

# Newton-le-Willows Parish Council

## Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

**Present:** Councillors: Paul Barlow (Chairman), Elaine Bean, Alan Hudson & Peter Olsen; Bob Sampson (*Clerk*) and 4 members of the public.

**1. Apologies:** Joyce Harrison, County Councillor R Harrison-Topham.

**2. Previous minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 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 chase them up.
- Green bin collection – There had been no response from the District Council.

**4. Participatory Budgeting** – The Chairman thanked all those who had taken part in the exercise. Grants for the successful projects were approved and this will be confirmed to the applicants with a request for receipts to support their claims. The children's award for a moveable goal was still outstanding as no acceptable site had been found for it. A notice to be put in Newton News seeking offers of a suitable site.

**5. The Wheatsheaf** - Paul Barlow had spoken to the planning advisor from whom the Parish Council is taking free advice. He is pursuing various courses of action:

1. Putting developers in contact with the owner to stimulate development of the site;
2. Seeking a Completion Notice – the District Council is reluctant;
3. Compulsory purchase – very unlikely;
4. The Section 215 Notice is still extant but would only deal with the appearance of the site whilst Building Regulations could tackle matters of public safety.

**6. Renewable energy project** – Members of the Working Party are due to visit the Barningham project on 20<sup>th</sup> February and will meet on 23<sup>rd</sup> February to choose consultants to tender for a feasibility study.

**7. Parish Plan** – It was agreed that the outstanding issues should be addressed over forthcoming meetings with speeding traffic being the first. The Clerk was asked to ascertain where Patrick Brompton village had obtained the speed matrix board which had been in use there recently.

**8. Bus services** – Councillors responded to the consultation from the County Council on proposed changes to services. In their view the proposal was wholly unacceptable and would result in a reduction of over 50% in the number of scheduled buses serving the village with no guarantee of a “demand responsive” service. This would leave the village with a skeleton service on 3 days per week and no service on 4 days. The Clerk was asked to reply in the strongest terms.

**9. Gritting on Station Road** – During the recent snowy conditions the hill to Aysgarth School had been very hazardous and the pile of grit outside Beech Farm drive had become snow covered and indiscernible. The Council agreed to ask the County Council for a grit bin at this point to

resolve the problem. In addition, a request should be made for early morning gritting of the road which was particularly busy with school traffic.

**10. Parish Council elections** – The Clerk outlined the arrangements for the forthcoming elections and reminded Councillors that, if they wished to stand again for election, they would need to complete and submit nominations by 9<sup>th</sup> April. He confirmed that Peter Olsen would be eligible for nomination as he lived within 4.8 kilometres of the Parish boundary.

**11. Dog fouling** – The Council welcomed the District Council's dog fouling information pack and proposed supporting the initiative by highlighting the issue in Newton News (Peter Olsen offered to prepare an article) and obtaining copies of the leaflet for distribution with Newton News.

**12. Lower Wensleydale Area Partnership** - There had been no meeting.

**13. Village Hall Trustee's report** - Peter Olsen reported that the Trustees had met with representatives of other local village halls with a view to coordinating future events; a further meeting will be held in April. Work on the Hudson Room was underway and the defibrillator was being installed at the same time; completion was expected in mid to late March. In response to a letter from a resident complaining about the state of the drive to the Village Hall car park, he said that the Trustees were aware of that although repairs could not be undertaken before spring; he would report the concerns to the next Trustees' meeting

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

- Climate Change Group, room hire & refreshments - £34.89
- Viking, paper & photocopier toner - £118.73
- Village Hall, room hire - £18.75

**12. Items for next meeting :**

The Wheatsheaf, Renewable energy project, Lower Wensleydale Area Partnership  
Village Hall Trustee's report, Parish Plan (to review outstanding actions), Parish Council election.

**13. Date of next meetings** - 1<sup>st</sup> April (***note change of date***) 2015, at 6.00 pm in the Village Hall.

**Paul Barlow,**

*Chairman, Newton-le-Willows Parish Council*