

Minutes of the Newton le Willows Parish Council meeting
held on 23rd January 2023

Present: Councillors C Audritt, L Ryder, V Wilthew, Z Hudson-Peach and clerk T Sanderson

Also present: 6 members of the public

22/051 **Apologies for absence** – Councillor T Clarkson and R Ormston.

22/052 There were no '**Declarations of Interest**' in items on the agenda.

22/053 The **minutes** of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th December 2022 were **approved and signed**.

22/054 The following was raised at the **Public Participation Session:**

- i. **Coronation** – can whatever we do as a council link in with national schemes such as 'The Big Help Out', which is a village clean up on 8 May.
- ii. **Doorstep sellers** – there have been a few seen recently. Some have been persuasive, abusive and intimidating to some residents. The police are aware. Difficult to know who is a legitimate tradesman. A circular was shared on the various WhatsApp groups advising residents to be cautious.
- iii. **Sinks Lane hedgerows** – impeding visibility to drivers. Z Hudson-Peach advised that they are awaiting the contractors to come and cut them.
- iv. **Communitrees** – an order was placed to the District Council but there had been a delay in supplying the saplings. There are 20 volunteers lined up to help plant once they arrive.

22/055 **Matters arising:**

- i. **Website** – a meeting is still to be arranged.
- ii. **Speeding** – an article has been written for the next newsletter.

22/056 **Reports:**

- i. **Village Hall Trustees** – there have been no further meetings and the next one is scheduled for 30 January. There are lots of activities in the bar in the coming months including a live band on 25 March, tickets already on sale.
- ii. **Atkinson Clarke Education Trust** – there have been no further meetings and the next one is scheduled for 13 February.
- iii. **Richmondshire Climate Action Plan developments** – the main partnership is going through a review with an online event on 26 January. It is dependent on how the new unitary council will be set up. North Yorkshire have a net zero fund where groups can apply for funding. However, the minimum bid is £250,000 so probably will not be for our parish council. The Green Party are concerned about the quality of rivers both nationally and in our area as sewerage has been dumped into many rivers. There may be a petition/letter than needs support at a later date. The Climate Change group meet 1 March.

Specific matters:

- i. **Speeding** –the Speeding Sub Committee have arranged to meet Ian Beighton from NYCC highways on Wednesday 25 January. They will walk the route where concerns were raised from the recent speed survey. He can offer advice and give his opinion but there is no financial incentive he can offer. It was proposed by C Audritt that a meeting be set up with Aysgarth School to discuss the recent speed survey. This was seconded by V Wilthew and the motion was carried.
Action: the clerk will contact D Flowers of NYCC highways to find out what costs would be for extra signage. The clerk will also contact Councillor T Jones to see if he can advise on any possible funding. An email will also be sent to Aysgarth School to try and set up a meeting asap.
- ii. **Dog fouling** –a grant application was made after the last meeting and was approved. This was for two waste bins so that the one at the bus shelter could be replaced as well as a new one to be installed beyond Kimberley Villas. The clerk is still trying to arrange a site visit so that locations of both bins can be agreed upon and an order placed to get them installed.
Action: the clerk will liaise with RDC and councillors to set up a meeting.
- iii. **Playground** – due to renewal of insurance policies it was discovered that a disclaimer notice should be placed in the playground. A weekly visual check should also take place. Both the Village Hall and Parish Council contribute towards the playground insurance and it was agreed to compare policies ahead of next year's renewal to make sure we have sufficient cover. One of the Village Hall Trustees (S Pay) has agreed to carry out a weekly inspection. It was proposed that C Audritt purchase a disclaimer sign by V Wilthew and seconded by Z Hudson-Peach. The motion was carried. As the playground is currently inspected regularly, we know there is a need to cut back vegetation from the fencing as it grows through it. In the past this has been done by Wensleydale Railway who own the land next to the playground. If they are not able to do it, dates need to be put in place twice a year (March and September) to cut back the vegetation. We also need to clean the ground services of the algae that grows on it. It was agreed at the last meeting that D Peach would sort out a trial cleaning system for us.
Action: C Audritt to purchase a disclaimer sign and ensure it is erected. The clerk will contact D Peach to see if a date can be set for cleaning the ground surfaces in the playground.
- iv. **Attractiveness of parish** – it was agreed that the village is already quite attractive and the main eyesore is the Wheatsheaf which we are unable to improve ourselves. Hedgerows being well maintained help the overall look as do clean village signs at the various locations. Spring bulbs have been planted in many locations which improve the verges etc in the springtime. Trees have also recently been planted where appropriate. Due to overall maintenance, it was agreed there was little other planting that we could manage effectively.
Action: the clerk will contact RDC and ask about who is responsible for the footpath at the Wheatsheaf. Councillors will between them ensure all the village signs are washed.
- v. **Coronation** – there has been a recent discussion between Patrick Brompton and Newton le Willows Village Hall Trustees about coming together to mark the

occasion of the King's coronation. A committee will be set up between Patrick Brompton, Newton le Willows and the Parish Council. V Wilthew and T Sanderson were happy to represent the council as they had for the Queen's jubilee celebrations last year. The main contact will be H Audritt for the Village Hall Trustees. A meeting will be set up in the near future.

- vi. **Clerk Renumeration** – the formation of a Clerk Renumeration Sub Committee was proposed by C Audritt and seconded by V Wilthew. It will discuss any changes to the clerk's renumeration ahead of setting the precept later in the year. The motion was carried and C Audritt and Z Hudson-Peach agreed to form this sub- committee.

22/058 **Items** for the next meeting will include the new Parish Charter and the website. The **date** for next meeting will be Monday 6th March at 7pm.

Meeting declared closed at 8.02pm