

Newton-le-Willows Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held Thursday 23rd February 2012

Present: Councillors: Paul Barlow (Chairman), Elaine Bean, Joyce Harrison, Alan Hudson, Peter Olsen; Bob Sampson (*Clerk*), Amanda Madden & 6 members of the public.

1. Apologies: None

2. Previous minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2012 were approved and signed.

3. Matters arising:

- Notice board – Peter Olsen said that the Village Hall Trustees were arranging for its installation.
- Road safety – The “SLOW” signs had now been painted on Bedale Road. The Clerk was asked to thank NYCC and also to request realignment of the mirror at the Sinks Lane junction.
- Investment of Parish Council funds – The clerk reported that Barclays had no suitable accounts and that NatWest, despite 3 requests, had failed to respond to an inquiry. The Clerk was asked to continue investigating suitable investment accounts.

4. Affordable housing – The Chairman introduced Amanda Madden, Rural Housing Enabler. She outlined the demand for affordable housing in Newton-le-Willows and the terms of eligibility. It was agreed that the demand and potential sites should be reassessed as part of the Parish Survey. Ms Madden will send details of the housing survey questions for inclusion in the questionnaire.

5. 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.

6. Lower Wensleydale Area Partnership – Elaine Bean confirmed that the Partnership had offered a grant of £200 towards the cost of printing the Parish Plan. The Clerk was asked to obtain quotations for printing 200 copies to support the claim for grant. The Partnership logo will have to be used in any published material.

7. Community Resilience Plan – The 2 emergency boxes had now been provided, one in the Village Hall and the other in the office at Aysgarth School. The emergency cards had been distributed to every household and the Emergency Team had met. It was decided to review the Plan annually at the February meeting of the Parish Council. The Chairman thanked Joyce Harrison and Elaine Bean for their work.

- 8. Parish survey / plan** – The working group had met and the Plan format had been established. Paul Barlow will draft a questionnaire for consideration by the Group. Residents will be invited to give suggestions of topics for inclusion via Newton News. Aysgarth School will print the questionnaire which will be delivered to each household and available on the village website in early summer.
- 9. Newton-le-Willows Village Hall Trustees** – Peter Olsen reported that the Trustees intend to tidy the rear storeroom which contains some Youth Club equipment. He said that Patrick Brompton were willing to fund 20 Jubilee mugs to be given to children in their village. He will arrange for an order for 100 mugs in total, paid for by the Parish Council, to be distributed, in addition to the Patrick Brompton mugs, to all children in the Newton-le-Willows up to 16 years of age, on behalf of the Village Hall Trustees.
- 10. The Wheatsheaf** - Planning consent for the demolition and redevelopment of the site had now been granted. The Clerk was asked to contact Richmondshire District Council to ask what significance this had for the Section 215 notice and, if that notice were still valid, what would be a reasonable amount of time to allow before further action was taken. The Parish Council is keen to ensure that the progress that had been made on this site is not now prejudiced.
- 11. Internal auditors** – Mr L Lacey and Mrs J Becket were approved as internal auditors of the Parish Council and Youth Club accounts respectively.
- 12. Mud and hedge clippings on highways** – Following recent problems with mud on roads, Elaine Bean offered to monitor the situation. The Clerk was asked to contact the Divisional Engineer concerning hedge clippings to ask who was responsible for cutting hedges to maintain highway visibility and also for clearing up debris from the roads after cutting.
- 13. Dog waste** – Joyce Harrison reported an increase in this problem, although Paul Barlow considered that there had been an improvement along Occupation Lane, following the installation of the dog waste bin. The Council confirmed their determination to tackle this problem and Peter Olsen offered to write an article for Newton News from a veterinary perspective.
- 14. Jubilee tree** - Councillors agreed in principle to fund the planting of a tree to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. They asked the Clerk to investigate possible sites and to identify previous commemorative trees.

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

NYCC - Filling of grit bin - £90.00

HMRC – Tax on clerk's salary - £52.40

Clerks expenses January 2012 - £141.51

N-I-W Village Hall – Room hire - £70.00

16. Items for next meeting -

- Standing orders
- Lower. Wensleydale Area Partnership
- Village Hall Trustees report
- The Wheatsheaf

17. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 19th April 2012 at 6.00 pm in the Village Hall. Possible dates for future meeting will be circulated for agreement by Councillors

Paul Barlow

Chairman, Newton-le-Willows Parish Council