

Newnham on Severn Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the Parish Council monthly meeting held on

Monday 22nd February 2010

at The Armoury Hall 7pm

Present Cllr A Heeks (Chair), Cllr Ms J Baber (Vice-Chair), Cllr S Samuel,
Cllr Mrs W Anderson, Cllr G Murray, Cllr F Bihlmeier,
Cllr Mrs D Edwards, Cllr R Mann.

Apologies Cllr C Harrison

In attendance V Roberts (Clerk), Cllr N Stephens, Cllr S McMillan

Due to the number of Agenda items for discussion it was attempted to give each matter ten minutes whilst being aware of the need for discussion.

1 **Circular to Councillors:
(in committee)**

2 **Welcome, Apologies and Emergency Procedures**

The attendance book was completed and apologies from Cllr C Harrison were noted.

3 **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were made

4 **Minutes of previous meeting:**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 25th January 2010 were discussed several small amendments were made and the minutes were signed as a true record.

5 **Matters arising from previous meeting(s):**

Clls were advised of the response received from Gloucestershire Highways with regard to the following

Bollards in Severn Street – the Parish Council have been advised that they will need to decide if they are wishing to accept the ‘status quo’ or to have short sections of ‘no waiting’ put in place.

Mr & Mrs Giffords Accident – mirrors etc and not considered suitable but Highways are to meet directly with Mr & Mrs Gifford.

The bus shelter sign that was knocked over has been replaced into the correct position.

The sunken carrigeway around the manhole outside Hill House has been placed on the programme to be repaired but is at the moment not considered to be high priority although this will be monitored.

Highways cannot locate the exposed damaged cable – Cllr Heeks agreed to meet with them on site to locate cable with them.

AH

Mr Morris has been contacted to quote for the repairs needed to the fencing along the cliff edge of the Burial Grounds.

St Peters School have written to the Parish Council requesting their support for the installation of a path to the decorative gate. It was agreed that Cllr Heeks would meet with them to discuss this.

AH

Three companies have been contacted to provide quotes for the Clock Tower repairs – these enquiries/quotes are being directed to Cllr Heeks who will meet with the companies on site to discuss.

AH

6 **Matters raised by Parishioners/Police**

PCSO Sian Roberts 1.1.10 – 31.1.10 1 assault re anti social behaviour and 2 crimes of criminal damages to vehicles although one may have been an RTA/fault, Cllr Bihlmeier asked if the criminal damage followed any form of pattern and was assured that it did not appear so.

VR

7 **Planning:**

The development of the Sheens Meadow exit/entrance appears to be progressing with the original plan for steps. Letters of support for not installing the 22 steps from the Parish Council, the School and other organisations in the village were submitted to the District Council as were the Parish Councils observations that these steps were dangerous and not supported in any way by the Parish Council. Cllr Heeks and Cllr N Stephens had previously met with K W Bell to advise that steps were dangerous and to advise that the Parish Council were not in support of this exit/entrance and to seek co-operation in using Dark Orchard instead. It would appear, however, that this suggestion has not been accepted. Cllr Samuel suggested that the police might investigate the safety aspects and it was agreed that the Clerk would email info to Sian.

Permission granted for site at Sheens Meadow – substitution of house type (pair of two bed houses for one four bed house)

8 **Financial matters:**

Income and expenditure as contained in Appendix A was agreed by all Cllrs Present.

Cllr Edwards enquired as to the costings of the Parish newsletter, Cllr Samuel advised that this would not be a monthly cost as it is hoped that this will go out electronically via email.

9 **Correspondence:**

No new matters were received for consideration

Cllr Heeks passed round the Playing Field Association newsletter for Cllrs to read.

The historical archive information regarding Newnham on Severn is being discussed with a view to it being shared with the history society.

10 **Emergency Procedure Plan:**

Cllr Bihlmeier spoke to the Parish Council regarding this issue having watched the DVD circulated and felt that the Deplo at FoDDC ought to attend a Parish Council meeting to begin this process. Cllr Baber advised that there is a meeting being held Friday 5th March 7.30pm with Mrs Amos at Broadoak with regard to the Awre and Blakeney emergency plan which has just been started – Cllr Bihlmeier is willing to attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

11 **Newnham AFC**

Cllr Samuel proposed waiving the fees this was seconded by Cllr Edwards this was supported by all Cllrs present. To be re-considered in twelve months.

VR

FB

12 **Christmas lighting**

Advice was taken on the questions proposed in the newsletter as it was felt that the first round of questions were considered not definitive enough. Cllr Samuel fed back that from the questionnaire response so far is 168 for uplighters compared to 10 against uplighters. Cllr Edwards felt that the questionnaire was presented with a certain bias and that it did not fully reflect to the community the full implications of the uplighter scheme in order for the community to make a properly informed judgement regarding the possible cost implications to the community.

Cllr Edwards also pointed out that some of the statements made in the newsletter were misleading and inaccurate and that the land owner the 'Lord of the Manor' has not yet been approached, several Cllrs present agreed with this. It was felt by Cllrs present that costings still need to be discussed and considered and that definite running costs are needed.

Cllr Samuel advised the Parish Council that the working party were confident they could raise the money to purchase and install the uplighters with the support of the parishioners until the go ahead is given for the uplighters they cannot pursue this fundraising to present to the Parish Council.

The Parish Council are concerned at the running costs of these uplighters and also the future of the current Christmas lighting.

Cllr Bihlmeier felt that perhaps it was traditionalists against more modern thoughts on lighting however Cllr Edwards is more concerned that it has not been put across to parishioners in an appropriate manner.

Cllr N Stephens advised to seek if planning permission would be needed if the Parish did consider going the route of uplighters.

It was suggested that the steering group return and ask the working party to provide the Parish Council with detailed and correct costs in relation to the following:-

Running costs of the up-lighters
Initial purchasing costs of the up-lighters.

This was proposed by Cllr Edwards and seconded by Cllr Anderson all in agreement with the exception of Cllr Samuel and Cllr Mann who abstained.

13 **Allotments**

Cllr Samuel spoke to the Parish Council with regard to the clearing of the composting awaiting confirmation of grant bids that have been lodged.

It was previously agreed that the Steering Group would look into the possibility of starting an Allotment Association – having made their enquiries among the Allotment Holders it is hoped that this will soon be up and running.

14 **Weather Plan**

Web site link in place.

VR

15 **Memorial to Mrs Barbara Allsopp**

It was agreed that the three notice boards being made are to be dedicated to Barbara. Cllr Edwards suggested that perhaps a flowering tree be placed in the village. Cllr Samuel suggested that a plaque be placed on the noticeboards.

16 **Matters raised by Councillors**

Cllr Edwards spoke regarding the budget that will be presented by the FoDDC there will be a 2.3% increase for District this does not include the increase for County or Police.

Cllr Baber

Danger signs at the Ferry – Cllr S McMillan to follow up.

SM

Pollarding of trees is due – dates to be investigated of last pollarding undertaken and it was agreed that costings to be sought for cutting back not for a severe pollarding.

VR

Cllr Murray

Brought to the Councils attention that there is now limited space available in the Burial Grounds for future grave spaces and that new ground would need to be sought soon. Cllr Heeks and Cllr Baber have already begun to look into this agenda item and will report back to the Parish Council when information is available.

The cliff edge is eroding away under the fencing along the side of the public right of way from Ruddle to Bullo. The land belongs to Mr Paul Yarworth and it was agreed that a letter should be sent to advise Mr Yarworth that this situation has arisen.

VR

The dog waste bin by the skate park is in need of replacing and it was agreed to purchase new bin.

VR

Cllr Samuel

Enquired when the pruning of the trees on the path through Churchyard towards Ruddle would take place as it was agreed to obtain a quote. Cllr Heeks had met with Mark at the Churchyard to discuss this matter and it was agreed that the Chair seek this quote again.

AH

A study of A48 has been undertaken by a young parishioner, this has been circulated for Cllrs to read.

The meeting was closed at 9.00pm