



ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 4th November 2024 at 7.00pm

at Newbold Verdon Parish Council, The Pavilion, Alans Way,
Newbold Verdon, Leicester, LE9 9LB

Present:

Chairman: Cllr C Harris
 Councillors: Cllr R Bell, Cllr A Tessier, Cllr J Crooks, Cllr W Crooks, Cllr M Parker,
 Cllr M Bools, Cllr A MacGregor, Cllr R Statham.
 Clerk: A Stretton
 Public: 8 members of the Public

MINUTES

24/129	To appoint a Chairman and sign acceptance of office form
	RESOLVED: On the proposal of Cllr J Crooks, seconded by Cllr Parker, Cllr Harris was elected as Chairman and signed the acceptance of office form.
24/130	To appoint a Vice-chairman and sign acceptance of office form
	RESOLVED: On the proposal of Cllr J Crooks, seconded by Cllr B Crooks, Cllr Bell was elected as Vice-Chairman and signed the acceptance of office form.
24/131	APOLOGIES
	None received
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	
24/132	To receive and consider any declaration of disclosable pecuniary or other interests. RESOLVED: No declarations received
24/133	To receive and consider all dispensations or written requests for dispensation of DPI. RESOLVED: No dispensation requests received.
24/134	MINUTES
Resolve to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7 th October 2024 and for the Chairman to sign as a true record. RESOLVED: On the proposal of Cllr J Crooks, seconded by Cllr B Crooks, approved for signature by the Chairman.	
24/135	PUBLIC OPEN SESSION
a) To receive statements and views of the public. Representatives of a land management company presented draft plans to council and public of a potential development of land off Kirkby Lane. There were a number of questions from councillors and members of the public. Comments were invited on the type of community asset that might be required by the village. Suggestions such as funding for extra staff at the	

Drs surgery, for the development to contain retail space, community orchard were mentioned. There are no immediate plans for a planning application for this site.

A member of the public asked about the missing trees and hedge along the cemetery boundary, which have been removed by the owners of the industrial area next door.

b) To receive the Borough Councillor report.

Council noted the report. It was noted that the Borough free tree scheme is open for applicants until the 10th November.

The civic carol service will take place on the 14th December.

c) To receive the County Councillor report.

No report received. Clerk to contact Cllr Hills and ask for an update.

GENERAL MATTERS

24/136 Update on items from previous meetings/ongoing projects

24/136.1	Heritage Walk Swings RESOLVED: Council noted that the new swings have been installed. Clerk to chase up removal of the heras fencing and portaloo.
24/136.2	Green Energy Policy - Possible wildflower meadow at part of Dragon Lane Playing Fields RESOLVED: Site visit to take place before next meeting – Cllrs Harris and J Crooks with Clerk.
24/136.3	Alans Way Pavilion Solar Panel - Deferred awaiting new grant opportunities RESOLVED: It was agreed to request updated quotations for review at next meeting and to consider applying to the PCIF (HBBC) for a grant towards this project.
24/136.4	Christmas Lights Committee Updates – update on arrangements RESOLVED: the Christmas tree will be erected on the 24 th November. Cllrs Parker, Harris and Bell will organise this.
24/136.5	Cemetery Items
24/136.5.1	Headstone safety checks - to receive an update RESOLVED: Project is ongoing.
23/136.5.2	Cemetery Fence/Hedgerow and Gates – to receive an update RESOLVED: Cllr Harris to contact the business to check their intentions regarding the boundary. Clerk to obtain quotations for a boundary fence, to include gravel boards and concrete posts and this will be reviewed as part of the annual budget.
23/136.5.3	Cemetery leak – to receive an update on the works required. RESOLVED: It was agreed to turn off the supply to the cemetery tap pending further investigations into the leak.
24/136.6	Cleaning of the Toddler Playground – to receive an update RESOLVED: to be carried out by mid-December, Clerk to remind contractor.
24/136.7	Transfer of Land to Baptist Church – to receive an update RESOLVED: The clerk has received a quotation from the solicitor of £1,200 and has passed this on to the Baptist Church with an outline of council's terms.
24/137	Sports Sub-Committee – to receive an update and consider the following items
24/137.1	To receive an update on arrangements to make the All-Weather Pitch available for public open sessions with volunteer adults responsible.

	RESOLVED: it was agreed to keep the arrangement and it was also noted that the holiday arrangements had been well received and will be repeated in future.
24/138	Vehicle Activated Sign Newbold Heath - to receive an update RESOLVED: Council noted the report and that overall there has been an increase of more than 20,000 cars in a 3 month period compared to last year and the average speed has lowered. There have been requests for a VAS on Merrylees Road and the clerk will contact LCC to ask whether this would be permitted.
24/139	Planning Committee – to nominate members, appoint a Chairman and set meeting dates. RESOLVED: Council appointed Cllrs Harris, B Crooks, Tessier and MacGregor to the committee. In line with Terms of Reference, Cllr Harris will chair the Committee. Clerk to look into planning training for 3 members.
24/140	Play area inspections – to receive an inspection report for Dragon Lane. RESOLVED: Council jtoe the report and agreed that the Clerk should contact Playdale to carry out an inspection of all equipment and provide quotations for remedial works. It was agreed that the Sputnik should be removed. The lights at the park are not working. This will be a major job to rectify and will need to reviewed and budgeted for next year.

GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

24/141	To resolve to adopt the General Power of Competence due to meeting the eligibility criteria. RESOLVED: Council noted that all eligibility criteria are met by Council and Clerk and resolved to adopt the General Power of Competence.
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PLANNING

24/142	No planning items received.
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24/144 ACCOUNTS

24/143.1 <u>Accounts for Payment</u>		
To review the Payment List and RESOLVE to approve the payments listed via BACS, Direct Debit, and Standing Order – to include ratifying payments made since last meeting and payments due for November 2024.		
To consider making a charitable donation in memory of former Chairman John Dowell.		
RESOLVED: Council resolved to organise a plaque in memory of Cllr John Dowell, to be placed near the war memorial.		
Council noted the payment list and resolved to approve the payments listed:		
	Deposit for Heritage Way swings (approved under minutes item 24/117.1 7/10/2024)	£4,615.00
Playdale		
Microsoft	Microsoft 365	£5.99
HP Instant Ink	Ink Delivery (final payment)	£3.99
HSBC	Bank Charges	£8.00
Moore	External Auditor Fees	£48.00
M Parker	New Union Jack	£21.99
M Parker	Cable ties for lamp post poppies	£16.00
W Aris	Work to fit new gate post at Cemetery	£150.00

C Harris	Ring Doorbell subscription (Pavilion)	£45.00
WaterPlus	Water Supply - Cemetery (overdue payments)	£284.00
Everflow	Water Supply	£153.98
BT	Broadband and Phone (Pavilion)	£52.23
EE	Mobile phone	£25.32
EDF	Alans Way	£547.00
EDF	Dragon Lane	£55.00
Burnt Oak	Grounds Maintenance	£1,959.60
Croner HR	HR Services	£193.15
Playdale	New swings - Heritage Way	£3,503.00
Staff Salaries	And HMRC/NI Payments	£2,523.41
20/143.2 Receipts and Transfers		
To review and RESOLVE to note internal transfers and receipts for the period 1 st to 31 st October 2024.		
RESOLVED: Council noted the following receipts and an internal transfer of £10,000 into the current account to cover bill payments.		
Income - hire of pitches	£265.00	
Income - hire of Pavilion	£60.00	
VAT reclaim	£8,322.50	
	£8,647.50	
24/143.3 Bank Reconciliation		
To review the bank statements and reconciliation and note the bank reconciliation as at 31 st October 2024.		
RESOLVED: Council reviewed and noted the bank reconciliation.		
24/143.4 Budget		
To review and consider amendments to the draft budget for 2025/26.		
RESOLVED: It was agreed to hold a budget review on the 14 th November.		
24/144	ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA	
	Replacement of bench outside library. Councillor vacancy (note that formal notice of the vacancy will be provided by HBBC next week). Village planters to be discussed at budget meeting Review and update of bank mandates and possible move to a new bank.	
24/145	CLERK'S REPORT	
	To note the Clerk's report RESOLVED: Council noted the content of the report, including an update on progress with the internal audit. Which will be reviewed at the December meeting.	
24/146	STAFFING MATTERS	
24/146.1	As the following items will consider matters related to the employment of staff, a resolution to exclude the press and public may be required, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the LGA 1972, s100. RESOLVED: On the proposal of Cllr J Crooks, it was resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting.	

24/146.2	To consider matters relating to staffing. RESOLVED: The clerk gave an update on a number of outstanding items relating to staffing and the audit. Council agreed that for purposes of audit the items should be written off.
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24/147	DATE OF NEXT MEETING
	The next meeting of council will be Monday 2 nd December 2024, 7.00pm at The Pavilion, Alans Way, Newbold Verdon.

The meeting closed at 9.22pm.

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