

**Minutes of the Newton le Willows Parish Council meeting**  
**Held via Zoom on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**Present:** Councillors L Ryder, V Wilthew, J Bell, T Clarkson, C Audritt and parish clerk T Sanderson

**Also present:** Councillor R Ormston (however connection failed for the full meeting)

1. **There were no ‘apologies for absence.**
2. L Ryder **declared an Interest’** in the precept. He is involved with St Patrick’s Church, Patrick Brompton to whom a donation is made.
3. The **minutes** of the Parish Council meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were approved and will be signed by the Chairman at the next face to face meeting.
4. **Matters arising:**
  - **Drainage** – NYCC reports the matter is resolved. Current indications are that there have been no issues so far. It will continue to be monitored throughout the winter.
  - **Kerbside** – nothing further to report at the moment.
  - **Cherry tree letter** – this was delivered as requested at the last meeting. There has been no further communication.
  - **Website-** the clerk emailed the current patrons as far as possible and is awaiting all replies.
5. **Reports**
  - **Village Hall Trustees** – the last Village Hall Trustees meeting was held on 28<sup>th</sup> October. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, matters arising were discussed as a priority. Repairs to roof in the gent’s toilets have been completed, windows will need to be painted and some general repairs completed. The treasurer is looking back through paperwork to see if any guarantees for the windows are still current before further repairs are carried out. P Olsen, after many years’ service has decided to resign and will be missed. An article in the next newsletter will express the gratitude of the Village Hall Trustees for his service and dedication. The treasurer’s report at the end of the financial year stated £36,757.29 was held in bank accounts. The electricity account was causing some concerns and usage was going to be carefully monitored to ensure correct reading were submitted regularly. There was no date set for the next meeting.
  - **Atkinson And Clark Educational Trust** – met via Zoom on the 12<sup>th</sup> November. Three quotes were obtained and a decision to replace the carpets was made. An application will be made the Lower Wensleydale Partnership Funding scheme. V Wilthew has signed up to represent the parish for a further three years
6. **Specific matters:**
  - **Playground** – the cost of various repairs to the playground had been circulated to the councillors ahead of the meeting. It was agreed to proceed with replacing the swings

using the lowest quote which was from the company that supplied the original equipment. The cleaning product, Wet and Forget, will be purchased. If possible, it will be used to clean the playground matting if the weather allows before the end of the year. The wooden bridge will be repaired appropriately once the parts have been sourced.

**Action** – the clerk will order the swings, Wet and Forget and parts required for the wooden bridge. She will liaise with T Clarkson for installation once they have arrived.

- **Covid-19** – we are now into a second lockdown. The village COVID-19 group (L Ryder, P Nunn, J Hodges and B Sampson) are linked in with the NYCC resilience team, based at Leyburn. P Nunn will act as deputy as needed. Concern had been raised about car insurance if volunteers are taking people for hospital visits. Each individual should check with their own insurance. There is also a WhatsApp group set up locally for volunteers to be involved.
- **Precept** – a draft precept had been circulated ahead of the meeting and was used as a starting point for discussion. It was agreed that we should not be overly concerned with raising the precept if there was a need. Historically, this has always been kept as low as it can. It was felt that it should be raised to allow for extra grit bins and supply of grit this year, as well as adding to training costs to allow Councillors/clerk to attend relevant training in the coming year. Figures agreed were:

Audit fee	£100
Parish Council Insurance	£260
St Patrick's Church donation	£225
CAB donation	£60
Expenses (stationary, post and telephone)	£30
Travel, training, seminars	£100
Playground insurance and maintenance	£250
YLCA membership	£135
Community First membership	£30
Hall Hire	£60
Clerk's wages	£1560
Website	£50
Maintenance (repairs and renewals)	£100
Grit bins/grit	£200
<b>Total</b>	<b>£3160</b>

This is an increase from last year (of £237) but is still similar to the levels it has been at within the last ten years.

- **Neighbourhood Watch** – P Nunn has offered to take on this role and this offer was accepted during this meeting. Neighbourhood Watch appears to have been updated to Our Watch.  
**Action** – L Ryder to liaise with P Nunn on this matter and V Wilthew will update the village 'Welcome letter' to include this information.
- **Christmas tree** – the Peaches family have offered to provide a Christmas tree for the village this year. Following a discussion, it was agreed that this offer should be accepted on the basis that the tree is located in the usual place at the crossroads and is of a size (suggested 8 – 10 ft) that doesn't block any view of the road for drivers.

**Action** – the clerk will contact the Peaches and let them know of this decision

- **Broadband** – this had been raised by a parishioner as speeds vary greatly within the parish. L Ryder had registered the parish with Openreach as part of an upgrading opportunity for all. However, concerns were raised about potential costs to all parishioners as matched funding would be required. If the project were to continue, then a member of the parish would need to act as lead on this matter. It was suggested that other parishioners experiencing issues with their Broadband had made their own alternative arrangements. One such scheme, used by the Village Hall and Aysgarth School was provided by a firm rebranded as 'air broadband' and requires a dish to be installed which ultimately improves Broadband speed.

**Action** – details of this alternative scheme would be provided to the parishioner raising the original query.

- **Environment plan** – the action plan will be updated annually and is currently being managed by the Climate Change Group. RDC have now appointed an officer who should be able to link up and liaise with local groups in the future. It is something the Village Hall can be involved with if and when they are able to build the extension when the environmental impact of that change can be addressed.

**7. Planning application** for was considered for 20/00698/OUT Outline application with all matters reserved for two detached dwellings at land adjacent to Railway View, Station Road, Newton-Le-Willows, North Yorkshire. The Parish Council wished to raise the following observations:

- Clarity about the sewerage system
- The environmental impact will be considered when this matter goes for full planning consent.

**8. Items** for the next meeting will include devolution, kerbsides

**9. Date** for next meeting will be Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2020. It is likely to be another Zoom meeting but will be confirmed nearer the time.

**Meeting was closed at 7.45pm**