

## BYWELL PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes Council Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at Newton & Bywell Community Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs Harrison, Richardson and Jessop. Also in attendance - Monica Anderton, Clerk;  
3 Members of the Public for the public part of the meeting.

Following protocols laid out by the council a number of questions were asked by residents to the Councillors. Relevant responses to these appear in the minuted items below.

1. **Apologies received:** Cllrs Wright, Gallagher and brown; and County Cllr Waddell
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Minutes from meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023:** These were agreed as a true record.
4. **Matters arising:**
  - ~ Water Issues: The County Council had met with the resident with flooding and would examine in detail what the problem might be, including dye tracing etc. It is believed the drains may be seriously blocked along parts of their length;
  - ~ Road issues: These have been reported to NCC's Highways as a matter of some urgency, particularly the A69 to Newton road where the sides have washed away/eroded badly and there have been recent accidents when vehicles have to move over to allow passage;
  - ~ Bottle Bank: this has been looked into with the County Council and Allendales by a member of the public. It was pointed out that the final decision lies with Newton & Bywell Community Trust and not the Parish Council. It will be discussed at their next meeting;
  - ~ Communication issues: Policies will be updated once a new Clerk is in position and consideration of when newsletters should be circulated, bearing in mind they have to go to the whole Parish, not just Newton village;
  - ~ Dog Fouling: Cllr Waddell had agreed to look into this but had not sent any information yet to the Parish Council; The possible siting of extra bins in Newton and in Bywell was being looked at by NCC;
  - ~ Benches: No one knows who has placed the 2 small benches either side of Bywell Bridge but the NCC officer will try and find out. It wasn't the County Council. It was also agreed to leave the Memorial bench until springtime for now.
5. **Chair's report:** The Chairman noted that a new Clerk is being sought. Alternative contact details will be needed in the short term.  
**Cnty Cllr Report:** None
6. **Planning:** 23/03612/FUL – Fence at Old Stables, Stelling Hall - withdrawn by applicant;  
23/03903/VARYCO – removal of previously granted gas protection measures:  
Granted Permission;

23/03914/FUL – retrospective construction of garage at Stelling South Cottage:  
objected to by Council.

7. **Correspondence:** E-mails from NCC, NALC and CAN on various topics;

8. **Finance:**

a) The Balance on the account at 31st December 2023 was £11,050.71

b) The following payments were authorised:

Clerk, Salary, January 2024

£304.98

NBCT, room

£16.00

Clerk, Back pay for national award plus advert to Courant re grass cutting tender

£700.02

Donation request from GNAA

£100.00

d) Precept: It was agreed to keep this at £10500 for the next financial year so  
that a programme of work could be undertaken.

9. **Information received:** Clerks & Councils Direct;

10. **AOB:** None

11. **Date of next meeting:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.00pm

Chair:

Date: