

NEWTON-IN-BOWLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Thursday 21 November 2024

NEWTON- IN-BOWLAND VILLAGE HALL

7.00 pm

Draft notes

- 1. The Chair (Richard Thornber) welcomed those present; Kim Shutes, Brian Dixon, Paul Slinger, Dave Conway, Rosie Elms and parishioner Diane Parker. Apologies were received and accepted from Rupert Swarbrick, Sally Emmanuel and PC Mick Kearns-Turner.**
- 2. Declarations of interest from Dave Conway and Richard Thornber – HARP.**
- 3. The minutes from the meeting held September 2024 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting. Proposed Dave Conway; seconded Richard Thornber; all present agreed.**
- 4. Matters arising – spreadsheet updated**
- 5. Feedback from Parish Council Liaison meeting held on 12 September 2024
Dave Conway updated councillors:**
 - a. Claims can be made for lunch and Christmas clubs up to £250 (in hand with the village hall)**
 - b. The proxy voting proposals recently circulated are largely supported by RVBC council**
 - c. There is a white paper in process that will change the way that parish councils operate – awaiting more information.**
- 6. Finance**
 - a. Balances:**
 - i. 30643084 £937.18**
 - ii. 23382419 £4111.65**
 - iii. 20480398 £770**
 - iv. 33509605 £513.49**
 - b. Income: £145 RVBC concurrent grant**
 - c. Outgoings summary updated and shared with councillors**
 - i. Outstanding items:**
 - 1 Bill for village clean up before HVS**
 - 2 Bill for poppy wreaths 2024**
 - 3 Unpresented cheque from RBL for 2023 poppy wreaths**
- 7. Approve cheques**
 - a. 100621 £111 Oaktree nurseries**
 - b. 100622 £100 K Shutes (September meeting)**

- c. 100623 £17.45 Newton village hall
- d. 100624 £100 K Shutes (November meeting)
- e. 100625 £59.99 K Shutes (reimburse Microsoft charge)
- f. 100626 £59.99 K Shutes (unpresented cheque)

8. Planning – none

- 9. The Parish Council discussed their responsibility to the HARP project once the project has started. Councillors agreed that they will make details available to parishioners of who to contact in the event of a problem once contact details are available. Councillors will not be responsible for coordination of any issues. ACTION – Kim Shutes to post this fact on the village notice board and on the website.**

The United Utilities coordinator is Iain Pilling and he can be contacted on his email address iain.pilling@uuplc.co.uk

- 10. River Hodder circular walk update – no current update, Sally Emmanuel to report to parish council**

- 11. Update from Traffic and Road Safety Group – no current update, Sally Emmanuel to report to parish council**

- 12. PCSO update – no update**

- 13. RVBC councillor update. Rosie Elms updated that the new gritting plan was in place and that plans are in place to ensure that grit is available locally for distribution.**

- 14. LCC councillor update. Rupert Swarbrick was not in attendance but submitted the following update:**

- a. FP0329006 – Dilworth Barn – the PROW team have had discussions on site with the landowner and clarified their duties with respect to the public right of way. Formal notices under the Highways Act 1980 have been requested from the County Solicitors and will be served on the person(s) responsible.
- b. FP0329015 – Curlew House Farm - the PROW Team have had discussions with the landowner regarding the recorded line of the public footpath through Curlew House Farm. The legal line is obstructed by fencing, tree plantation and a silage clamp. The landowner has been made aware of the position of the recorded public right of way and also made aware of his duties with respect to this. The landowner has indicated that he will be applying for a public path order to divert the recorded public right of way. The PROW Team are treating the obstruction of the recorded line as a relatively low priority and at the present time there is no intention to serve notice or prosecute with regards the obstructions on the legal line. Circumstances may change that cause the priority of these obstructions to be raised. The alternative route is not at the standard the would be required for a formally diverted PROW but in this setting anyone using the footpath would be embarking on a walk of a fairly remote and challenging nature. The landowner will be sent a reminder regarding the public path diversion procedure.

15. Correspondence and parishioner queries

- a. The issue of parish council responsibility for trees on parish council land is still outstanding. The Clerk reported that Dave Hewitt at

RVBC advised that the parish council should be arranging regular inspections of these trees and that the insurance will not cover any damage caused by the trees if regular inspections have not taken place. Councillors raised concerns that this is not financially viable to the parish council.

ACTION - Rosie Elms to take this issue up with RVBC in order to clarify.

- b. Christmas lunch claim from funds from RVBC is being made by the village hall.**
- c. Clerk awaiting LANPAC (Lancashire Partnership against crime) leaflets that will be left at the village hall.**
- d. Kim Shutes, parishioner, asked Rosie Elms about reinstatement of private water supplies should they fail once the HARP tunnel is in place. Rosie said that she was unable to find that information from her RVBC colleagues and signposted her to Iain Pilling at United Utilities.**

16. Highways – Brian Dixon met with Rupert Swarbrick about the damaged tarmac at the junction of the B6478 and the village car park. Rupert to report back.

17. AOB

- a. Diamond landmark tree – expression of interest submitted by KS on behalf of a parishioner – awaiting response from AONB**
- b. Email from M Shutes to Rupert Swarbrick about highway and grass verge damage being done by United Utilities contractors (for information)**
- c. Police visit to Newton – only one parishioner attended the recent presentation at The Parkers Arms. Mike Fairbairn reported that local police were unaware of the impending HARP project and that as it would most likely be a highways issue that it would be handed by Lancashire police teams.**
- d. The Clerk reported that Jean from Hydes Farm had asked about a broken gate in a field belonging to a parishioner and which she was using to graze sheep. Councillors instructed the clerk to let Jean know that in the first instance she should report it to the landowner. ACTION – clerk to write to Jean**
- e. Councillors reported a broken gate at the top of the fell and accumulated rubbish -ACTION – Clerk to report to LCC**
- f. Discussion about inviting the new MP to future meetings – ACTION - councillors to arrange**

Councillor Paul Slinger made it known that he intended to resign but would remain on the committee until a replacement could be found.

Kim Shutes stated that following her previous resignation as Clerk, this would be her last parish council meeting.

Meeting closed at 20.55

18. Next meeting date not set