	£	816.41.
➤ Playing Field Account	£	388.25
➤ Deposit Account	£	2,992.67
➤ Reserve Account	£	7,066.31
<b>Total</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>11,263.64</b>

**£2045.00 has been earmarked for the Duckpond Project**

### Cheques for signature at the meeting

**This was delayed as there are other cheques which need to be signed.**

1317 B Cox - Ink, MS Office, Petrol £44.37

1318 NWBC – Bin Emptying £215.04

598 A Passey – Grounds Maintenance £425.00

### Cheques Raised & Payments Made Since Last Meeting

SO Clerk – Salary October £176.10

1309 HMRC – PAYE October £44.00

1310 Friends of St Mary's on the Heath – Contribution to Christmas Tree £50

1311 No Mans Heath Village Hall – underpaid room hire £13.

1312 G Hunt – Christmas Lights & Poppy Wreath £293.95

1313 B Cox - Stamps, petrol & Microsoft Office £32

1314 Clerk's backdated pay award £114.30

SO Clerk's salary November £176.10

1315 HMRC PAYE November £72.60

1316 Arborcare – Felling of trees near duckpond £1779.00

DD Hugo Fox – Website November £11.99

597 Playsafe – Playground Inspection £115.20

### Income Received Since Last Meeting

Rent from Newton Regis Village Hall £60

Interest on Deposit Account for November £5.74

Interest on Reserve Account for November £7.79

Reclaimed VAT £980.50

### ii) Banking Arrangements – Online applications

Each Councillor will need to apply themselves.

The clerk will forward the information.

**ACTION BC**

**9. Village Issues:**

**a) Newton Regis**

- i) GH advised that the trees had been removed near the duckpond and a good job had been done by Arborcare.
- ii) The sign on Kings Lane has still not been repaired

**b) Seckington**

I None

**c) No Man's Heath**

MR reported that the amount of dog mess in Back Lane was getting worse and there had been an incident where unofficial signs were being removed. It was agreed that official signs were needed and that the Clerk would find the supplier and order 3.

**ACTION BC**

It was agreed that a reminder was needed for the residents about this serious issue. GH is to provide a paragraph which the clerk will post on social media.

**ACTION GH/BC**

**10. Grant Application – Wild Flowers For Bowls Green**

The clerk had applied to the WCC Councillor's Grant Fund 2023-24 for £350.

It will be towards the end of January before we know if the application has been successful

**11. Trophy For Cricket Club**

The cricket club approached the PC about providing a trophy to be known as the David Waithman Trophy which could be presented to a player. This would be a fitting memory to David's love of Cricket and PH agreed to find out how much a trophy would cost.

**12. Christmas Lights – additional costs**

It was agreed that the Parish Council would cover the additional costs of the Christmas lights and the refreshments.

Nigel Willmott to be reimbursed for £49.92 for batteries and tree lights.

Gary Hunt to be re-imbursed for ££265, being £165 for additional lights and £100 for the use of a cherry picker .

Dilys Cox £39.02 for mince pies and mulled wine.

This was proposed by MR and seconded by SW. Agreed unanimously.

The cost of the lights this year will be offset by savings made in future years. The lights will remain permanently on the tree and so there will no longer be any need to buy a Christmas tree in future years. Historically this cost £160 annually. The switch on was well attended and attracted a lot of new people. Feedback received was very positive and the event was deemed a success. The Parish Council are optimistic that it will be even better next year. There will be a de-brief with FONR.

**13. Bowls Club House – Activities**

A craft group organized by Helen Colclough has held an initial session in the clubhouse and it was well attended. Consideration will need to be given to future use pending any refurbishment needed to comply with Health and Safety regulations etc.

**14. Goosewalk**

To be started by GH as it is a Parish Council sponsored event. GH has done a Risk Assessment which the police requested. GH is to speak to Mike at the Queen's Head about making soup for the walkers. It is hoped that a map of the route can be included in News and Views. Marshalls will be needed .PH offered to help and will also ask FONR.

**15. Playing Field**

It is estimated that it would cost around £1000 a year to cut the field. This was previously done by David Waithman.

GH has met with Chris Haines from the Cricket Club. The cricket club will continue to use the field, but Chris Haines has agreed to cut the field. Chris is committed to developing ladies' cricket. There will be no matches played on Saturdays so the village hall is not compromised with their weddings and the parish council could explore possible income streams.

**16. Duckpond**

There is still no funding in place for this, but GH has asked Cllr Humphreys about Section 106 funds from Cameron Homes. A project plan is to be formulated and managed. The vegetation on the walls will be removed at the same time.

**17. Precept Requirement 2024/2025**

It was decided that the precept for 2024/2025 be set at £14,500 – an increase of 3.57%

**18. 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.**

**19. Confirmation Date of next Meeting**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 at 7.30pm at Newton Regis Village Hall

**The Meeting Closed at 9.30pm**

**Chairman Cllr.....**

**Date.....**