

**NEWTOWN PARISH COUNCIL****Hampshire**

Minutes of a meeting of Newtown Parish Council held on  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7pm, Newtown Village Hall

**Present:** Meeting Chair: Tony Webb  
Councillors: Bob Ward, Tom Reseigh, Jo Exelby

**In attendance:** Clerk: Rebecca Cloke

**ACTION****16. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Curry and Cllr Izett.

**17. Declarations of Interest**

None

**OPEN FORUM – none****18. Approval and signing of the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd May.**

The minutes were approved by the Council and signed by the Chair. Nominated by Cllr Ward and seconded by Cllr Exelby.

**19. Report for “News from the Villages”**

Cllr Webb stated there was no August edition.

**20. Report for the district and/or county councillor**

None

**21. Report from PCSO**

The clerk reported that the PCSO had been invited but had not responded.

*ACTION: Clerk to request PCSO sends an update.*

RC

**22. Highways and traffic issues**

**a) SLR deployment** – Cllr Reseigh circulated the recent data from the SLR. The councillors discussed what actions could be taken with the data collected.

*ACTION: Cllr Reseigh to chase response from Cllr Thacker as to how to best utilise the data to encourage HCC / police to take action.*

TR

Chair .....

**ACTION**

- b) **SLR deployment B4640** – The councillors discussed local residents’ concerns regarding the speeding on the B4640. A recent incident was raised regarding a family pet that had been killed on the road. It was noted that despite HCC not allowing NPC to deploy their SLR on the B4640 due to the speed limit, there was a West Berkshire SLR on the Sandleford link just on the other side of the Hampshire / Berkshire border.

*ACTION: Cllr Webb to draft note to local residents regarding the situation, RC to check wording in respect to GDPR guidelines.*

TW

- c) **C45** – The council discussed the underground spring leak that had re-emerged on the C45 following recent building works that had damaged the previous diversion work carried out. It was reiterated that this would be extremely dangerous in winter. Cllr Reseigh reported that a representative had visited from HCC but that subsequently the ticket that had been raised by NPC had been closed on the Hampshire Highways portal with no further action taken.

*ACTION: RC to contact Hants county councillor to raise the issue and ask for assistance in getting a resolution.*

RC

The clerk raised that several members of the public had raised the issue of visibility on the bend of the C45 at the Swan public house. The clerk had raised the issue with Hampshire Highways but had received no update in almost a month.

*ACTION: RC to contact Hants county councillor to request assistance with this issue.*

RC

**23. Planning and development control**

16/02230/FUL	<b>Hill Farm</b>	Erection of 8 dwellings	Withdrawn Returned (unlikely to be det.)
22/01781/LBC	<b>The Swan Inn</b>	Replacement of weathered and worn roof tiles	PC – no comment Awaiting decision
23/00255/FUL	<b>Newtown Court Farm</b>	amendment to planning permission 22/02506/FUL to add additional dwelling	PC opposed - Awaiting decision
23/00954/HSE	<b>Sebaricom Gables</b>	Construction of single storey garage with office	PC support – granted
23/01169/FUL	<b>Land at Old Post Office</b>	New detached 2 bedroom dwelling	PC oppose – granted
23/01045//FUL	<b>(WB) Land South Of Abbottwood</b>	Change of use of land to a Gypsy / Traveller site	PC oppose – awaiting decision <i>ACTION: Clerk to submit objection</i>

RC

**ACTION**

23/01585/OUTMAJ	<b>(WB) Warren Farm</b>	Outline application for 360 dwellings	<i>ACTION: TW to contact WBC to establish what the application is.</i>
	<b>Bulpitt Land</b>	The councillors discussed a concern raised by a local resident regarding trees being cleared at this land. No application submitted as yet.	

TW

**24. Newtown Common**

- a) Cllr Curry had circulated an update on the common which was discussed.
- b) Coronation bench – it was decided that this would be discussed once the walk had progressed further.
- c) Byelaws – Cllr Webb briefed the council on the response he had received from HCC in regards to his request to update the byelaws.

*ACTION: TW to consider what action required next*

- d) Footpath boardwalk 701b – the council discussed the quote that had been received for materials for the proposed boardwalk. Countryside Access have committed to providing the labour if funds can be raised for the materials. Funding opportunities such as County and Borough councillor grants were discussed as well as the possibility of applying to The Good Exchange for potential grants and match funding. Cllr Curry will contact Horris Hill too as the footpath has been utilised more due to the impact of them restricting access to the school grounds. Concerns were raised that there would be a loss of funding opportunity for the Coronation / Elizabeth trail if they were utilised for the 701b boardwalk. It was decided that the new trail should take priority in timescales and funding applications.

*ACTION: Cllr Ward to urgently report the ROW issues on the trail route.*

BW

**25. Lengthsman Scheme**

Postponed until Cllr Curry present

**26. Coronation / Elizabeth trail**

Discussed in item 24 above

**27. Village Hall**

- a) Cllr Reseigh requested a further donation from NPC for Village Hall improvements. It was agreed to donate the difference between what had been previously committed and what had already been donated. Proposed by Cllr Webb seconded by Cllr Exelby.

*ACTION: Clerk to calculate the donation value and make donation via Good Exchange platform.*

- b) Parking sign placement – Cllr Reseigh briefed the council on signage needed to designate disabled spaces. This was agreed. Proposed by Cllr Reseigh, seconded by Cllr Webb.

RC

**28. Parish Council website / email**

The Clerk briefed the councillors that NetWise had been appointed and had commenced building the new website. Clerk now prioritising loading all the documentation onto the new website and ensuring all content up to date and correct.  
*ACTION: PC member to send clerk bio and headshot if not already completed.*

**29. Finance reports****a) To receive the report on the budget for 2023/24**

The clerk summarised the main variances to budget, year to date, in the income and expenditure and summarised the reserves held. The Chair checked the bank balances to bank statements. Received and approved.

**30. Approval of payments**

To ratify the following payments:

15-Jun	B066	NetWise	Website / email build and hosting	£1,114.80
16-Jun	B067	Nature Conservation Services	Tree popper	£350.40
25-Jun	B068	Rebecca Cloke	Expenses - P Assem / paper	£102.10
30-Jun	B069	Rebecca Cloke	Clerk salary – Apr-Jun	£658.28
30-Jun	B070	HMRC	Clerk PAYE – Apr - Jun	£164.40

**31. Date of next meetings**

Dates for the next meetings were set for:  
28<sup>th</sup> September, 13<sup>th</sup> November, 15<sup>th</sup> January, 25<sup>th</sup> March

**32. Correspondence**

The Clerk confirmed that the external audit completion / compliance had been confirmed

The meeting closed at 8:35pm

Signed .....

Date.....

Chair .....