

# Newton-le-Willows Parish Council

## Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015

**Present:** Councillors: Paul Barlow (Chairman), Elaine Bean, Joyce Harrison, Alan Hudson & Peter Olsen; Bob Sampson (*Clerk*) and 9 members of the public.

### 1. Apologies: None

2. Previous minutes: The minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 11th February 2015 were approved and signed.

### 3. Matters arising:

- Road safety - Paul Barlow reported that the police are yet to visit the village and that he would contact them again.
- Green bin collection – The District Council had responded to say that no increase was proposed to the existing collections.
- Pavement in Station Road – No work has been done despite a promise of a 28 day completion. The Clerk was asked to contact the County Council.
- Street light at Bank Terrace – This has not been repaired; the Clerk was asked to contact the District Council again.
- Participatory Budgeting – A site for the soccer goals has now been agreed.
- Gritting on Station Road – Although the County Council had promised a further grit bin, this has not been provided; the Clerk was asked to repeat the request. The hand held gritter would be available from the District Council next winter.
- Parish Council elections – Peter Olsen said that if there were to be a contested election, he would not offer himself for nomination.
- Dog fouling – The leaflets had been distributed to all households and an article written for Newton News.

### 4. Community Car Scheme – John Laking from NYCC attended to provide information on options available following the reduction in bus services to the village:

- a. Bedale Community Minibus – This would offer a demand responsive service to Leyburn on Fridays and Bedale on Tuesdays. Concessionary fares would not apply. The minibus is also available for hire;
- b. Volunteer Car Scheme (1) – Operated by Northallerton & District Volunteer Services Association, this scheme uses volunteers to provide lifts in their own cars with a charge of 45p per mile. Newton-le-Willows is covered by the Bedale office. Volunteer drivers from the village would be most welcome;
- c. Volunteer Car Scheme (2) - The County Council could provide a 3 year lease car to the Parish for use by volunteer drivers and could assist with start up funding; this could be operated in conjunction with neighbouring Parishes. The operating group would have to insure and fuel the vehicle and would recoup the cost by charging passengers.

It was agreed that the first and second options were most appropriate for Newton-le-Willows and that the third should only be considered as a fall-back. Leaflets on these would be provided by NDVSA and distributed in the village with encouragement for residents to volunteer as drivers. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Laking accordingly and to thank him for his presentation.

**5. Internal Auditor** - Lisle Ryder was approved as the Internal Auditor of Parish Council accounts.

**6. The Wheatsheaf** - Paul Barlow reported that the Planning Authority was now attempting to contact the owner in order to ascertain his plans for the site and to put him in contact with potential developers. It was reported the rear door and a dormer window were still missing and the Clerk was asked to inform Alison Pilkington of RDC.

**7. Renewable Energy Project** – Members of the Parish Council had visited the Barningham project and the Working Group is due to meet in order to finalise the brief for a feasibility study.

**8. Parish Plan** – Joyce Harrison outlined several outstanding topics which could be tackled as a single issue: speeding traffic, safety at Station Road railway bridge and on street parking. It was requested that representatives of the police and the Highway Authority be asked to attend the meeting after next to address these matters. Hedge cuttings: Alan Hudson agreed to ask his contractors to clear up immediately after hedges were cut. Village clean-up: more volunteers would be sought. Community Police Officer: the Clerk was asked to contact him, give him the dates of future coffee morning and ask him to maintain a higher profile or whether other personnel should be involved.

**9. Lower Wensleydale Area Partnership** – The minutes of the latest meeting had been made available.

**13. Village Hall Trustee's report** - Peter Olsen reported that 2 outside taps had now been installed; the defibrillator was now operational and the Parish Council agreed to fund £171 for its installation; a light was required to illuminate the defibrillator at night; a sub-committee was to be formed to run the newly refurbished Green Room; the 2 benches were to be treated for outdoor use; the store roof is to be repaired.

He also reported on a proposed planning application for an anaerobic digester at Arbour Hill which may have traffic implications for the village.

Training in the use of the defibrillator will be provide by Aysgarth School in late May/ early June with publicity in the next issue of Newton News.

**11. Financial approval** - The Parish Council approved the following payments:

A board - £158.22, Village Hall furniture - £201.60, Soccer goal - £57.95, Keyboard - £360.00, Payroll Services - £60.00, Clerk's salary - £286.95, Tax on Clerk's salary - £71.80, Playground maintenance and inspection - £148,68.

**12. Items for next meeting :**

Community Transport, The Wheatsheaf, Renewable energy project, Lower Wensleydale Area Partnership, Village Hall Trustee's report, Village clean-up, Parish Council accounts.

**13. Date of next meetings** - 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015 (Annual Parish Council Meeting), 17<sup>th</sup> June and 29<sup>th</sup> July, all at 6.00 pm in the Village Hall.

**Paul Barlow,**  
*Chairman, Newton-le-Willows Parish Council*