



NRS&NMHPC

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

Three villages, one community

No 269

Tuesday 25th July 2023

Bowls Pavilion, Newton Regis.

Present:

Cllr. D Waithman (DW) (chair)

Cllr. D Cox (DC)

Cllr. R Thirlby (RT)

Cllr. M Rushton (MR)

Mrs B Cox (Clerk) (BC)

Borough Cllr. D Humphreys (DH)

Borough Cllr. B Ririe (BR)

Mr P Horobin (PH)

Meeting Commenced at 7.30pm

1. **Apologies for absence** Cllr G Hunt, Cllr S Wilson, County Cllr M Humphreys, Nigel Wilmott
2. **Police Items.** No police were present at the meeting, but PCSO Simeon Hodson had supplied a report prior to the meeting which advised that vehicle crime is on the increase.
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 updated the council about the Open Gardens event. Funds raised were £7k. The grass cutting prior to the event had been done badly. Elford village opted out of the borough council's grass cutting scheme and got it done privately and get a rebate on council tax. PH wondered if this could be an option for Newton Regis. DH is to ask our borough council and report back. DH reported that the council had been out litter picking.

ACTION DH

The alley way at Townsend Close had been cleared by a parishioner prior to Open Gardens.

PH is to provide details to the clerk who will send a letter of thanks to the person concerned.

ACTION BC

The faulty streetlights in Seckington Lane and St Mary's Grove and the Cameron Homes site were discussed and DH offered to chase this again.

ACTION DH

4. **Declarations of interest** – none
5. **Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting – 6 June 2023** these were agreed by all and signed by the chair.
6. **Matters Arising:-**
 - a) MR had attended a meeting with Mercia Park. Residents are annoyed that promises made by Mercia Park Developers had not been kept. They were told that the coffee shop and gym that had been promised were no longer viable even though DSV had opened their own. DH advised that the traffic movement was far more than originally promised.
 - b) DC advised that she had been unable to find the email trail about the potholes.
 - c) DW raised the Kings Lane weight limit issue. DH advised that it is the system but may still be a few months before it is looked at but offered to chase it again.

ACTION DH

d) the broken drain cover in Kings Lane has not been repaired and there is also one in Townsend Close needing attention. DH is to chase.

ACTION DH

- e) The railings around the duckpond have been repaired
- f) DC suggested that a contact list for users of the field be compiled in case of emergencies. It was agreed that the clerk arrange this.

ACTION BC/DW

7. Planning matters: proposed development sites, recent decisions

a) Applications:

- i) **PAP/2023/0253 – Land Rear of the Duck Pond. – works to trees in conservation Area – poplar holly**
- ii) **PAP/2023/0024 – 9 New Dawn Cottage, Seckington Lane, Newton Regis. – Repair to chimney flue and rear canopy. No objections**
- iii) **PAP/2023/0307 – The Old Rectory Ashby Rd, NMH. Erection of 1st & ground floor extension & conversion of existing buildings to provide annex living accommodation. No objections**

b) Determined:

- i) **PAP/2023/0156 – Amendment to Queens Head, NR. – advertisement consent for erection of illuminated and non- illuminated signs to exterior of the building. Advertisement consent**
- ii) **PAP/2023/0219 – 30 Austrey Lane NMH – dropped kerb - granted**

8. Financial matters: bank balances, cheques for signature, cheques raised since last meeting & expected bills.

Bank Balances (adjusted for cheques being signed at this meeting)

➤ General Account	£ 812.94
➤ Playing Field Account	£ 555.66
➤ Deposit Account	£3796.72
➤ Reserve Account	£7040.24
Total	£12,205.56

£2045.00 has been earmarked for the Duckpond Project

Cheques for signature at the meeting

1295 Smith of Derby – Service of village Clock £325.20
1295 HMRC PAYE for July £44

Cheques Raised & Payments Made Since Last Meeting

1289 Newton Regis FPTA – Grant £250
1290 B Cox - new Printer & printing £90.36
SO B Cox - Salary June £176.10
1291 HMRC - PAYE June £44.00
1292 B Cox – stamps & MS office licence £13.49
1293 Npower - unmetered supply £75.14
1294 A Cox – Gardening maintenance to pond £20.00.
578 D Waithman - Blade for mower £60
579 D Waithman - Repairs to Atco mower £80.00
580 D Waithman - Repairs to Atco mower £80.00
581 D Waithman - Petrol for mower £11.19
582 M Draper – work to cricket pitch £210.00
583 A Passey – grounds maintenance £240.00
584 Source for Business – Water charges £160.81

585 D Waithman Roundup/ Postage £24.60

Income Received Since Last Meeting

Interest Deposit Account June & July £8.33
Interest Reserve Account June & July £8.43
Water costs NR Tennis Club £6.06
Water costs NR Village Hall £133.52

9. Village Issues:

a) Newton Regis

i) DW has a query regarding the warranty on the play equipment and asked the clerk to find the original paperwork.

ACTION BC

ii) The village clock is in need of urgent repair to a loose tooth on the main escapement wheel which may lead to even more damage if not corrected.

The cost will be £1297 plus VAT. Different options were considered around the issue of affordability especially as the funding for the duckpond is not yet guaranteed. Given the level of balances at the bank, as shown above, and the next precept payment of £7k being due in September it was agreed that the repair should be done.

iii) DC had noticed that the litter bin by the bus shelter needs replacing and that it would be useful to have another dog bin at the other end of the village. BR agreed to speak to the borough Council.

DH suggested that should the borough council not agree to the request there may be grant funding available and is to provide an email link to the clerk.

ACTION BR/DH

iv) DC had noted that the footpath at the side of the school and beyond was very overgrown and full of brambles making it difficult to use. PH kindly offered to look at it and if possible, get it cleared before the next meeting.

v) The very overgrown hedge on the corner of Townsend Close is covering the road sign. DH advised that the borough council are dealing with the builder.

vi) the pavement opposite Manor Farm needs to be repaired. Cameron Homes will be responsible as it has been damaged during the site development. DW will ask SW to speak to his contacts at Cameron Homes.

ACTION DW/SW

b) Seckington

i) it appears that the flower tubs in the village are not being used. RT is to seek residents opinion regarding removal of the tubs.

ACTION RT

c) No Man's Heath – none

10. Playing Field

The mulch kit on the cutting deck of the tractor has rusted away to such an extent that part has sagged down into the cutting blades and the damage has scrapped the kit. DW has been making enquiries about a replacement but it will have to come from Japan as there isn't one in Europe. Meanwhile, the tractor is carefully being used without the mulch kit to see if we can run satisfactorily without one anyway. The repaired mower is now back, and a ramp is being installed so that it can be used on the bowling green. The door on the metal shed requires attention.

11. Bowls Club House

An electrician is coming on 31st July to check the electrics.

Chris Haines of Appleby Girls Cricket Club is looking to apply for grants to help refurbish the pavilion and toilets which would be of mutual benefit to the parish council and the cricket club if successful.

12. Duckpond

No update on the grant funding as GH is waiting for a schedule of works from the contractor for Cameron Homes.

13. Duckpond wall and trees

The planning permission for the removal of the tree has a clause that we need to replace the tree. Suggestions for what type of tree and where it should be planted are needed. Councillors were asked for suggestions. It will be discussed again at the next meeting.

There is still the issue of the crumbling duckpond wall and overgrown vegetation on it. It would be easier to tackle this at the same time that the duckpond is drained. Otherwise, we may need to look for funding. To attempt it sooner would require some type of small chain saw and a boat so that the chopped down vegetation can be removed from the pond. RT may have a suitable chainsaw. Councillors were asked to consider the option for the next meeting.

14. Water Bills

Our water supplier, Source for Business, are sending out reminders and final demands very soon after we have received the original bill. It seems there is a delay in our receiving the bill with the reminder arriving only a few days later. Maybe we could look for an alternative supplier.

15. Correspondence

The FPTA of Newton Regis and Austrey have approached the parish council with a view to use the field on 10th September following the postponement of the original event. The clerk advised them that we cannot allow bouncy castles on the field as laid down by our insurance company. The clerk is still waiting to hear back.

16. 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.

The rector has asked if the Christmas light switch on could be 2nd December. This was agreed.

17. Confirmation Date of next Meeting 5th September at 7.30pm at Seckington Church

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Chairman
Cllr D Waithman

Date.....