

Newport Parish Council Facilities and Amenities Committee

**Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday, 15th February, 2010
at Church House, Newport.**

<u>Present:</u>	Cllr A. Johnson	(AJ)	(Chairman)
	Cllr P. Arscott	(PA)	
	Cllr L. Baillie	(LB)	
	Cllr M. Bowker	(MB)	
	Cllr C. Gilbank	(CG)	
	Cllr C. Mitchell	(CM)	
	Cllr M. Sell	(MS)	
	Cllr J. Smith	(JS)	
 <u>In attendance:</u>	 C. Griffin	 Clerk	

F001 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr A. Yarwood.

F002 To receive any 'personal' or 'personal and prejudicial' interests relating to items on the Agenda

The following personal interests were declared: AJ in F010 and F016; LB in F012; MS in F005, F006, F007, F010, F011 and F012; MB in F014 and F017; CG in F007, F012, F017 and F019; PA in F016; JS in F018 and personal and prejudicial in F010, F014 and F016.

F003 Public participation session

No members of the public present.

F004 To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th December 2009

Resolved that the Chairman should sign the Minutes as approved.

Proposed: MS

Seconded: MB

All agreed

F005 To receive reports on Village Care

PA reported that:

- The litter issues are being dealt with satisfactorily. The Caretaker has reported litter within NFGS grounds (near the Croat and Cambridge Road). The Chairman will write to NFGS.

MS reported that:

- UDC has planted the replacement tree on the path near the Church.
- ECC will replace the two Chestnut trees near Shortgrove in the next financial year.
- In the next few days work will commence on the Triangle at Bridge End.

It was proposed that additional shrubs (specified by the ECC Arboriculturist) should be obtained and planted before the end of March, total cost £150.00

Proposed: MS Seconded: CM All agreed

Clerk will contact Peter Gibson regarding the tree on the Triangle at Elephant Green.

It was reported that a tree on the corner of Hitch Common Road needs attention and several other trees/shrubs are growing over the pavements in Cherry Garden Lane, Pond Cross Way. Clerk to establish owners and contact.

F006 To receive an update on work associated with the Common

The Chairman, MS and PA inspected the ditch on the South side and also the East and West boundaries. The South side is heavily overgrown with brambles and the ditch is blocked. The trees on the East side need cutting back to the river and grass and rubbish need clearing from the East and West boundaries. If the whole length of the ditch is dug out this would allow the water to flow into the river, and if the brambles are cleared the outlet pipe would be visible. It was noted that whilst this work would improve the appearance of the Common it would not solve the flooding problems.

It was proposed that the quotation of £1,300 for clearing the ditch and brambles from the South side, trimming back lower branches from trees and cutting grass back to the river on the East side, and clearing grass and rubbish on the West side should be accepted.

Proposed: MS Seconded: JS All agreed.

MS pointed out that there would be additional charges for maintaining this on a regular basis.

F007 To receive a report on the CCTV equipment at the Recreation Ground

MS reported that the Sports Committee are looking for an additional camera, with a wireless link to the existing system, to overlook the Croquet Club pavilion. A quotation was obtained from AM Alarms during their recent visit to carry out maintenance.

Clerk will send a copy of the quotation to Tony Phillips for discussion at the next Sports Committee meeting. PA will attend and report back after the meeting.

A quotation was also obtained for the Village Hall. JS will pass to Peter Gibson, Chairman of the VHTMC

F008 To consider ordering additional grit bins and suitable locations

Clerk circulated a map showing existing litter, dog and grit bins prior to the meeting. ECC has advised that the grit bin near the entrance to the station, which is currently padlocked, must be removed.

Members felt that any new bins should be sited in areas that are not gritted by ECC and primarily to benefit pedestrians.

The locations suggested were:

1. Bullfields
2. Belmont Hill (behind the new bollards)
3. Bowker Close
4. Frambury Lane (near London Road junction)
5. Bury Water Lane/School Lane
6. White Ditch Lane
7. Wicken Road/Church Street
8. Hitch Common Road/Pond Cross Way
9. Meadowford (PC to consult with residents)

It was agreed that this would be discussed later in the year and funds would be allocated to Reserves for use in the future.

F009 To consider a request for a Bus Shelter in the High Street

Clerk reported that a request has been received from a resident for a bus shelter in the High Street near the bus stop by Saggars' Shop. The resident also reported that the buses are not running on time, particularly the 301 service. JS has supplied complaint forms and these have been completed and sent to ECC.

JS said he would prefer to concentrate on getting a reliable bus service. If this could be achieved he would then like to carry out a consultation with the village.

The PC noted the request and will consider the request together with other potential sites.

F010 To receive an update on the Village Walkabout

The Chairman went through the schedule, updated on 8th February, page by page:

Page 1

London Road - JS will identify specific areas needing attention and advise Clerk.

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Frambury Lane - Poor road surface on dropped kerb to be reported to ECC.

Frambury Lane - Trees near No.110 need cutting back. Owner to be contacted.

Frambury Lane - Rubbish is being left on footpath 12, behind No. 40, 42 and 44.

Cherry Garden Lane - Clerk to report dead tree on land adjacent to No. 163 to Riga Properties.

Cherry Garden Lane - Dog bags have been deposited by electric sub-station. Article to be included in next Newsletter.

27, Bullfields - Clerk to report dangerous wall to UDC Enforcement team.

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Debden Road - Fly tipping to be removed from schedule
High Street - Tree near The Elephant has been replaced
Wicken Road - Derelict wooden garage has been removed.

Page 4

Playground - Undergrowth and small trees have been removed from SW corner.
Sandpit has been removed.

F011 To discuss quotation for repainting seats, bins, railings and lamp posts

MS has compiled a list and this has been forwarded to PA who is awaiting a quotation.

F012 To receive an update on the Diana Sell Playground

LB reported that the Lottery application for three pieces of equipment, total cost approximately £21,000, should be finalised shortly. The decision should be known within one month. An application was made to the Stansted Community Trust, but was unsuccessful. LB would appreciate names of other potential funding sources.

LB will endeavour to make contact with members of the Playground Committee and establish where the funds are held.

Following discussions concerning the possibility of additional equipment in a separate location, LB advised that consideration has been given for a BMX Bike Track on the recreation ground. An area of land, approximately 30M x 15M, would be required for this. PC would need to establish if there is a piece of land that is suitable for this purpose.

MS reported on an issue concerning the new fencing for the Playground. The Chairman will contact the PC Chairman regarding this.

F013 To discuss flooding issues in the village

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

F014 To discuss the report received from A & J Lighting on the PC's Street Lights and Street lights in London Road

A and J Lighting have produced a schedule giving the condition of each column and fitting. The report will be circulated with the Minutes and MB will organise a Walkabout. Members to contact MB if they would like to be involved.

JS put in a request for additional street lights in London Road. At present the PC are responsible for four lights on London Road, all other lights on the main B1383 being the responsibility of the County. Clerk to investigate the possibility of ECC adopting the four PC lights and report back.

Clerk reported that the schedule received from ECC on the Private Finance Initiative has been completed, as far as possible, and returned to ECC. Clerk has been advised that the 80W Mbfu lamps are very inefficient and in the next few years will become obsolete, exact date to be advised.

F015 To approve the 2010/11 Grant application for Public rights of Way and other footpath issues.

JS has a schedule of work to be done which includes major work on Footpath 7, and 25 and minor work on other paths. It was requested that Footpath 7, 12, 14 and 18 should be added to the list.

JS will send completed list to Clerk, together with meterage, and a price will be obtained from NS Landscapes.

F016 To receive a progress report from the Traffic Management Group

Following the meeting on 20th January, the Chairman updated the schedule and this was circulated prior to the meeting.

It was agreed that a meeting should be organised with Chris Stoneham, ECC, to discuss the feasibility of some items and agree a way forward.

Clerk will endeavour to organise a meeting for 10.00am on Wednesday, 3rd March at the PC Office.

Clerk reported that further complaints have been received regarding parking on pavements in Belmont Hill and the High Street.

F017 To receive a report on the Allotments

MB reported that:

- Water supply has been turned off
- Rents still outstanding from two tenants
- The two, half plots, will be let in the Spring.
- The tenant has carried out work on the tree overhanging an adjacent plot.
- The review of the Allotment agreement, which is being carried out by a resident, has not yet been received. When this is available the PC will discuss further and consider whether tenants should be allowed to grow trees. Agreements from other villages will be obtained.

F018 To receive a report on the Village Hall

JS reported that

- The “wish list” has been presented to the VHTMC.
- A number of issues are being reviewed by the VHTMC and a revised booking form has been introduced.
- A clean-up operation is being organised
- New windows should be installed shortly

- There is a Health & Safety issue concerning a concrete ledge outside the Green Room.
CG advised that grants are available from ECC for providing Disability Access. The Chairman of the VHTMC will be informed.

F019 To discuss any other Urgent Parish matters

F019.1 LB reported on the parking problems in Frambury Lane. It was agreed that a parking restriction along one entire side is essential.

F019.2 LB raised a query regarding the use of Byways/Bridleways. It was confirmed that Landrovers/4x 4's are allowed to use Byways but not Bridleways.

F019.3 JS requested that as the green waste containers cover two sites in Newport, any literature should include full details of starting dates, times etc. To be included in next Newsletter.

F019.4 Clerk reported on a conversation with a resident regarding the use of Gaces Meadow.

F019.5 Clerk reported that following a request to the District Council for a new dog bin on the verge near the junction of Frambury Lane/Wicken Road, UDC has advised that they are not installing any more dog bins at the moment as the crews cannot empty them.

F020 Items for Next Agenda

To consider a request for a Village Notice Board

To review the Litter Bins and Dog Bins

To discuss flooding issues in the village.

F021 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday, 19th April at Church House.

The meeting closed at 10.15 pm.