

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 30th January, Newnham Clubroom, 7pm

Parish Councillors June James (Chairman), Chris Alliston, Pauline Hedges; Clerk Susan Turner

1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Apologies, John Ashworth, Paul Gaskell, Phillipa Spanner, Nick Walker; Ward Cllr Kate Tuck

TO RECORD The Parish Council's very best wishes to John for a good recovery.

2 PUBLIC SESSION No members of the public present.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING of 04 October, agreed and signed.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST in items on the Agenda – none.

5 FINANCE

.1 Payments since last meeting (October)

29	Roy Wood – Mole contract, OCT	£50.00
30	Clerk – Salary, OCT	£360.00
31	Clerk – Salary, NOV	£360.00
32	PGGM – Digger for Barracks, Newnham Road, Green	£168.00
33	Roy Wood – Mole contract, NOV	£50.00
34	CentryPlasticsLtd – Bus shelter window	£35.19
35	Clerk – Salary DEC	£360.00
36	Roy Wood – Mole contract - DEC	£50.00
37	PGGM – Materials - Kingsbridge End post & rail	£114.00
38	Clerk – Salary, JAN	£360.00
39	Roy Wood – Mole contract, JAN	£50.00

.2 Coronation event and funding

NOTED Grants likely to be available for Coronation events.

St Nicholas' VCC are organising a Coronation Lunch at Manor Farm.

AGREED To seek to support community events organised by local groups / the pubs as appropriate. The Parish Council will not directly financially contribute to the VCC Coronation Lunch as this is a fundraising as well as community event.

.3 Accounts to date As circulated **APPENDIX I**. Bank reconciliation = £17,121.53

.4 Grant funding

Grant funding of £420 allocated from Ward Cllr budget for Jubilee tree.

Grant funding of £413 received from County Cllr budget towards Green access.

TO RECORD thanks to Ward Councillors and County Councillor Elaine Still.

.5 Budget review – Latest estimate for this year and draft Budget for next as circulated.

NOTED There is £6K fund ringfenced for A30 – towards traffic calming / Village Gateways. This now reallocated to next financial year. **APPENDIX II**.

.6 Parish Lengthsman Funding 2022/23 Good news that the LM scheme will be funded 2023/24 as this year (£1K worth of man-hours) – no longer directly via HCC, but via their contractor Milestone. To note Lengthsman rate will increase from £25 to £30 per hour.

.7 Budget and Precept 2023/24

NOTED For several years the Parish Council has agreed a c10% Precept increase in order to rebuild reserves following costs incurred in opposing the change of use application for the Old House at Home. This now achieved, reserves in line with Precept at c£12K.

Precept for current year 2022/23 = £12,525 / 260.6 (tax base) = £48.06 per annum per band D household.

An increase of 3% on this year's Precept would total £12,900

Tax base figures show an increase in Newnham's tax base from 260.6 this year to 267 next, so for a 3% Precept increase, increase per household will be minimal.

£12,900 / 267 = £48.31 per band D household, increase of 25p on this year.

(Double for band H and half for band A.)

The 2023/24 budget accounts for the Lengthsman funding continuing the same; BDBC grass cutting grant continuing with usual increase of 1%; a modest County Councillor grant; grant funding for any Coronation expenditure; recognising an overall increase in labour / project costs; Clerk's salary increase 3%.

AGREED Precept request of £12,900.
Precept request form completed and signed for submission to BDBC.

6 PLANNING

.1 Parish Planning Applications – Planning update circulated. **APPENDIX III.**
Tree application for discussion

T/00534/22/TPO (Validated 06 Dec 2022) Oakhanger, Newnham Road. T2,T3,T4 Ash trees: fell.

AGREED Clerk to respond that the Parish Council regrets losing any of its trees. But noting Ash dieback seems to be an increasing problem. Concerns about these trees have been raised by neighbours regarding branches dropping, and onto power lines. The Parish Council will support the Tree Officer's decision. If it is decided they should be felled the Parish Council strongly requests suitable replacements be planted, requesting the Tree Officer please advise.

ALSO NOTED re proposed house on Scures Hill – 22/02097/FUL Nately Scures House, Scures Hill – (the construction of detached house and garage and associated access). Tree Officer is recommending refusal due to loss of Scots Pines – which make a 'positive contribution to the local landscape' – and the likely future impact on retained trees. Parish Council in support of Tree Officer's position.

.2 NPPF consultation (LURB) – Consultation is to 02 March. **APPENDIX IV.**

'Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities is seeking views on how we might develop new and revise current national planning policy to support our wider objectives.'

ACTION Clerk to draft response. Noting that BDBC Planning Policy committed to publishing their response and to share group and councillor responses.

.3 Oakdown Farm appeal dismissed

NOTED 22/00667/FUL Land At Oakdown Farm, Dummer APP/H1705/W/22/3301468
Public Inquiry held at Civic Offices 18-21 October. Appeal dismissed 15 December mostly on Landscape grounds.

.4 Lodge Farm warehousing proposal

NOTED Hart case officer response to the Pre-app enquiry concludes: 'At this stage and with the level of information submitted to justify the proposal, HDC officers do not regard the strategic development to be in compliance with the principle countryside economic policies of the HLP32. As such, the proposal could not be supported by officers if such a formal planning application were submitted in the near future.' **APPENDIX V**

.5 East of Basingstoke

NOTED Hybrid application for the whole site 900 houses to be submitted after Local Plan Update Reg 18 consultation published. The application will allow for access to adjoining sites.

7 NEWNHAM GREEN

.1 Jubilee tree

AGREED A significant memorial tree should be planted. Suggested a native Cherry or Crab Apple – noting the latter favours heavier soils.

.2 Bench for the Green. Again discussed. Suggested a bench be placed outside the pub, but noting this on private land, without public access other than for customers during the pub opening hours. To discuss with the pub. An alternative would be by the pond.

.3 Pond The most recent HIWARG working party was on 22nd November.

NOTED Concluding report that: 'Unless we get a sudden drought, that is it for *Crassula* removal until the summer.'

TO RECORD Parish Council thanks to Pete West and the HIWARG volunteers for the fantastic work they do maintaining the pond.

AGREED Parish Council to continue to contribute towards providing drinks / lunch for the volunteers.

.4 Maintenance, ditching and highway

Thursday 01 Dec Newnham Lane Ditches and grips cleared mechanically west-side Newnham Lane from crossroads to Church Path. Grips cleared top of Crown Lane, Newnham Lane and Tylney Lane in vicinity of crossroads. This to address the areas most likely to flood onto the road.

Midden area between the pond and Newnham Lane tidied and grass cuttings pushed back by digger, avoiding the more established habitat area at the back.

Thurs 19 Jan Church Path Hand drainage work raking leaves from the south side ditch.

NOTED Seems there is a spring in the vicinity of the churchyard which then runs in the direction of the crossroads. New House has installed a pipe along the length of their property which then feeds into the Church Lane ditch. This ditch can't be mechanically dug to sufficient depth because of tree roots.

Thurs 19 Jan Tilney Lane Site meeting with Parish Lengthsman and investigation to address flooding in the Lane beyond Woodside. Short term remedial work done as far as possible, clearing pipes and grips.

NOTED Woodside keep their ditches in good order and in the past have cleared the culvert under the lane beyond their ditch. New driveways with hardstanding result in more water flowing into the lane. The problem is that beyond Woodside is a low point, the water apparently has nowhere to go. Tylney investments are landowners both sides of the lane down to Rotherwick and do not clear their ditches; historical soakaways have been lost. Works / a project needed to find means to take the water away from the Lane.

.5 Access points – Grant received from County Cllr Still's devolved budget (£413) towards ditch crossing points; also seeking to use remaining S106 funding from Newnham Hill.

8 BARRACKS / NEWNHAM ROAD

.1 Lengthsman – highways maintenance and drainage

NOTED Thursday 01 December – Junction of Old School Road with Barracks track

- Mechanically removed a lot of material from the ditch up to the Fosters Business Park access road. Some work done on the ditch beyond the Fosters access but the culvert beneath it remains blocked.
- Cleared soil / detritus from roadside and gullies on Barracks track corner to Old School Road by Kingsbridge End.
- Unable to access the Old School Road culvert due to old chain link fence.

Thursday 01 December – Cleared the large holding ditch the railway side of Newnham Road before Kingsbridge.

Thursday 19 January – Removed and disposed of the chain link fence blocking access to the culvert by Kingsbridge End. Erected length of post and rail as a barrier.

Lengthsman booked 10 February to clean reflectors on Newnham traffic calming posts.

9 WATER END AND NATELY SCURES

.1 Drainage and HCC Highways Pauline Hedges reported on the flooding of / from the Highway at Water End during the wet weather mid January and on proposed Highways works – including maintenance and a future drainage improvement scheme.

AGREED Parish Lengthsman to contribute to drainage maintenance work where appropriate and where improvement can be made.

ACTION Site visit to be arranged at Water End asap.

.2 Energy assistance grant This £400 energy grant intended for all is only paid automatically to customers who pay directly to their energy providers via direct debit. Mobile home residents who pay their electricity bill via the site owner are required to make an online claim to receive the grant. The process has been trialled in various locations (mostly around the Midlands) and not going live until 23 February.

ACTIONS ONGOING Pauline Hedges has kept Park residents informed via Newsletter and arranged with the Iron Bull to host free laptop and coffee sessions to enable those without online access to claim.

- .3 **Fallen tree across the Lyde** is still in situ but not obstructing the river channel.
- .4 **Lengthsman** booked for bus shelter tidy / sweep out / check 10 February for all bus shelters on the A30.

10 FOOTPATHS / RIGHTS OF WAY

- .1 **Church Path** Email received 5th January from Kingsbridge Copse resident...
 'I regularly walk my dog across the little footpath bridge to the fields that have just been sold... Someone is using the left hand side of the stream to dump used black poo bags. Some have been thrown into the actual stream. They have also been throwing them at the gate and under the barn on the right as you enter out onto the Green... I have reported this to Hampshire Countryside Services and the water plant company that have the small site by the stream... I'm not sure either of these will help...'

ACTIONS SO FAR Chris Alliston as Footpaths Warden confirmed with Countryside Services that they will not installed bins as land not in their ownership.

Paul Gaskell has put up laminated notices and collected and removed 80+ dog poo bags. Request to Hook Parish Council they take measures they can to publicised / deter. Notice to be included in the March *Villager*.

NOTED That all the same type of bag and all with the same knot.
 'There are also a lot in the hedge as you walk onto the path at the Newnham end also lots in the double ditch-hedge from the Strings bridge crossing to Hook. There's probably a few years of poo bags there, they've just become evident now the hedges cut. Many bags under the hedges need a litter pick stick to reach.

- .2 **Footpaths Warden report Church Path** – Requested Countryside Service build up a third very wet area with scalplings – similar to previous two sites (Newnham-side the Strings boardwalk and by the junction of the Wild Green Acres field and the Tithe Barn hedge.) Noted that flooding on footpaths is a landowner responsibility.

11 FURTHER REPORTS / UPDATES

- .1 **Clubroom report**
 - Bookings for classes continue to do well, new Karate club joined; regulars – keep fit and dancing continue.
 - To investigate changing the present high energy use light bulbs with something more energy efficient.

- .2 **Tradesman register** Noted Water End residents constantly looking for reliable tradespeople. Word of mouth recommendations would be gratefully received.

- .3 **Old House at Home** continues to be busy and do well, but burdened with present very high energy tariff.

- .4 **Of note from BDBC** December Full Council meeting **APPENDIX VI**

- i. Motion on rivers...
 - To protect our Rivers Itchen, Loddon, and Test – and their tributaries – this Council requests the Environment & Climate Action Portfolio Holder write to: The Borough's MPs, Southern Water and Thames Water, DEFRA, the EA, the NFU – The charities, River Action and The Rivers Trust, in support of restoring the health of Britain's rivers;
 - Specifically re the Loddon – to DEFRA and EA requesting reversal of the triennial reporting and implementation of a more robust annual assessment under Water Framework Directive.'

- ii. On BDBC starting to build Council Houses
 to request that Cabinet undertake the research required to enable us to urgently bring forward proposals on how the Council can become a housebuilder..'

- 12 NEXT MEETING** Monday 06 March, 7pm in the Clubroom [subsequently postponed].

Meeting closed with thanks to all

For signature (p4 of 4) Date

APPENDIX III**PLANNING UPDATE – 30 JAN 2023****New applications**

- [T/00027/23/TCA](#) (Validated 18 Jan) New House, Church Path. T1 - Bay tree in the front garden - crown reduce by 1m to leave an approx. finished height of 4m with a crown spread (radius) of 4m to leave compact shape and to clear services. T3 - Silver Birch - reduce back to previous points. T4 - Beech - remove three lowest branches / intrusive branches. T5 - Yew - Fell to ground level, poor specimen due to being suffocated by the Leylandii. T6 - Judas - deadwood and remove two branches.
- [22/03225/HSE](#) and [22/03226/LBC](#) (Validated 03 Jan) Newnham House, Ridge Lane. Erection of new garden store / garage / annex with proposed alteration works to existing flat within The Coach House.
- [T/00534/22/TPO](#) (Validated: Tue 06 Dec 2022) Oakhanger, Newnham Road. T2,T3,T4 Ash trees: fell.

Pending or recently decided.

- [22/03041/LBC](#) (**Granted** 18 Jan) Elm Cottage, Ridge Lane, Newnham. Installation of gas main pipe and new boiler .
- [22/02783/HSE](#) (**Granted** 29 Nov) The Cottage Blackstocks Lane Nately Scures Hampshire RG27 9PH Erection of single storey rear extension.
- [22/02771/ROC](#) (**Granted** 05 Dec) Land On West Side Of Nately Towers, Scures Hill. Variation of condition 1 of 22/01190/FUL to make changes to the approved design.
- [22/02660/HSE](#) (**Granted** 21 Nov) 10 Kingsbridge Copse. Erection of a single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory.
- [22/02643/FUL](#) (**Granted** 18 Nov) Land At Blackstocks Lane. Erection of 1 no. dwelling with associated landscape and parking. (Replacement application for the north of the two houses.)
- [22/02595/TENO](#) (**Granted** 10 Nov) Telecommunications Apparatus, London Road RG27 9PE. Proposed installation of steelwork to extend the height of existing 25m lattice tower by 5m and relocating the existing equipment to the new top of tower.
- [22/02568/HSE](#) and [22/02569/LBC](#) (**Pending** 20 Sept) Newnham Green Farm. Demolition of existing single storey rear extension and outbuilding and erection of single storey rear extension. **Revised drawings 28th Dec, Onnalee called to DC in event of refusal recommendation.**
- [22/02539/FUL](#) (**Withdrawn** 23rd Nov) Land At Blackstocks, Lane Nately Scures. Erection of 1no. dwelling with associated garage, landscaping and new access. Amendment to scheme granted under 22/01675/FUL (South of the two houses, additional access.)
- [22/02097/FUL](#) (**Pending** 09 Sep 2022) Nately Scures House, Scures Hill. The construction of detached house and garage and associated access. – BDBC website lists as ‘awaiting decision’ – recent documents and consultee comments re biodiversity net gain and trees. **Tree officer requesting refusal due to – ‘The proposed development will require the removal of existing trees which make a positive contribution to the local landscape.’ applicant disputes this.**
- [22/02498/HSE](#) (**Granted** 06 Dec) Tollgate House, Water End. Part demolition of the existing house/garage, replacement with a 3 storey side extension with a detached replacement garage with first floor accommodation over, new entrance gates, altered access, new windows through along with internal alterations (amended plan to that approved under 21/02185/HSE)
- [22/02256/RET](#) (**Granted** 11 Oct) 2 Kingsbridge Copse, Newnham. Change of use of land from agricultural to residential garden .
- [22/02189/HSE](#) (**Granted** 04 Oct) Heathmorr Newnham Road. Proposed two storey rear extension.
- [22/00132/FUL](#) (**Granted** 09 Dec (**DC 07 Dec**)) Land off Ridge Lane. Siting of farm workers’ dwelling for temporary period. Creation of earth bunds (2.5 metre max wide by 1.5 metre max height). Permeable surfaced farm access tracks. (Part retrospective.)
- [16/03282/RET](#) (**Pending** 15 Sep 2016) Manor Farm, Blackstocks Lane. ‘Change of use from solely agricultural to mixed agricultural use to include the diversification of farm open days for no more than 100 days in a year with ancillary tea room and associated car parking.’ Consultation on new description only. To be decided by Development Control Committee, date tba. (*Most recent comment submitted June 2019.*)

Hook – APPEAL DISMISSED (01 NOV 22) APP/N1730/W/22/3298102 – Appeal validated 11th June 2022) Fairfields, Newnham Road, Hook. Erection of a detached four bedroom dwelling following demolition of existing outbuildings | (21/02750/FUL refused Hart 7th Jan 2022

Odiham – 22/01355/PREAPP (CASE OFFICER RESPONSE - BASED ON CURRENT INFO WOULD NOT SUPPORT Land At Lodge Farm. Outline application for Use Class B2/B8 warehousing, electric vehicle charging facility, new access from A287, associated works and landscaping.

APPENDIX IV**NPPF CONSULTATION (LURB) – CONSULTATION IS TO 2ND MARCH.**

'Scope of this consultation: The Department for Levelling Up, Housing, and Communities is seeking views on how we might develop new and revise current national planning policy to support our wider objectives.'

BDBC Planning officers have proposed publishing their response to the Consultation on the BDBC website, (Planning Policy – Local Plan Update section), and also share group and councillor responses. Awaiting the published response

The outcome of this consultation will shape the future of BDBC's Local Plan Update.

NOTES

The Consultation Proposals continue to support the Government manifesto target of £300K new homes per annum, insist on continuing with the Standard Methodology for calculating housing numbers (and using 2011 Census data up to 2024) and seek to boost the importance and relative status of housing delivery within the Planning Framework.

Chapter 2 of the Consultation Proposals discusses Policy Objectives in the LURB Bill – for good design and place making, securing infrastructure, more engagement with communities, better environmental outcomes, empowering communities to shape their neighbourhood... 'ALL THIS IS NEEDED TO DELIVER MORE HOMES...'

CH4.2. 'We propose making small additions to paragraphs 1 and 7 of the existing Framework (Introduction and Chapter 2 on Achieving Sustainable Development). These changes are intended to signal that providing for necessary development that is integrated with local infrastructure is a core purpose of the planning system', '...THE FRAMEWORK SHOULD BE REVISED TO BE CLEARER ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF PLANNING FOR THE HOMES AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT OUR COMMUNITIES NEED.'

A proposed difference according to Michael Gove is that the standard method should be seen only as an 'advisory starting-point' for assessing housing need. Plus a stated intention to be clear on what exceptional circumstances will be considered – but focusing only on three criteria – housing densities out of keeping with local character; Green Belt, and over-delivery from the previous Plan period.

The Proposal also include considerable and potentially positive changes to the Five-year Land supply requirements for deliverable housing.

CH3.4. 'We propose to remove the requirement for local authorities with an up-to-date Plan (which in this case means where the housing requirement as set out in strategic policies is less than five years old), to demonstrate continually a deliverable five-year housing land supply. [Also] 3.5...we propose removing five-year housing land supply buffers from National Planning Policy in the future, [and] 3.7 We propose bringing our position on oversupply in line with that on undersupply, when calculating a five-year housing land supply.'

BDBC unable to take advantage of the lower 'transitional' land supply requirement until at least Reg 18 consultation scheduled for this autumn / winter.

'For the purposes of decision-making, where emerging Local Plans have been submitted for examination or where they have been subject to a Regulation 18 or 19 consultation... those authorities will benefit from a reduced requirement... a four-year supply of land for housing, instead of the usual five.'

Further chapters cover Environment, Climate change, Onshore wind and Energy efficiency.

APPENDIX V

LODGE FARM ODIHAM - OFFICER RESPONSE TO PRE-APPLICATION ENQUIRY

22/01355/PREAPP (CASE OFFICER RESPONSE - BASED ON CURRENT INFO WOULD NOT SUPPORT Land At Lodge Farm. Outline application for Use Class B2/B8 warehousing, electric vehicle charging facility, new access from A287, associated works and landscaping.

'A very large-scale proposal on a green field site in countryside where there are some constraints to consider such as ecology and flood risk.

'The strategic facility proposed would appear to meet a need across a wider catchment area beyond Hart, perhaps sub-regional. The background information and justification... does not provide any information to justify at local level for such scale of strategic development.

'There is no [Local Plan/Neighbourhood Plan] allocation for any development in this area and any departure from the Local Plan requires demonstrable benefits as material planning considerations for any development to be considered acceptable.

'Officers noted a large distribution proposal in Basingstoke & Deane currently at Public Inquiry (Oakdown Farm). If approved, this provision would need to be taken into account...

'HDC officers acknowledge the geographical location of the site in terms of accessibility to the M3 is clearly desirable from a commercial and logistical perspective.

'The proposal would be an EIA development and we would need to consider the cumulative effects of this major development together with other permissions.

'At this stage and with the level of information submitted to justify the proposal, HDC officers do not regard the strategic development to be in compliance with the principle countryside economic policies of the HLP32. **As such, the proposal could not be supported by officers if such a formal planning application were submitted in the near future.'**

APPENDIX VI WARD CLLR REPORT – FULL COUNCIL 15 DEC – MOTIONS TO CABINET 10 JAN**II .I Protection of the Borough's Rivers and Waterways (item 5)**

This Council notes that:

Every river in England is now polluted beyond legal limits and in 2019 the Environment Agency rated just 14% of rivers as 'Good'. The Government's own statistics show that continuous discharge of treated sewage is the largest source of water pollution from water companies and that these water companies have damaged 36% of English rivers, releasing untreated human waste into our waterways over 400,000 times to a total of three million hours in 2020 alone. In that same year just 3.6% of pollution complaints made to the Environment Agency resulted in penalties.

Government funding to the Environment Agency to monitor river quality and regulate farms and water companies, has dropped 75% since 2010/11. Consequently farms are now rarely inspected, water quality is rarely tested, and water companies can pump raw sewage into rivers with virtual impunity.

Therefore, to protect our Rivers Itchen, Loddon, and Test – and their tributaries – this Council resolves to request the Environment and Climate Action Portfolio Holder write to:

- The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs calling for the Government to urgently address these issues through the Environment Act 2021.
- All three of the Borough's Members of Parliament, asking for their support in this matter.
- The Chief Executives of Southern Water and Thames Water, calling for urgent action to address the impact of waste-water discharges on our local rivers.
- The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Environment Agency and the Regional Director of the National Farmers' Union requesting clarification on the action being taken locally by farmers to prevent nutrient run-off.
- The charities River Action and The Rivers Trust expressing this Council's support for their campaign to restore the health of Britain's rivers.

And recognising the special status that the River Loddon presents, a rare type of habitat with only 210 chalk streams found worldwide, that this Council resolves to request the Environment and Climate Action Portfolio Holder write to

The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Environment Agency requesting reversal of the triennial reporting system and implementation of a more robust annual assessment under the Water Framework Directive.

Additionally, that officers report any instances or complaints of pollution in Basingstoke & Deane's waterways and rivers to the Portfolio Holder for the Environment and Climate Action and that CEP be asked to review such reports, including requesting the appropriate agencies account for their actions.

II .II Building Affordable Homes (item 6)

This Council believes that our Borough faces a housing crisis and we need to deliver more, genuinely affordable homes to meet local needs.

We also share a frustration about the limited influence that the planning system gives us in relation to private developers and housebuilders. This has far-reaching implications and leads to problems such as lack of housing affordability, long waits for local people on our housing register, insufficient infrastructure delivery, low quality design and build, poor environmental standards and an inadequate housing land supply position, to name just a few of the serious issues facing our Borough.

This Council recognises that building our own affordable homes – in effect, council housing – offers a potential solution to these problems especially giving us more control of what is being provided and where. Moreover, these homes should be offered to local people in the first instance so that our residents benefit most from the Council's investment.

This Council resolves to request that Cabinet undertake the research required to enable us to urgently bring forward proposals on how the Council can become a housebuilder. This can be either by becoming a Housing Authority or adopting one of many delivery solutions already deployed by many other local authorities across England. Any report on the findings to be brought to the EPH committee for their initial consideration within six months.