

**Newport Parish Council Facilities and Amenities Committee**

**Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2009 at Church House, Newport.**

<b><u>Present:</u></b>	<b>Cllr A. Johnson</b>	<b>(AJ)</b>	<b>(Chairman)</b>
	<b>Cllr P. Arscott</b>	<b>(PA)</b>	
	<b>Cllr M. Bowker</b>	<b>(MB)</b>	
	<b>Cllr C. Gilbank</b>	<b>(CG)</b>	
	<b>Cllr C. Mitchell</b>	<b>(CM)</b>	
	<b>Cllr M. Sell</b>	<b>(MS)</b>	
	<b>Cllr J. Smith</b>	<b>(JS)</b>	
	<b>Cllr A. Yarwood</b>	<b>(AY)</b>	<b>(From F011 – F018)</b>

**In attendance:**      **C. Griffin**                      **Clerk**

**F011 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr L. Bailey, Cllr T. Denyer and Cllr J. Rose.

**F012 To receive any ‘personal’ or ‘personal and prejudicial’ interests relating to items on the Agenda**

The following interests were declared: AY in F023, MB in F021, CG in F021, JS in F019, F022, F023 and AJ in F020.

**F013 Public participation session**

No members of the public present.

**F014 To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2009**

Resolved that the Chairman should sign the Minutes as approved.

Proposed: JS                      Seconded: CM                      All agreed

**F015 Report on Village Care & Diana Sell Playground**

MS reported that:

- New tree was planted near Nursery Gardens last week
- Two Chestnut trees for Cambridge Road to be planted in the Autumn. Clerk will remind ECC.
- The tree outside 2 Willow Court will be replaced in the Autumn.

- Tree outside Pond Cross Farmhouse needs attention following road accident.
- The contractors have cut the grass on the triangle at Bridge End. Clerk advised that the granite kerb will be 5” high and ECC have been requested to increase this to 9” (same as Elephant Green) and install this as quickly as possible
- NS Landscapes have been asked to include the hedge on the corner on Frambury Lane/High Street in their annual maintenance programme. Resident has been advised.

Clerk to contact:

- the Environment Agency regarding the rubbish removed from the stream that was left in Bury Water Lane.
- ECC regarding repairs to bridge in Bury Water Lane
- David Wilson Homes regarding the double hedge that is hanging over the road.
- David Wilson Homes and NFGS regarding a response to the footpath proposals.

The Chairman and PA will deal with the brambles near the ford in Bury Water Lane.

The Chairman suggested inspecting all the roads and hedges in order that a list can be compiled of items that need attention. Date to be arranged.

**F016 To discuss letter received from a resident following the Children’s Playground article in the March PC News**

Three replies have now been received. Two residents support the refurbishment of the Diana Sell Playground and one has suggested developing a new area in Cherry Garden Lane. It was pointed out that there would be opposition to a new playground in Cherry Garden Lane. Some equipment on the recreation ground would probably be welcome, but in view of the vandalism in the area at present this would not be advisable.

After discussion it was agreed that, initially, the Chairman would draw up terms of reference for the Playground Committee, a meeting will then be organised for the present committee plus the three residents who have responded. Clerk will liaise with MS, CG and LB regarding a suitable date.

**F017 To discuss organising a competition to build a village garden on the Common**

JR has been requested to prepare an outline proposal.  
Deferred until next meeting.

**F018 To discuss a request from a resident for a new litter bin on Gaces Meadow**

A letter has been received requesting a new litter bin close to the memorial seat that has recently been placed on Gaces Meadow. It was agreed to order a new bin and AJ

and Clerk will decide on the most suitable type for this location. Letter will then be sent to the resident giving details.

**F019 To receive a progress report on the 2009/10 grant application for Public Rights of Way**

It was agreed that Clerk should contact NS Landscapes requesting a quotation for clearing the following:

Footpath 12 (as agreed at last Full Council meeting)

Footpath 14

Byway 2 (far end of White Ditch Lane)

Footpath 7 (building up top end with road filings)

Footpath 25 (both sides of the bridge, clear vegetation and regrade the approaches to the bridge)

Clerk will liaise with JS before submitting application to ECC.

**F020 To receive a report on the meeting with Cty Cllr Ray Gooding on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> April**

The Chairman reported that at the site meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> April, the Traffic Management Group looked at the proposals that had been formulated in respect of the footpaths in Bury Water Lane and also the path in front of NFGS at the Cambridge Road end.

RG confirmed that after the meeting he discussed the recommendations with ECC Highways and they are very supportive of the proposals, subject to resolving some of the details. Firstly, the ownership of the land must be established. Also, the suggested time span of approximately ten weeks would not be possible because of funding and the process of advertising and consulting cannot be achieved in this time. RG also advised that there are new arrangements in place regarding the release of Section 106 funds. RG will ask ECC Highways to draw up an outline scheme as soon as possible and this can be shown to residents.

The Chairman thanked RG for his help with the scheme

The Chairman reported that work at Willow Vale is progressing and it is understood that a show house should be ready by the late summer.

**F021 Report on the Allotments**

MB reported that:

- Letters have been sent to all tenants regarding rubbish. MS will arrange for NS Landscape to clear this in the near future.
- Damage has been caused to the Retreat. PC Ecclestone has inspected the site today, 20th April and taken a statement.
- One tenant is causing annoyance as he is frequently burning rubbish. Letter to be sent to him

- Letter will be sent to one tenant who has not yet started cultivating his plot.
- There are now 13 names on the waiting list.
- The Village Hall has offered tenants a free table at the Farmers Market in June to sell plants.

CG reported that the main gate at the allotments does not catch properly. MS will ask NS Landscape to inspect.

Clerk will contact UDC regarding the possibility of the Green Waste container being situated in the road near the allotments on alternate Saturdays.

JS pointed out that some months ago the PC discussed the possibility of additional allotment space and this was to be raised with the landowner. Clerk will consult AY.

### **F022 Allocation of responsibilities related to Facilities activities**

The revised Committee list had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was agreed that:

- Surveillance equipment - CG. To be added to the list.
- Caretaker - changes regarding responsibility to be discussed at next HR meeting.

Subject to the above, members of the Facilities committee approved the allocation of responsibilities.

### **F023 To discuss draft response to the Eco town consultation**

JS is still working on this.

### **F024 To discuss any other Urgent Parish Matters**

**F024.1** JS asked if speed bumps would be incorporated in the 20mph zones. ECC are currently drawing up plans and Clerk will pass these to the Traffic Group as soon as they are received.

**F024.2** RG reported that residents have been in touch with him regarding their concerns on the new affordable site at Frambury Lane. ECC have some concerns about the increased traffic past the primary school and the access on to London Road is also an issue.

**F024.3** RG advised that ECC have set aside funds for Chalk Farm Lane and Frambury Lane for repairs and refurbishment. PC should be advised of the details shortly.

**F024.4** CM reported that the pavement surface from the White Horse to the Reading Rooms in the High Street is very soft. Clerk will contact ECC.

**F024.5** CM will contact the owners of the Coach & Horses regarding the tree in their garden.

**F024.6** CG reported that the dog bins at the recreation ground are overflowing. Clerk will contact UDC and check the arrangements for emptying.

**F024.7** The Chairman reported that the lights on the NFGS all weather pitch have been on after 11.00pm. Clerk will take this up with the School again.

**F024.8** Clerk raised the issue of graffiti on the corner of Frambury Lane. It was confirmed at the Crime and Disorder Reduction partnership meeting that it is the responsibility of the landowner to remove. The PC should be contacted by UDC regarding a free pack that can be used for removing small amounts of graffiti.

**F024.9** Clerk advised that a meeting has been organised with ECC on 21<sup>st</sup> April regarding flooding issues at the Common and Bridge End. The Environment Agency has advised that they are concerned about the barrier which has been erected by residents of Bridge End because it is isolating a piece of the flood plain. A meeting is being organised with the Environment Agency and the residents.

**C025 Items for next Agenda**

To discuss organising a competition to build a village garden on the Common

Progress report on Children's Playground

To receive an update on litter bins and dog bins

To receive an update from the Traffic Group

**C026 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> June at Church House.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm