

Newnham Parish Council & Burial Authority

Public Consultation

Silver Fox Café planning application – Concern was raised by a parishioner with regard to the planning application which is due for discussion. The development is considered not to be in line with planning policy and inappropriate for the area.

Freeman Homes development Unlawater Lane – A parishioner expressed concern that the PC was not planning to make comment until a formal application had been received. It was felt that becoming proactive at this stage would enable the development to be influenced to the benefit of the village including road access for a village hall. It was noted that council have set up a working party to consider potential S106 projects. – add to next agenda as “to consider early engagement with developer for infrastructure discussions”

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on Monday 26th February 2018 at 6.45 p.m. in the Armoury Hall, Newnham on Severn. Page 31

Present: Vice chair Cllr T Weeden, Cllrs N Hughes, J Larkham, C Kenny, L Love, G Murray & S O’Leary.

Prior to the start of the meeting Cllr Weeden advised those present that Ian Walker had resigned from the council and that a casual vacancy now existed, an election for a new chair is also required. After general discussion it was unanimously agreed that Ian was an excellent chair and would be sadly missed by councillors and villagers alike. The clerk was requested to write thanking Ian for his dedicated services to the village.

1. **To Receive Apologies for Absence**
District Cllr S Phelps. District & County Cllr R Boyles, Cllr F Bihlmeier
2. **To Receive Declarations of Interest**
None
3. **To Elect a chairperson**
After discussion it was **Resolved** to transfer the election of chair to a future meeting, it was agreed the vice chair should continue to facilitate meetings
4. **Approval of Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 29th January 2018**
The minutes of the meeting were duly approved
5. **To receive a report from the clerk on outstanding actions for items not on the current agenda.**
Electronic Banking – The clerk committed to contacting the bank to assist councillors in obtaining registration for electronic banking.
6. **To receive the Clerk’s report**
all matters on Agenda
7. **To Receive Reports from County and District Councillors.**
In the absence of either councillor, no reports were given.

Financial

8. **Financial Statement**
The monthly financial statement was received and duly approved.
Monthly payments were received and duly approved

Highways

9. **To Receive an update from Highways on issues discussed at the last highways review**
Next Highways meeting due in March. The issues raised in a parishioner e-mail have been forwarded to Highways for consideration and will be discussed at the next meeting. With respect to moss in Severn Street Cllr Hughes has cleared the pavements.

Community

10. **To Consider Planning applications received**
P0029/17/FUL Silver Fox café – one light industrial unit and replacement of café with two B1 offices.

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After considerable discussion and arguments put for and against the development, Council **Resolved to object** on the following grounds

Council does not believe that the application is in line with either the core strategy or allocations plan.

The area is considered by the applicant to be semi urban but in council's opinion this is a rural area and the development would detract from the visual aspect of the village when approached from the direction of Gloucester on the A48. Minimal information is available on the proposed use for the industrial unit (and the potential plans for further development on the site) and the effect on the neighbours in terms of noise, light pollution and visual changes caused by the building and planned fencing etc. This is inconsistent with planning landscaping requirements.

11. **To Receive an update from the clerk of an out-looked cost to refurbish benches and install one with a litter bin outside the Armoury Hall**

Awaiting a quote from K Morris

12. **To receive an update on the PWLB Loan application**

The clerk advised that the loan has now been fully approved. Following information from Cllr Boyles at the January meeting he is now seeking information on tourism grants that may be available.

13. **To receive an update on the proposed works on the green**

The clerk advised that having spoken to Ian Walker he is happy to continue liaising with contractors and English Heritage (working with the clerk) to progress the project. Council confirmed their acceptance of his offer.

14. **To Receive an update on the proposed meeting with Mark Harper MP, a councillor and a representative of the Post office regarding relocation plans.**

A further letter was sent to the office of the MP immediately after the Jan meeting there has been no response to date.

15. **To receive an update on pruning v felling and consider a quotation (and possible suspension of standing orders for two quotes) from Abbey Tree Services for £1,000 to fell the 4 trees at Whetstones.**

After further discussion, (due to some confusion over the trees and the need for removal or pruning) it was agreed that a site meeting needed to be undertaken by councillors. The clerk was also requested to obtain a second quote in line with standing order requirements.

16. **To receive an update from the clerk on the reformatted external audit activity for 2017/18**

Current info indicates no significant differences from previous audits

17. **To receive an update on a revised communications process and terms of reference**

Cllr Weeden submitted a draft terms of reference for review by councillors prior to the March meeting when approval will be considered

18. **To further consider a request from the Cricket Club that the Parish Council become a club trustee.**

After discussion it was agreed that the council becoming a custodian trustee as per the e-mail from the auditor could be of benefit to the cricket club and the village. Cllr Kenny agreed to take the proposal to the next Cricket club committee meeting.

19. **To receive an update on cleaning the war memorial (request from the RBL)**

The clerk confirmed he was awaiting a quotation from Heritage Stone.

20. **To receive an update a request from a parishioner that the PC designate the Railway Public house as an asset of community value.**

After discussion it was **Resolved** that the designation process should be followed. Cllr Love has confirmed that having spoken to the current owner he is in support of the proposal.

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21. **To Consider a further quotation to remove the flooding issues in the play park and to widen the pathway to the school gate to ease parent and child access to school.**

A second quotation from K Morris was considered by council. After discussion it was agreed that the path widening may be an unnecessary expense as the school have only asked for the flooding issue to be resolved. The clerk was requested to seek a drain only quotation from K Morris.

Other Matters

22. **To receive an update on the casual vacancy created by the resignation of Cllr Walker**

The clerk confirmed that no request for an election had been received so the vacancy could be filled via co-option. After discussion it was **Resolved** to fill the vacancy using the previously used process. The clerk committed to advertising the vacancy and process on web site, notice boards and facebook.

23. **To consider the purchase of a new filing cabinet for parish records and receive an update on the possibility of locating it in the Armoury hall**

Cllr Larkham confirmed that there was space in the Armoury Hall Office and that a filing cabinet had been made available.

24. **To consider correspondence received to date**

None

25. **Matters for the Next Agenda**

- To consider various Burial matters including graves that do not conform to current regulations
- To consider involvement with the plastics free initiative.

26. **To Confirm date & time of next meeting**

- Parish Council Monday 26th March 2018

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35 pm

Signed.....

Date.....