

# Newton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2008

Present: Chairman Mr Hurrell  
Councillors Mr.Gray, Mr. Finch, Mrs Murdoch  
Clerk Mr. J. Oakes  
Visitors County Cllrs Mr. T. Orgee  
District Cllrs, Mr. A. Berent  
Public 2

1. **Apologies** Mrs. J. Brander, Ms. J. Dipple and Mr. C. Nightingale

2. **Minutes of Last Meeting** held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2007 were proposed for adoption by Mr. Gray and seconded by Mr. Finch and were signed by Chairman.

3. **Matters arising.**

Mrs. Murdoch reported on meeting with Mr. Lines from Highways regarding pavements and roads. Eroded verge opposite Honey farm entrance could have pavement re-instated and bollards positioned. Any such work would only be possible post April. Mirror for crossroads would not be possible unless the crossroads proved to be an accident black spot. Traffic calming on Fowlmere Road approaching the crossroads, if considered, would require additional lighting. Yellow lines in Whittlesford Road would require £250 from Parish Council towards costs, but there is no money left in Highways budget for yellow lining.

A letter was requested from Mr. Lines, formally outlining possible opportunities. **JO**

4. **Questions from the Public.**

It was requested that the privet hedge extending over the footpath on Fowlmere Road be trimmed back. Mr. Hurrell agreed to inspect and discuss action with Mrs. Murdoch or direct Clerk to write to Anglian Water. **HH / KM**

5. **Correspondence**

Details of correspondence were supplied with the agenda and had been suitably stored for reference.

Late arrival of Planning advice note to be circulated to Councillors. **JO**

6. **Parish Notice Board.**

Mr. Cooper has made the board and it is to be installed soon.

7. **Playground**

Mr. Gray agreed to approach Carmyn Landscapes to move goalposts to other end of green so to avoid injury by heavy ball hitting small children using the play facilities.

**EG**

8. **Finance**

The following invoice were proposed by Mrs. Murdoch and seconded and approved ;

Carmyn Landscapes, re-siting of wobble board        £93.00  
J.E.Cowling expenses £19.52  
Street Lighting £446.74

Mr. Gray proposed and Mr. Finch seconded that the precept for 2008/09 be £3,000. The proposed budget was modified to reduce the increase for insurance to just an inflationary factor. To add £665 for cost of notice board replacement, the sum already agreed with supplier.

The Village Warden Trust to be increased by 10% to £231, and a letter sent to Trustees which explains it is not possible to increase by more than this amount. **JO**

**9. Planning S/0106/08E –**

129 Town Street was approved by Councillors unanimously and the appropriate document returned to SCDC.

**10 Reports from Councillors**

**County**

Mr Orgee stated that the New Chief Executive, Mr Mark Lloyd, will start at the end of March and was previously with County Durham,

As the Government have allocated 2% increase for the county in 2008/09, severe pressure will be experienced in setting budget.

Without extra funding from Government for national bus passes for Over 60's, and the increase in oil prices, some existing services will be affected. Transport Innovation consultation period ends end of February.

**District**

Mr Berent reported similar budget difficulties, but the district council has only a 1% increase.

The inspectors of SCDC are due to report at the end of March.

Climate change activities progressing.

**11 Election**

Due in May, packs to come from District Council in March..

**12 Any other business**

It was noted that heavy traffic had eroded verges in various parts of the village. The high level of parking forces heavy traffic to cause erosion.

**13 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2008 and 8pm in the Village Rooms.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.55pm

Approved..... Date .....

