

Newnham Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on Monday 25th February 2019 at 7.00 p.m. in the Armoury Hall, Newnham on Severn. Page 32

Present: Chair Cllr T Weeden, Cllrs, F Bihlmeier, N. Hughes, C Kenny, L. Love, G Murray & S O'Leary,.

In attendance: The Clerk and 10 member of the public.

1. **To Receive Apologies for Absence**
County Cllr R Boyles, District Cllr S Phelps & Cllr J. Larkham
2. **To Receive Declarations of Interest**
None
3. **Approval of Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 28th January 2019**
Minutes of the meeting were duly approved
4. **To receive a report from the clerk on outstanding actions for items not on the current agenda.**
None
5. **To receive the Clerk's report**
All matters on Agenda
6. **To Receive Reports from County and District Councillors.**
In the absence of both County and District Cllrs, no reports were made
7. **To receive an update on the ordinary election in May 19**
The clerk advised that a schedule for the elections had been issued and nomination packs were available. He reminded Cllrs that nomination packs had to be delivered by hand to the district council office. Mailed nominations would not be accepted.

Financial

8. **Financial Statement**
The monthly financial statement was received and duly approved
Monthly payments were received and duly approved.
9. **To further consider a quotation for £1250 from Stone Art & £2880 from Heritage Stone to clean the war memorial and receive an update from Cllr Hughes re part funding with the Royal British Legion.**
Cllr Hughes advised that as the memorial was owned by the PC, RBL funds could not directly be spent on cleaning the memorial. He added that a fund raising event would possibly be held at some point, so that a donation could be made. After discussion it was **resolved** to hold back on cleaning the memorial at this point in time.

Highways

10. **To Receive an update from the Highways sub group**
Cllr Love advised that the slippery surface of Dean Road was causing concern, with a number of parishioners raising the issue with the clerk and direct to herself. Highways have put some signage in the area and plan to re surface as required.

Community

11. **To consider an annual increase in Allotment rent applicable from 1st April 2020**
After some debate it was agreed to defer the item until the March meeting when Cllr Larkham would be available and the clerk able to advise current running costs

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12. **To further consider the breakdown in relations between the WI & The Club.**
After considerable debate on the breakdown of the relationship and a discussion on the ways that any WI investment could be protected, discussion moved on to the legality of the use of the monies raised by the sale of the WI land for any other community project. The clerk confirmed that despite numerous e-mails to the planning officer responsible requesting firstly clarification of the legal position, followed by a request for a meeting with the legal officer, no response has been received. It was agreed that this lack of support was totally unacceptable. It was further agreed that Cllr Boyles would be requested to assist in achieving support, which if still not forthcoming would be pursued through the FoDDC complaints process and if necessary the Ombudsman. On suspension of standing orders WI representatives advised council that they had sought authoritative legal advice and the decision to withdraw from the agreement to invest in the club was perfectly legal.
13. **To receive an update from the ReNewnham group regarding fund raising efforts for the George café.**
Cllr Love confirmed that fund raising activities were going well and that a share offer was being launched this week. Discussions were taking place with Camp Hill Village Trust on the value of the property.
14. **To Consider Planning applications received**
- **P0198/19/TCA - Caerville, High Street**, removal of 11 Holly trees and 1 Elder
Resolved No objection
15. **To receive an update from the clerk on the works on the green**
- Information boards & Telephone box use for information.
 - To consider installation of an additional dog waste bin.
- The clerk advised that no progress had been made on this subject. After discussion it was agreed that the dog waste bin would not be pursued as there had been no feedback from the public regarding a need for an additional bin.
16. **To receive an update on land ownership and registration in the burial ground**
Paperwork relating to the ownership is to be signed by Cllr Murray.
17. **To receive a report from the clerk re safety responsibility for the Limes at the chains and agree next steps.**
Cllr Kenny to seek further advice on compulsory purchase, but the public right of way across the land may cause issues
18. **To receive an update from the clerk on internet banking implementation.**
Awaiting the approval of Cllr Kenny's authority's application so that a banking profile can be set up.
19. **To further consider a request from a member of the public for an electric vehicle charging point in the village**
After discussion it was agreed not to pursue this subject until concerns over the various styles of charging point, suitable locations and ongoing maintenance responsibilities were better understood.
20. **To Receive an update from the clerk on a second quotation to remove a large Pine tree from the playpark on health & safety grounds due to decay for £765**
The clerk advised that he had yet to obtain a second quote. Several approaches to tree surgeons had not resulted in a quotation, possibly because it was a small job. As the current quotation falls below the Standing Order threshold of £1000 and any savings would (if at all) be fairly small it was agreed to accept the quotation from Abbey Trees.

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21. **To receive from the clerk an update on implementation of GDPR requirements.**
The clerk advised that all procedures were now in place and posted on the website. The effectiveness of the implementation would be considered as part of the internal audit planned for 29th April.
22. **To consider future options for opening and closing the toilets at the cliff.**
After discussion it was agreed to trial leaving the toilets open 24/7 to see if there were any issues caused by doing so. The clerk advised that as the maintenance is conducted by FoDDC they may have concerns over them being left open. He committed to advising the properties department of the proposal.
23. **To consider safety concerns regarding the road surface on Dean Road.**
Dealt with under Highways
24. **To consider a quotation for repair of the damaged fencing at the cliff**
The clerk confirmed that Kenny Morris had completed the work required Free of Charge. He added that this was not the first job completed in the way. It was agreed that the clerk should write to him expressing their thanks for his support.
25. **To consider a request from Cinderford Town FC for the use of the football Pitch and changing rooms**
After discussion it was agreed that council supported the use by the football club providing that grass cutting and line marking were agreed. The clerk was instructed to propose a meeting between Cinderford Town representatives and Cllr Hughes
26. **To consider the condition of graves left by grave diggers and the issue of spoils being thrown through the railings against the riverbank and agree next steps.**
The condition of graves after re filling and the fact that spoils were being thrown over the fence were unacceptable and contrary to the rules and regulation of the burial ground. The clerk was instructed to write to all Funeral Directors advising that if unacceptable actions continued, sanctions (including exclusion) would be applied.

Other Matters

27. **To consider correspondence received to date**
Concerns expressed by parishioners over the condition of Dean Road
Addressed under Highways
28. **Matters for the Next Agenda**
Noisy drain cover outside the Paddocks on High Street – Clerk to advise Highways
Dean Road sinking – Clerk to advise Highways
29. **To Confirm date & time of next meeting**
 - Parish Council Monday 25th March 2019
 - To confirm a meeting schedule for the forthcoming financial year.
The schedule was agreed and the clerk requested to publish it on the website.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

Signed.....

Date.....