



# Newbold Verdon

## PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of Newbold Verdon Parish council meeting

Held at the Pavilion Alan's Way, Newbold Verdon Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7pm.

Present: Cllr. D. Finney - Chairman

Also present: Clerk

Cllr. C Petcher

3 Parishioners.

Cllr. H Davison

Cllr. J Finney

Cllr. M Bates

Cllr J Dowell

Cllr J Crooks

Cllr B Crooks

Cllr M Oliver

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| 19.517 | <p><b><u>APOLOGIES &amp; Co-Option– To receive apologies and whether to approve for reasons given:</u></b><br/>No Apologies received.<br/>Cllr Oliver was co-opted by unanimous vote.</p>   |
| 19.518 | <p><b><u>DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS – Pecuniary or Non – Pecuniary interests on agenda items, dispensation requests:</u></b><br/>Cllr M Bates declared a pecuniary interest in the NHP.<br/>Cllr J Crooks declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning.</p>  |
| 19.519 | <p><b><u>MINUTES – To approve and sign minutes from meetings of 4<sup>th</sup> November and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019.</u></b><br/>It was resolved to approve the minutes and authorise the chairman to sign them as a true and accurate record of the meetings.</p>  |
| 19.520 | <p><b><u>Parishioners Question time (max. 15 mins):</u></b><br/>A member of the public reported that they had spent some time on Dragon's lane recreation ground to see how many people used this area at night and there were a total of 10 people noted. They felt that the lighting was not needed on this site and will encourage anti-social behaviour.<br/>The pavilion had been used by a large number of youths over the Xmas period and glass and mess had been left all over. Lighting at the pavilion was discussed and the timing of lights.<br/>It was advised by council to call 101 and reports any anti-social behaviour as soon as possible.</p> |

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| 19.521 | <p><b><u>Discuss/Approve Green space minutes from November 14<sup>th</sup>.</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To approve lighting on Dragons Lane -</li> <li>2. Footpath extension to join all pathways up -</li> <li>3. Electrical connection via the Baptist church -</li> <li>4. Approve 3 new suggested pieces of play equipment -</li> <li>5. Approve fruit trees -</li> <li>6. Approve new seating area -</li> <li>7. Approve new community Orchard -</li> <li>8. Approve CCTV and planning application -</li> </ol> <p><b>Resolution:</b> Defer until Feb meeting as more information requested.</p>  |
| 19.522 | <p><b><u>Approve Agreement for the Baptist Church usage of the cobbled area.</u></b></p> <p><b>Resolution:</b> Approved.</p>   |
| 19.523 | <p><b><u>Borough and County Council reports:</u></b></p> <p>See Appendix 1 and 2 for full reports.</p>   |
| 19.524 | <p><b><u>NHP updates, Chairman's report and approval of NHP submission.</u></b></p> <p>The Chairman of the NHP plan updated on the status of the NHP. The Parish council would now be asked to approve the plan.</p> <p><b>A resolution was passed with a majority vote that Cllr Bates could stay in the meeting and discuss the NHP but not vote.</b></p> <p>Cllr Bates raised concerns over inaccuracies in his SSA and was advised by council that he would have the opportunity to comment on this under regulation 16.</p> <p><b>Resolution:</b> The neighbourhood plan was Approved for submission by majority vote.</p>  |
| 19.525 | <p><b><u>Discuss the Rural review.</u></b></p> <p>27<sup>th</sup> Jan or the 10<sup>th</sup> Feb – Clerk to e mail Martin Cartwright to arrange a meeting.</p>   |
| 19.526 | <p><b><u>Planning:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 19/00600FUL re consultation – two dwellings south of 50 Brascote Lane – Objection.</li> <li>2) 19/01357HOU Two storey rear extension, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor side extension 38 Main St, NV – No comments.</li> <li>3) 19/01363HOU Two story side extension 29 Laburnam Ave, NV – No comments.</li> <li>4) 19/01325HOU Two story side and single story rear extension 54 Laburnam Ave – No comments.</li> <li>5) 19/01111HOU Two story side/front extension with single story side extension 35 Arnold Cres NV – Too late to comment.</li> <li>6) 19/01323FUL Erection of 2 bed dwelling with parking, Church farm 16 Main Street NV – Objection – conservation site.</li> </ol> |
| 19.527 | <p><b><u>Discuss legal advice regarding the agreement terms for NVCC (Resolution to exclude the press/public from the remaining confidential items. The public bodies (Admissions to meets Act 1960 sec 1 (2)).</u></b></p> <p><b>Resolution:</b> To go in to closed session.</p> <p><b>Resolution:</b> To go with the legal advice from the solicitor.</p>  |
| 19.528 | <p><b><u>Update on HR/Staffing matters.</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk gave an update on applicants. A locum Clerk was suggested in the interim with sufficient experience to be able to continue to running of the council.</p> <p><b>Resolution:</b> To use a Locum Clerk until a suitable candidate can be found.</p>   |
| 19.529 | <p><b><u>Receive the minutes from resources committee:</u></b></p>   |

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|        | <p>a) Minutes &amp; finances from 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 2019 – Approved.<br/> b) Minutes &amp; finances from 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020 – Approved.<br/> c) Agree the 2020/21 budget request for– Approved.<br/> d) Agree the 2020/21 Precept request from HBBC - £80000.00 precept request – Approved.</p>   |
| 19.530 | <p><b><u>Correspondence received and Clerks report –</u></b><br/> Correspondence has been received from a house backing on to Dragon’s lane regarding the tree that is overgrowing the fence and has requested that this is cut back – Councillors to do site visit and report back in Feb meeting.<br/> Correspondence has been received regarding the Green space on Mallory close and reports of a resident driving over this area is causing residents concerns on safety and it is also causing damage to the grass – HBBC will have legislation by next week for the Parish council to issue fines.<br/> Correspondence has been received from the CAB regarding a donation to them. – Due to budget this was declined this year.<br/> The Baptist Church has requested a letter of support for a grant for £10,000 from HBBC for central heating to be installed – <b>Resolution:</b> To send a letter of support – unanimous.</p> |
| 19.531 | <p><b><u>Chairman’s Question time – for information and consideration for future agendas:</u></b><br/> The overgrown grass on the Dragons Lane footpath was mentioned.<br/> Handles on swing on Dragons Lane not replaced – to re order.<br/> Netting on the mugga pitch needs re tying.<br/> Zip wire adjustment needs to be tightened.<br/> Replace rubber surface that has been cut out.<br/> Path way on Alans way hedge was cut back but waste left on the footpath.<br/> Agenda Dragons Lane Hedge cutting in Feb.<br/> Drainage at the top end of Alans way needs to be investigated – Agenda item for Feb.<br/> Window at the bus shelter at the Heath needs replacing.<br/> Parish council sat surgery rota – Jan – Cllr Bools, Feb – Cllr Finney, March – Cllr Davison.</p>   |
| 19.532 | <p><b><u>Close:</u></b><br/> Meeting close at 8.52pm<br/> <b><u>Next meeting date:</u></b> Next Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2020.</p>  |

Signed:

Dated:

**APPENDIX 1**  
**December 2019/January 2020 County Council Report to Parish Council**  
**Councillor Bill Crooks**

**As we have not had any other meetings since I produced the report for December (and Newbold Verdon PC did not have a meeting in December) I have nothing else to report. I do however wish all the Parish Councillors a Happy New Year.**

### **Libraries**

The County Council is to commission a review of the challenges that will face community Libraries once the reducing funding has ended. It was thought that some libraries had done sufficient work to ensure they could survive, others would struggle! The review of Mobile Libraries revealed that approximately 600 people only used the service, and a maximum 843 previously used the service, more than half of the users lived within 3 miles of a static library. Loans of books were just over 1 million for the previous year. The County Council is in a consortium with other local authorities for purchasing supplies for libraries to keep costs down.

### **Lightbulb Service**

Councillors received a follow up report on progress with DFG's (Disabled Facilities Grant) in particular. Several issues were flagged up such as shortage of skilled tradesmen. Two of the Districts had achieved the 20 week target for adaptations by the end of 2018/19 and by the end of 2019/20 all seven authorities had reached this level. The service has received 3 national awards; this has been helped by local councils leading on different work streams. The current Government Grant is £3.919M. It was noted that HBBC was down 28% on funding and this was explained by the fact there had been less referrals.

### **Adult Social Care**

This service has a budget of £200m and County are looking to save £9m of this. To achieve this the County has invested in a development partner (Newton Europe) at a cost of £4.5m. A clause has been included in the contract which says they have to provide at least 1.1/2 times their fee else it will be reduced till it does satisfy, and this is annually. The County is providing staffing and other minor expenses to support the delivery of the programme. Some savings will be used for efficiency and productivity; other savings may be used to re-invest.

### **Residential Care**

There are 5144 care and residential beds in Leicestershire. This is 1000 fewer available than in comparable authorities (6254). The County has almost 50% fewer nursing beds! However, we were assured that currently there is sufficient capacity

within the residential sector to enable the County to find beds for county funded residents. I raised Concerns at the Scrutiny committee Meeting over the fact that 36% of the facilities had been rated as requiring improvement. The Assistant Director replied that a relative low number had been checked but if this figure continued it would be of concern.

### **Hinckley Hospital**

The X-Ray unit has been run down by the West Leicestershire Commissioning Group to such an extent that it has been condemned as dangerous to the staff operating it! The unit was reported as being used by some 9400 local patients last year. The Borough Council were so concerned that the loss of this facility that they offered to purchase new equipment and lease it or allow the commissioning group to pay for it in installments. After consideration they advised that they could not do either! At the last full council meeting Councillor Michael Mullaney presented a petition of 3200 signatures he had collected asking for the facility to be replaced, since then the commissioning group has been granted the money to fund the new equipment from University Hospitals Leicester, however this money will only be available until March so the CCG are not going out to consultation because of the timescale, all members agreed.

### **Unitary Authority**

At the recent Scrutiny Meeting which I attended, the leader of the County Council advised that despite most of the District and Borough Councils objecting to the proposal and all seven of the MP's for Leicestershire being against it he had decided to continue with his quest to scrap all seven local Councils. The leader advised that: - More powers would be delegated to the Parish Councils. There could be 165 Members of the new authority. It would reduce the number of members of staff by 43%. £30 m could be saved according to the Consultants. Basic allowance for members would rise to £16k. There would be three divisions located in three new offices and seven planning committees in each district manned by local members. Many of the savings would come from reducing the seven Chief Executive Officers of the current districts and Boroughs, but if there are three new divisions this would require three chief executive officers to run them so only four would be made redundant!

The proposals will go to the Scrutiny Committee's November meeting.

## **APPENDIX 2**

**January report to Parish Council – Borough Issues 2020**  
**Councillors Joyce Crooks, Mark Sheppard-Bools & Robin Webber-Jones**

As there were no meeting in December up to the 12<sup>th</sup> (General Election Day) the only meeting held in December was Scrutiny. The following items which are of interest to Newbold Verdon & Desford were discussed.

**PSPO (Public Space Protection Orders)**

Fixed penalty notices can be issued by authorized HBBC officers in the clean neighbourhoods and antisocial behavior team. Where required, HBBC will authorize suitable Parish Council officers to issue fixed penalty notices. It will be for each Parish Council to provide the staff resources to enforce their PSPO restrictions but HBBC will support parishes where they have the capacity to do so. This will be at the discretion of the Head of Street Scene Services. Parishes will also be sent the artwork for them to order their own signage. (i.e. Mallory Close parking issues).

**Appeals**

The Government Inspector has yet to set any date for the appeal against the determination of the planning application from Poundstretcher regarding the increase in hours. However the appeal for the development of 80 properties off Peckleton Lane in Desford was heard at a public enquiry and the inspector has allowed the appeal, meaning Desford will have another 80 new homes built in the next 18 months in addition to the 80 already agreed off Barnes Way. There is also an application pending for another 120 homes on Kirkby Road near to the Primary School and unless County Highways object the most likely recommendation from planning officers will be to permit.

**S106 Money**

Some changes have been proposed to the S106 regulations which may affect future planning applications. We will update you on these changes as soon as we have the written report. However, we think these changes will be to widen the areas for use of the money awarded.

DRAFT