

Newton-le-Willows Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held Thursday 14th June 2012

Present: Councillors: Paul Barlow (Chairman), Elaine Bean, Joyce Harrison, Peter Olsen; Bob Sampson (*Clerk*) & 2 members of the public.

- 1. Apologies:** Alan Hudson
- 2. Election of Chairman:** Paul Barlow was proposed by Joyce Harrison, seconded by Elaine Bean and elected unanimously.
- 3. Previous minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 19th April 2012 were approved and signed.
- 4. Matters arising:**
 - Hedge clippings on the road –The Clerk had written to the landowner about this and it was suggested that he should be reminded next January before the hedges are cut.
 - Dog waste – The problem had not been resolved and it was agreed that a revised article should appear in Newton News. The Clerk was asked to contact Richmondshire DC to ensure that the dog waste bin was emptied more regularly.
 - Commemorative trees – These had now been identified and plaques would be provided.
 - Notice board – This had now been erected.
 - Area Committee grants – the clerk reported that NYCC had granted £962 for 3 projects: Parish Plan, colour photocopier and kissing gates. Councillors decided to postpone the allocation of funds until Joyce Harrison had spoken to the landowner about provision of kissing gates and the cost of photocopier consumables had been ascertained.
- 5. Parish Council accounts:**
 1. The Council approved the accounts as submitted.
 2. The annual governance statement was approved.

The Parish Council asked that a statement be provided at each future meeting indicating the level of expenditure against the precept. It was agreed that the funds on deposit should be reviewed annually. The internal auditors were thanked for their work on the accounts and the Clerk was asked to give them a token gift in appreciation.
- 6. Parish Council Code of Conduct:** Councillors voted to adopt the Model Code produced by NALC.
- 7. Village of the Year prize money:** With a balance of around £4500, Councillors reviewed outstanding items. Peter Olsen was asked to progress the purchase of plaques with Village Hall Trustees and report back to the next meeting; the £200 for the village website was retained as a contingency for future needs and the Clerk was asked to contact St Patrick's Church to inquire about the purchase of a new notice board.
- 8. Parish Plan:** With some revisions, the council approved the draft questionnaire which will now be sent to the Parish Plan team for final review prior to distribution with Newton News in July with collection

about 2 weeks later. The Clerk was asked to check on the relevance of taxi vouchers and the volunteer transport service.

9. Newton-le-Willows Village Hall Trustees – Peter Olsen reported that the Jubilee celebrations had been very successful and the Chairman offered the thanks of the Parish Council to all those who had contributed to the day.

Following the resuscitation training the Trustees were minded to buy a defibrillator and may approach the Parish Council for a grant from the Village of the Year prize money.

10. Footpath under Station Road bridge: Following a letter from a parent to the Headmaster of Aysgarth School about a near-miss incident with a vehicle under the bridge, it was agreed that the Parish Council write to the school to underline the danger and point out the difficulties involved in persuading NYCC to fund improvements. The letter would also be forwarded to NYCC in support of the request for improvements.

11. The Wheatsheaf - Richmondshire District Council had confirmed that it was considering a “discharge of planning conditions application”. It was requested that the District Council clarify the content of that application and the Council be reminded that the Parish Council is concerned that work will not progress on site.

12. Lower Wensleydale Area Partnership – Elaine Bean said that she had thanked the Partnership for their financial support for the Parish Plan and that the logo had been forwarded for use in the Plan. The Partnership is setting up a website and once it is functioning, a link will be provided to the village website.

13. Standing Orders – A copy of Part 1 of the NALC document, *‘Standing Orders For Local Councils’* was still circulating among Councillors and it was agreed that this item should remain on the agenda for discussion at future meetings.

14. Financial approvals – The Council approved the following payments:

Rural Action Yorkshire, annual subscription - £35.00

Whitbourne Mugworks, Jubilee mugs - £260.00

15. Items for next meeting -

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| ▪ Parish Plan | ▪ Village Hall Trustees report |
| ▪ Standing orders | ▪ Footpath under Station Road Bridge |
| ▪ Lower. Wensleydale Area Partnership | ▪ The Wheatsheaf |
| ▪ Review of Village of the Year prize money | |

16. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 9th August 2012 at 6.00 pm in the Village Hall. Dates for future meetings are 4th October & 22nd November.

Paul Barlow

Chairman, Newton-le-Willows Parish Council