

NEWBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held in the Needwood School, Newborough at 8pm on Monday, 19th April 2010.

Present: Cllr. A. Nelson. (Vice Chairman),
Cllr. W. Prince. Cllr. R. Oakley. Cllr. P. Spencer. Cllr. P. Macpherson
Mr Tony Spencer - member of the public.
Ian Colclough (Clerk)

1. Apologies:

Cllr. B. Skipper (Chairman),

2. Declarations of Interest:

Cllr. Spencer declared an interest in a planning application at his neighbours property at the Old Bakehouse. (See under planning applications below).

3. Chairperson's Opening Remarks:

The Vice Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and reiterated his comments made during the preceding open parish meeting that Cllr. Skipper would not be present until such time that her medical treatment is completed.

4. Public Forum:

Mr Tony Spencer said that he had noticed an error in the recently produced footpath leaflet number 4 in that reference was made to the village store that no longer exists. This was noted. His wife had not yet seen the new leaflets as she was in hospital. The vice chairman asked that the councils best wishes be passed to her.

5. Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st March 2010:

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st March 2010 were then read. Some minor amendments were identified:

Item 6 page 1, Poplars Farm- Cllr. Oakley said that he had learnt that letters had been sent out in two batches by ESBC and that he had not spoken to them directly.

It was proposed by Cllr. Macpherson and seconded by Cllr. Oakley that the minutes were a true record of the proceedings. All were in favour.

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Cllr. Nelson asked if the seating arrangement for Mr Tony Spencer was satisfactory. He said it was.

Christmas Tree.

Cllrs. Nelson and Macpherson have removed the brash.

Footpath leaflets.

Cllr Oakley said that the leaflets had now been placed but a donations box had not. It was felt, after a brief discussion, that it would be difficult to administer 'a honesty box' so the idea was dropped and leaflets would be free.

Dog-waste bins

Cllr Spencer has not yet been in touch with ESBC over the placing of the bins but will do so in the near future. The Clerk passed to Cllr. Spencer two dog control notices issued by ESBC for placing on notice boards at Elton Close playground and the gazebo area in Duffield Lane. Cllr. Spencer will endeavour to include these on the same board as the best-kept village notices.

Action: Cllr. Spencer.

Playground Improvement.

The tenders for the work have been opened and awarded to Lappset. Cllr. Nelson said that work was to commence on 4th May and would take around 3 weeks. The Clerk reminded the meeting that funds to pay for the work were not yet in place and was concerned that invoices from Lappset, the contractor, could not be met until grant monies arrived. Cllr. Nelson will liaise with Cllr. Skipper to determine the latest position with the grant payments. The Clerk was asked to determine what payment period was stipulated in the contract with Lappset.

Action: Cllr. Nelson and Clerk.

Parish Plan

It was proposed by Cllr. Nelson and seconded by Cllr. Spencer that Cllrs. Macpherson and Oakley be nominated to help Annie Briggs sift through the questionnaire and to bring a report to a future parish meeting.

Action: Cllrs. Macpherson and Oakley

Parish Councillor vacancy.

The Clerk has written to all interested parties inviting them to attend at Cllr. Nelsons home on 27th April at 7.30pm. He has been unable to contact Mr Turner as yet but will try by text. Mr Gill had emailed to say that he had heard the vacancy had already been filled and that attendance was pointless. No councillors were aware of this or as to how the rumour had started. The Clerk was asked to contact all parties again to double-check their attendance.

Action: Clerk

Grass Cutting

Cllr Oakley has spoken to Max Hickinbottom about the schedule for this season. He has confirmed that a cut has already taken place and that another is scheduled before well dressing.

Best Kept Village.

Cllr Nelson and Spencer confirmed that they had not yet treated the sculptures but would see to them in the next few days.

Action: Cllrs. Nelson and Spencer.

Land off Hollybush Road.

See reply from landowners under correspondence below.

LTP Survey

Cllr. Nelson has not yet completed the forms but will do so soon.

Action: Cllr. Nelson

7. County and District Councillors Report:

Cllr. Corbett was not present for this part of the meeting.

8. Planning Applications:

One new application has been received:-

The Old Bakehouse, Hollybush Road – erection of a ground and first floor rear extension and dormer window to the south elevation. The council has no objections to this application. The Clerk was asked to write to the neighbours.

Action: Clerk

Outcomes:-

1. Hadley Farm, Newborough Road, Draycott – erection of 2 agricultural buildings – permitted
2. Various tree works at Elton Close playground – ESBC has no objections.
3. Poplars Farm, Yoxall Road – continued and retention of use as a holiday let for a temporary period of 5 years – permitted.

9. Staffordshire Environmental Fund - Grant Application:

The Clerk said he had no recollection as to why this item was on the agenda but thought a councillor had requested it be included. No one present knew of it and it was suggested that Cllr. Skipper be asked if she made the request.

Action: Clerk.

10. Riverside Play Park Development update:

This has been covered elsewhere in the minutes.

11. Clerks Report

The Clerk reported on the following:

Finances:

Account Balances –
Current account - £1500.00
Reserve account - £13,653.14
Grants account – £301.85
Tinks Croft account – £6,582.44

The Clerk said he had investigated, with HSBC, obtaining a better rate of interest but the best he could obtain was 0.05%.

Accounts for payment –

1. Clerk Salary - £185.14 & Expenses: - £96.71 (Total £281.85)
2. Janet Barks – street cleaning 3 mths - £165.00
3. Aon insurance - £587.65
4. Burton Conservation Volunteers - £260.00
5. Clerk – production of newsletter - £239.31
6. School hall hire – 3 mths - £54.00
7. CC of S subs - £22.00
8. SPCA subs - £161.00

Payments received –

A small amount of Interest – 11p

Correspondence Received:

- i) SCC re mineral extraction.
- ii) Councillor workshop / neighbourhood forum – 20th April at 6pm.
- iii) ESBC planning re Hollybush Road land – it is recommended by ESBC that planning permission for change of use is applied for.
- iv) ESBC re councillor vacancy. Clearance to co-opt.
- v) Campaign to Protect Rural England – donation request. This was refused.
- vi) Michelle O'Dell – questionnaire (reply by 29th March)
- vii) SCC – finding opportunity to support vulnerable people. This was passed to Cllr. Nelson.
- viii) Email from Michelle Bartlett re Hollybush Road land. Some discussion took place as to how to progress this. Cllr. Nelson will meet with Michelle Bartlett and send any agreement documents to solicitor Andrew Mason. The suggestion seems to be that the land is leased at a peppercorn rent. This would mean that any planning application for change of use would then have to be made by Ms Bartlett. The Clerk was asked to email Ms Bartlett to say the council are happy with her suggestion and that we just need to confirm the boundary and that she liaise with Cllr. Spencer.
Action: Cllrs. Nelson and Spencer and Clerk
- ix) St Giles Hospice – thanks giving service – 2nd May at 3.30pm
- x) Email from Barry Gill re councillor vacancy. Four parishioners are interested. So far only Mr Gill has indicated a willingness to attend a meeting with the existing councillors on 27th April.

- xi) Community Council of Staffordshire – community consultation. This was passed to Cllr. Nelson to action. **Action: Cllr. Nelson.**
- xii) SCC – work for neighbourhood highway teams. Cllr. Nelson is compiling a list and will send it on.
- xiii) Staffs Police – local policing teams.
- xiv) Aon – insurance (previously Allianz)
- xv) Audit Commission – returns required by 9th June (extended by request to 20th)
- xvi) ESBC – temporary closure of Yoxall Road for well dressing.

All other items were placed in the circulation file.

Correspondence sent:

- i) Mr. Sheard re tree works.
- ii) Mr Hickinbottom re quote for tree works.
- iii) Bartlett and Connors re gifted land.
- iv) Allianz re extra items in playground.
- v) Letter to councillor candidates.
- vi) Letter of thanks to Mr. Montgomery.
- vii) Numerous e-mails.

12. Disposal of Parish Strimmer:

In light of the health problems being experienced by the Skippers, this item will be put on hold and dropped from future agenda.

Action: Clerk

13. Go-pack chairs sale:

Cllr. Oakley said he had tried to contact GO Pack with no success and he had asked Cllr. Skipper for a contact number. There are 96 chairs and a moving trolley. Cllr. Macpherson said he thought the church could use around 30. This was proposed by Cllr. Oakley and seconded by Cllr. Nelson. First the value is required from the accounts. Clerk to find out value from past accounts

Action: Clerk.

14. Councillors Report:

Cllr. Prince asked what was happening about getting running water to the village well. Cllr. Nelson said he has recently spoken to Mick Harris who now thinks he can rod the pipe. Cllr Nelson will speak to him again.

Action: Cllr. Nelson

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.30pm.

The date of the next meeting, which is the AGM, is on
Monday 17th May 2010 at **7.30pm** in the school hall.

Signed Dated: