

Minutes from the Newton le Willows Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 8th March 2017

Present: Councillor P Olsen, J Harrison, V Wilthew, S Coombs and T Sanderson (parish clerk)

Also present: Councillor R Ormston and 7 members of the public

1. No apologies for absence.

2. No 'Declarations of Interest' in items on the agenda.

3. Minutes were **approved and signed** of the Parish Council meeting held on the 25th January 2017.

4. Matters arising:

- **PCSO** Taylor-Page was invited to attend, but no reply. Speeding issues to be carried over to when the police can attend.
- **Footpaths** – proceeding.
- **Recycling** – ongoing. A poster has been drafted and will be laminated and displayed once approved.
- **Fly tipping** – under investigation by the Environment Agency. The parish council is being kept informed but the process is a slow one.
- **Wheatsheaf** – the building is not secure so building control can be contacted as they can make the building secure. The building had been inspected by RDC since the previous meeting. The police will need to be contacted should anyone be seen entering the premises.
Action – clerk to contact Building control and A Pilkington of RDC.
- **Licensing** – a copy of the licence has been printed and will be circulated to all councillors.
- **Children's Fund Management** – C Wilthew to set up a meeting with other interested parties to establish a working team.
- **Play area** – a sub-committee of P Olsen and S Coombs was set up to move this matter forward.

5. Reports from:

- **Village Hall Trustees** – feedback was provided by P Olsen. Meetings were held on the 7th February and 7th March. The new coffee morning system has raised almost £900 for the village hall and the Green Room continues to raise valuable funds for the village hall. Hire charges have been discussed and a transparent set of charges established ensuring that incentives offered to the major group users (including PIN and Cricket Club) are roughly equitable. A cleaner has been appointed and will start soon following a spring clean of the hall by volunteers. There is now an active list of events in addition to the regular Green Room openings and include music nights and a quiz night. The acoustic nights have proved very successful with about 30 people attending the first two. The next one will be on Tuesday 18th April. The acoustic nights follow on from 'Fish and Chip' night in the Green Room. An inspection of the internal of the building was carried out and projects include installing a disabled toilet, an overhaul of existing toilets and repairs to the store room behind the kitchen. An external inspection of the hall will happen at a later

date. PIN has kindly agreed to pay for a lighting kit and control box which will benefit all users of the hall.

- **Atkinson and Clarke Educational Trust** – feedback provided by V Wilthew. Meeting had been attended on the 6th February and another meeting is to be held in May

6. Specific matters:

- **Bedale library donation** – S Perkins attended the meeting and presented the argument for the council to make a donation of £100. Bedale library has obtained a registered charity status and has approached all thirteen local town/parish councils for a donation request; the amount has been calculated on the size of the council and the potential use of the library by the residents. No one has refused to make a donation although the amount has varied. A 'Friends of Bedale Library' has been launched as a fund raising idea (150 people joined, all making a personal contribution). Following a lively discussion, P Olsen proposed a donation of between £50-100 for the initial year as a one off donation and this was put to the vote. The vote was carried (3:1) for a donation of £50 to be made. As a fund raising idea, the council suggested to S Perkins that a coffee morning in the village hall could be run as a fundraiser for the community group.

Action – a cheque will be drawn for the amount of (£50) and presented to S Perkins. The clerk will liaise with S Perkins if the coffee morning suggestion is viable.

- **Village Cleanliness** – J Harrison has been the lead on this in the past. A general tidy up of the village is carried out where local residents are allocated an area to be responsible for. Any new ideas are welcome as to how to improve the overall village cleanliness.

Action - J Harrison will contact all these people to see if they are happy to continue with the previous arrangement.

- **Lighting** – a survey was carried out by J Harrison and S Coombs. All of existing street lights are working but two 'black spots' were found. One is under the bridge on Station Lane and the other between the village hall and the end of Lumley Terrace. Abi Player, the RDC contact, has been notified and she has passed it on to the relevant parties.

7. Financial matters:

Parish clerk wages and expenses (£484.60) – approved.

8. Correspondence – approved.

9. Items for next meeting: reports, village cleanliness, lighting, children's playground, PCSO, community resilience plan, correspondence and appointment of new councillor.

10. Date for next the meeting is April 19th 6pm.

Meeting closed at 7.05pm