

NEWBROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 9th March 2016

Present Cllrs MW Gibson (Chair), KE Bell, A Smith, IS Hunter and HA Walton.

Also Present: Clerk, R Macfarlane and Cllr RM Gibson and two members of the public.

06-03-01 **Apologies** Cllrs J Annan and MD Newson.

06-03-02 **Declaration of Interest**

Cllr RM Gibson all planning issues, Stanegate Festival Committee A Smith, IS Hunter.

06-03-03 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of Newbrough PC which was held on 6th January 2016 were approved by the Council then signed by the Chairman.

06-03-04 **Matters Arising**

Neighbourhood Area Application

Unfortunately (due to illness) David English, NCC Communities and Infrastructure Team, was unable to attend the meeting to advise the Council on Neighbourhood Area designation. The Clerk was asked to invite him to a future meeting.

Public Access Defibrillator.

Cllr Hunter informed the Council that the application for grant aid to The Stephen Carey Fund has been successful. The Stanegate Festival Committee will contribute £750 and this will be matched by Newbrough Parish Council. A possible site on the wall of Archway House facing the Red Lion, has been identified. Clerk to enquire whether planning permission and/or listed building consent is required.

Pavingstone Work

The contract (Phase II) for work around the Whitebeam trees is expected to start soon.

Cobblestones

The Clerk contact again NCC Highways and NCC Planning regarding the loose cobbles surrounding the Red Lion Inn.

06-03-05 **Public First Focus**

A delegation of residents presented a case for a bus shelter opposite the east entrance to Sidgate. The Council RESOLVED to investigate the possibility.

In addressing other concerns the Council will review the grass cutting, maintenance and up keep of the “green areas” in the parish.

06-03-06 **Communications**

NALC News, CANNY News, Active Northumberland Residents’ Festival, Donation request from The Children’s Foundation.

➤ **Newbrough Primary School**

The Council has received a copy of the February newsletter.

06-03-06 **Communications continued**

➤ **Queen's Birthday**

On Thursday 21st April Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will celebrate her 90th birthday. To commemorate this historic royal occasion the Council has decided to present every pupil at Newbrough Primary School with a commemorative medal.

➤ **Flooding and Storm Desmond**

The Council has had communications from NCC Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management and the Rotary North England - Flood Appeal. The progress of the Northumberland County Council Flood support scheme was discussed and the Council noted that a local recovery plan is now in force. NCC will collate and report information on flooding to both DCLG and DEFRA and they are also responsible for administering the Property Level Resilience Grant.

Cllr Newson and Cllr Hunter have provided help and advice several groups in Newbrough Parish as well as to families in other parishes (one family was particularly successful in obtaining financial and other support). The Council will pass on your advice to individuals who may be suffering particular hardship.

➤ **NCC Area Committee West**

Next meeting will be held in Corbridge on 15th March (Next one is 10th May)

06-03-07 **Footpaths**

The Council discussed the terrible storm damage to parish footpaths and the Council will wait for an appraisal from the NCC Rights of Way Officer.

06-03-08 **Reports**

Northumberland County Council

Cllr Gibson has purchased two new road safety interactive-signs and the Council agreed to buy brackets to attach the sign to the existing post. He explained the rota and the procedure for moving the signs.

Sportsfield Association

Letter from Land Agents outlined the necessity for the sports pitches to be re-fenced. Cllr Walton will oversee the ongoing upkeep and maintenance of the grounds especially repairing the boundary fence. However there is still some concern about the litter and mess left near the bottle-bank skip.

06-03-09 **Roads**

Potholes and blocked gullies at Whistlecock Bank

Clerk asked to report to Neighbourhood Services blocked/damaged drain/gulley on the Stanegate. There has been a number of minor accidents caused by freezing water lying on the road west of Greyside junction and east of Woodbine and Lane Foot.

06-03-10 **Planning**

Consultation on Planning Application NCC 16/00362/LBC Reiver House NE47 5AR
The Council RESOLVED to offer no objections to the application.

06-03-11 **Finances**

Bank Accounts 4th March 2016 BMM £15524.86 Community £1421.16

Payments Approved Expenses £45.07 (vat £4.17), Stanegate Festival Fund £800, Transparency Fund Training and Maintenance £630, Website Equipment £450, TWDA Ltd Website Design £750 (Next year's finances Tower Mint £152.28)

06-03-12 **War Memorial**

Under section 2(3) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, the local planning authority has notified the Council that the War Memorial has been added to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest.

06-03-13 **Website and Transparency Code**

The Audit Commission ceased to exist on the 1 April 2015 and the Council will have to comply to new legislation set by the Transparency Code. The Council were successful in a funding bid to create a new website that has to conform to CV3 standards and be mobile friendly. TWDA Ltd has designed the website and other contractual and formal arrangements will be required to maintain and regularly update the information on the site. The Council received information from Nalc concerning the future of External Audits for parish councils.

06-03-14 **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

This will take place at 7.00 pm, Wednesday 4th May 2016

The Meeting was closed at 9.00 pm.

Signed Chairman

Date...4th May 2016

Members of the Council 2015-16

*Chairman: Mr Michael W Gibson, Vice Chairman: Mr IS Hunter
Mrs Jen Annan, Prof Malcolm Newson, Mr HA Walton, Mrs KE Bell & Mr A Smith*