

Newton le Willows Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30th November 2016 at 6.00pm

Present: Councillor P Olsen (Chairman); Councillor J Harrison; Councillor V Wilthew; Councillor S Coombs; T Sanderson (clerk)

Councillor R Ormston was present in his official capacity.

1. **Apologies:** None, all councillors were present.
2. There were no **declarations of interest** in items on the agenda.
3. The new Councillor, Steven Coombs was welcomed by P Olsen.
4. The **minutes** of the Parish Council meeting held on the 27th October were signed and approved.
5. **Matters arising:**
 - a. **Wheatsheaf** – councillors will check to ensure that relevant work has been carried out.
 - b. **Neighbourhood watch** – PSCO Tracie Lee Taylor-Page was invited but unable to attend this meeting. Mr J Johnson had met with her and informed council that she would prefer to be emailed with any issues/concerns.
 - c. **ROSPA** – report has just arrived and needs to be studied fully. It will be on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.
 - d. **Elaine Bean's resignation** – RDC have been notified and relevant action has been taken. Closing date for nominations for an election is 25th November. No reply has yet been received from RDC.
 - e. **Footpaths** – to be discussed at a later meeting.
6. It was reported from the **Village Hall Trustee AGM** that Ann Brown is now the Chair and Teresa Sanderson is the new minutes secretary. Very few groups are represented on the committee which was felt to be of concern. The Green Room continues to be fairly busy and the Cricket Club fundraiser held in the hall was very successful. There has been an issue with the Village Hall postcode and it was agreed that DL8 1SP should be used in all future correspondence/matters. This will be duly posted in the hall and Green Room.

7. The **Community Resilience Plan** needs to be reviewed in light of the fact that two team members (Simon Hodges and Elaine Bean) have left. J Harrison hopes to recruit some new team members in the new year. Since the team was originally set up, the vulnerable it assisted, have died. P Olsen thanked J Harrison for her work.
8. The **Recycling Centre** is provided for local residents to dispose of their recyclable waste (paper, cardboard, plastic, cans and bottles) in an appropriate manner and it has been well used. However, the Parish Council continues to receive complaints about this facility. Cardboard bins appear to be filled with trade waste and the bins are not always being closed properly. This means litter could be blown out and around the village. The same can be said of the cans and plastic bins. On top of this, twenty full black bin bags had been left at the side of the full bins. RDC was contacted, collected extra waste and are in agreement that it is likely to be trade waste. It was agreed that the situation needs to be monitored closely as we do not want to lose this facility in the village.
Action: A stronger worded message will be placed in the next edition of Newton News and the signage at the entrance of the recycling centre will be checked for accuracy.
9. **Speeding** is still very much an issue in the village, both on Brompton Road and Sinks Lane in particular. Damage was caused to parked cars on a number of occasions and the height of the railway bridges is now raising some concerns against the height of some commercial vehicles. However it was agreed that this is difficult to monitor.
Actions – a meeting with highways and the police is needed in order to move these issues forward. The clerk will chase up the speed matrix with RDC.
10. The **Wheatsheaf** continues to cause concern. J Johnson reported that the garden is very overgrown and the building is in a severe state of disrepair (broken windows, doors open and slipped roof tiles). The site potentially has invasive species present.
Actions – the clerk will contact RDC to see if they can contact owner (M Slinger) and serve him a Community Protection Notice and check with police to see if there is anything they can do to move this issue forward.
11. No further information about the **Licensing application** has been received so the clerk will contact RDC.
12. The **Play area** will be discussed at the next meeting once the ROSPA report has been studied by councillors (see section 5, part C).
13. Many **signs** have appeared **at the school** over the past twelve months. A gate has recently been added from the playing field onto the highway (west of Oak House). There is concern about whether the appropriate permission has been obtained. Overflow traffic could potentially cause problems.
Action – clerk to contact RDC's enforcement officer (A Pilkington) to ensure all signage and gates have been approved.

14. All financial matters were approved along with the invoice from ROSPA for the play area inspection (£88.20). It was agreed that B Sampson would report back to council on the financial position following the environmental survey carried out earlier this year.

15. Extra items raised – Fly tipping on Sinks Lane and state of pavements.

- D Peach reported a major issue of fly tipping on Sinks Lane. It happened earlier this month when approx 460 wrapped bales were tipped onto the land. D Peach and D Heugh notified relevant authorities immediately and have been monitoring the situation. Although they look like straw bales, they are in fact a mixture of builders waste and straw. The police, RDC and Environment Agency were immediately contacted. The Parish Council is extremely concerned about this matter. The clerk contacted RDC who stated the Environment Agency are investigating as technically it is not fly tipping (private land) but concern about whether the correct licences are held by land owner is being looked into. The Environment Agency has contacted who they now believe to be the hauliers of the bales.

Actions: the clerk will contact RDC again and find out how this material can be removed. The Parish council will notify other local villages of this potential problem to try and prevent it happening elsewhere. This message will be communicated to all attendees of the next village hall coffee morning on the 17th December to spread the word to as many residents and locals as possible. The message will also be taken to the Lower Wensleydale Partnership meeting being held tomorrow. Letters will be sent to the Environment Agency and R Sunak MP (who has been made aware of this issue) to express the council's concern.

- Pavement in Station Road needs to be resurfaced.

16. Items for the next meeting are: Children's fund management, Play area including ROSPA report, speeding and traffic issues with PCSO in attendance, Recycling Centre Wheatsheaf, Licensing application and Signs at the school.

17. Date for next meeting to be held in the Green Room:

Wednesday 25th January 2017 at 6pm

The meeting was declared closed at 7.12pm