

Wednesday 5th April 2017 at Old Newton Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs K Goudy (Chair), K Baker, M Clements, R Stearn, M Shave, M Reeve
K Price (Clerk), J Miller (Vice-Chair), R Lawson, County Cllr Stringer District Cllr Wilshaw and 6 members of the public.

1. **Chairman's welcome and to receive any apologies for absence.** Chairman welcomed everyone to the April meeting and read out the policy:- "The Parish Council welcome public opinion but it should be noted that verbal and or physical abuse will not be tolerated. The Chairman of the meeting has the right to have anyone repeatedly causing a disturbance removed from the proceedings". The Clerk has not received any apologies for tonight's meeting.
2. **To receive any declarations of personal/prejudicial interest.** Cllr Baker declared an interest in two planning applications: **1070/17** - Gate Farmhouse and **0292/17** – Colt Meadow Farm due to family interests.
3. **To approve the minutes of the March meeting held on 1st March 2017.** The minutes were proposed and seconded and all agreed to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record. The chairman signed the minutes accordingly.
4. **Clerks Report**
 - Crier submission was submitted.
 - RTI submission was submitted for the month of March.
 - All cheques for payment have been issued.
 - All information , Standing Orders, minutes and agenda have been uploaded onto the village website. Clerk has also uploaded information regarding the flower show in June and set up a new page for Bacton Under Five's.
 - CGM Contract for the additional cut to the front of the village hall has been signed and returned.
 - Planning responses were issued to MSDC by the deadline for comments.
 - Avast has been successfully renewed on the PC laptop.
 - The Clerk looked into claiming some funding back for the transparency code. Unfortunately the laptop was not purchased in this accounting year and therefore could not be claimed for and any forms needed to be signed off at a public meeting before the deadline. The only costs that the Clerk could look to recover would have been the £50 for hosting of the village website through CAS. The clerk apologises but we have missed the deadline which was apparently the 09.03.17.
 - Clerk has issued links to the MSDC declaration of interest sites to both our new Cllrs – Cllr Baker and Cllr Lawson. They are a legal requirement and do need to be completed.
 - The footpath sign that is down by Harry's Barn has been reported to Francesca.
 - Clerk has found some detail regarding the baby's grave in the cemetery and passed these to the Chairman.
 - Clerk has received a hard and an electronic copy of our footpath maps which have been circulated to all Cllrs on email. Francesca has not received any correspondence from ONCE regarding the proposed works to the footpath discussed at the March meeting.

Police Report - There were 5 reports of criminal activity for the month of January 2017. February and March data is not available yet on the crime map.

1 x Violence / sexual offence on Sandford Road
1 x Criminal Damage / Arson on Stowmarket Road
1 x Vehicle Crime – Sandford Road
1 x Vehicle Crime – Falconer Avenue

5. Financial matters & Financial report

Bank Account Balances:

- Cheque account balance = **£17,033.47** (30/03/17)
- Scottish Widows 60 Day account balance = **£3,376.75** (01.01.17)
- Scottish Widows Deposit account = **£253.29** (01.01.17)

Accounts for payment – March 2017:

- KAREN PRICE
Salary March = £633.91, Holiday Pay month at 12.07% = £76.51
Less
Tax & NI £3.65, Pension £5.68 = **£701.09** + expenses **£166.26** = **£867.35**
- HMRC – PAYE NI & Tax – Employee £3.65, Employer £4.20 = **£7.85**
- NEST Pension Contribution DDR – employee £5.68, employer £7.10 = **£12.78**
- Adam Alexander – Cemetery Maintenance - **£300.00**
- Scarff Farms – Allotment land rent - **£420.00**

Monies Received – March 2017:

- **£100.00** – Cemetery fees for Edward Ernest Plant (payslip 100088)
- **£100.00** – Cemetery fees for George Philip Edwards (Payslip 100088)
- **£2,675.00** – SCC contribution towards SID unit – (Banked 31.03.17 and not shown on the March bank statement as this only goes to 30.03.17 - Payslip 100089)
- **£40.00** – Cemetery fees for Valerie Fay Edwards (payslip 100089 – Banked 31.03.17)
- The clerk has also received the rental payment of £420.00 for the allotments but is not banking this until April as it needs to be shown in next year's financial accounts.

Proposed and seconded to pay the accounts. All Cllr's present agreed.

6. Correspondence Received & Circulars:

- Network Rail – Suffolk Level Crossing Reduction Order – Response by 05.05.17 There is a lot of information provided to the clerk. Agreed to have an extra meeting on 24th April 2017 at 6pm at the village hall.
- Notification of temp traffic order – Road Closed. Re-routed round non eligible roads for heavy HGV vehicles past the school and around corners that are totally inappropriate for the size of vehicles being diverted. The diversion should not have included unclassified roads. Clerk to respond accordingly.
- MSDC – Response / update for Rosebank Cottage enquiry
- MSDC – Mendlesham Neighbourhood Plan adoption
- MSDC – Open Spaces Survey – Response by 21.04.17 – Cllr Goudy to complete.
- MSDC – Call for Site's Outcome
- SALC – JO Cox Anniversary / The Great Get Together
- SCC – Traffic Order – C406 Station Road Haughley Level Crossing 23/04/17 – 8pm – 6am
- SCC – Proposed TRO 7.5t weight restriction Station Road and Windgap Lane – Haughley. Comments received are that this should be a positive for our village as it would stop traffic following through Chapel Road up to Gipping / Mendlesham and Stowupland. Proposed that we ask if we can further that weight restriction up Chapel Road, Cllr Stringer stated that that has already been looked at and is not appropriate. This should be a welcome for Old Newton in principle. Clerk to respond and highlight our concerns.

7. Various circulars received for information purposes. File circulated during the meeting.

8. To receive District Councillor's Report – Miss Jill Wilshaw.

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have secured over £430,000 in grants to help local communities deliver housing in their area.

This funding will help communities build the capacity to identify housing need and housing potential in their area and bring community led developments forward. As the first instalment of a five year funding programme from the DCLG, this capacity will allow community led developments to be identified and developed with additional funding over the next four years.

The funding, which totals £189,741 for Babergh and £225,476 for Mid Suffolk, was secured from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). The higher sum was secured for Mid Suffolk due to analysis by the DCLG on the number of second homes in each district. In addition, a further £15,000 has been secured for each district (totalling £30,000) from the DCLG's Custom Build Programme. Both funding streams are part of the government's national £3bn home building fund announced in the Autumn Statement last year.

Council officers are currently looking at a number of ways to best use the funding to empower communities to build this capacity. The councils will work closely with community-led housing groups and other stakeholders – such as the

Community Land Trusts network and the Home and Communities Agency – to put the right tools in place to ensure efficient delivery of new houses over the coming years.

The purchase of Paddock House in Eye and the former Middle School in Stowmarket has now been completed. Having already purchased the former Middle School in Needham Market, these purchases show the Council's commitment to investing in our market towns and providing new homes to meet the needs of local people. The three sites cost just over £3m and will provide 98 houses.

At their meeting on the 6th March the Executive Committee unanimously agreed to adopt a Joint Affordable Homes Development Strategy which will encompass the development of these three sites.

New Shared Ownership Homes. A number of brand new homes are now available for people to buy on a shared ownership basis in Great Blakenham.

While preference will initially be given to those who have a local connection to Great Blakenham, anyone who is interested in these shared ownership properties should also apply as the opportunity to buy for those without a local connection opens up after 90 days.

In total, 11 homes are available and these include 5 two bedroom bungalows and 6 two bedroom houses. The scheme offers people the chance to buy a share of the property and then pay rent on the remaining share. Initially a share can be anything from 25% to 75% of the value of the property, but there will also be an opportunity to buy a bigger share later on, with the potential to acquire full ownership eventually.

These properties form part of a development on an area of wasteland between Chequers Rise and Kingfisher Drive, Great Blakenham. Mid Suffolk District Council owned the land and in 2015 were granted permission to build 23 new homes on the site. The scheme, which is being delivered by the Council and Havebury Housing Partnership, was paid for by the Homes and Community Agency funding with additional funds provided from Mid Suffolk's Housing Revenue Account.

All the homes are finished to a very high standard and can be viewed online.

The Communities team in the past year have awarded 21 projects from the Big Lottery Awards with a total value of £172,785. This includes the new Westhorpe Village Hall where the official opening was held on Saturday 25th March. If any clubs etc. have any major projects that need some help with funding then it is worth discussing with the Communities team to see if they can find some money to help bring it forward.

Any Cllr Questions for Cllr Wilshaw: The figures in respect of housing isn't very much but better than nothing. Observation using the one number has been excellent and impressive.

9. To receive County Councillor's Report – Mr Andrew Stringer

Highways - The order for an 7.5 tonne HGV weight restriction along Station Road Haughley has now been tabled for consultation. The conclusion to pursue this line has been drawn up after much discussion and thought as to how to reduce HGV numbers on rural single track tributaries, as well as try to stem the amount of HGV incidents in this area, at the end of last year we even had an example of a lorry striking a listed building causing £1000's of pounds worth of damage. Old Newton also suffers from roads such as Chapel road and Sandford road being used as "rat runs", only last week I followed an HGV delivering animal food coming off at Junction 49 (tothill) then going into Haughley turning up Station road crossing the B1113 at the Shoulder of Mutton, then travelling up Chapel road turning right then left into Gipping, then it turned left into Mendlesham Green where the lorry turned into a Chicken unit, I checked the routing, and this journey saved .4 of a mile over the official route, but this cost the driver more time and emissions as well as the danger and inconvenience to local residents on our narrow roads.

We did look into restrictions in Chapel road and Sandford road etc, but the restriction would have to have gone to all feeder routes and this would have ended up unenforceable. Cutting the marginally shortest route will result in the official route being the fastest and less inconvenient for HGV drivers, if this restriction is upheld existing businesses can still use the route for access. Cllr Stringer urges Cllrs to submit their concerns and ideas regarding the proposed weight restriction.

School Area Meeting - Apologies for not attending last month's meeting at the primary school, I have an on-going issue with "outlook" which is promised to be resolved shortly. I had briefed the officer before the meeting and had a catch up briefing with him afterwards; I believe he was able to give you some clear advice to inform future decision making.

Speed Indicator Devices (SID) - The speed indicator devices have recently been deployed in Old Newton, as well as Cotton/Bacton Haughley, adding to the existing unit in Thorndon and Wetheringsett. These units are becoming very useful not only for speed deterrence but for capturing data regarding numbers of vehicles as well as times and amount of speeding vehicles. The data has helped us prove how many vehicles for instance travel along the B1113 near Finbows yard (3900 per day) and identify some of the most extreme speeders, the fastest speed recorded to date was 97mph at Finbows yard B1113, once all of these are up and running I will endeavour to get a meeting of all of the volunteer operators so we can compare experiences and best practice in operating the data capture and software package.

The long awaited speed restriction meeting has now been given a date and Cllr Stringer will attend on our behalf.

Broadband - Cllr Stringer has been informed that the Stowmarket P33 FTTP PON was made Customer Ready-for-Service (CRFS) on Monday 3rd April 2017. Please note, however, that it can take up to two weeks for retail service providers (RSPs) to recognise new structures that have been made CRFS, before the Retail Service Providers are able to accept orders.

Potholes, is flower power the answer? – Cllr Stringer got fed up with the time taken for some potholes to be filled, he was constantly reporting and nothing seemed to happen, so he planted some potholes up with flowers, and shared the pictures. This seemed to get some of them repaired almost overnight! While out planting to celebrate the bank at last being repaired near Whitehall corner, he planted some daffodils along the repaired bank.



Questions for Cllr Stringer – Cllr Stringer was asked if highways were any further with water in the ditch as this has not cured the problem but Cllr Stringer has asked for them to come back with a more detailed update.

10. Broadband Update – Mr Arnold.

To avoid frustrations with the ordering process, it is recommended that people wait until after Easter before trying to place orders. Once an order is accepted, it usually takes about two weeks to get an appointment for an engineer to install customer premises equipment (CPE) and make the final fibre connection to the property. When ordering, customers should review the services and prices available from different retail service providers (ie shop around to get the best deal).

As well as a choice of retail service providers, customers will have a choice of speed, service bundle and price to suit their requirements. Those customer that wish to make telephone calls over the fibre connection, should order that facility at the same time as they order their broadband upgrade. Living rurally can present many challenges; Old Newton should shortly have one less obstacle to allow our businesses and home lives to thrive. If anyone would like to me to call and explain further please get in touch & I am happy to call on you at any time to suit you.

Clerk asked to include in the crier.

11. Planning Applications Received

- **1070/17** - Gate Farmhouse, Stowupland Road, Gipping IP14 4PT. Erection of three cattle building extensions for robotic milking machines. One (VMS1) to the west of cattle building erected in 2003, one (VMS2) between the cattle buildings erected in 2003 and 2012 (planning ref 1532/12) & one (VMS3&4) in a lean to the west of the existing twin span cattle building. Response required by 14th April 2017.

There have been no comments from members of the parish regarding this application. The Cllrs discussed the application and Mr Baker explained the process of the robotic milking machines to be installed. The Cllrs could not see any issues with the proposed plans. This was proposed and seconded to approve this application and the vote was unanimous.

- **0292/17** – Colt Meadow Farm, School Road, Old Newton, IP14 4PJ. Erection of a dwelling and cart lodge for Manager of pig unit. Response required by 12th April 2017.
The Cllrs present felt the same as the last time this was discussed when it was for the mobile home. It has its own access and parking – Permission was given for the mobile home three years ago and the pig houses are now complete. This is obviously a sustainable business and this would replace the mobile home that is currently in use. The proposed building is sympathetic to its environment. This application was proposed and seconded to approve and the vote was unanimous for its approval.
- **0866/17** - 3 Chapel Road, Old Newton, Stowmarket IP14 4PP. T1 - Beech tree next to shed and pond near house. Reduce lowest by lateral limb growing towards home by 2 metres from 9 metres to 7 metres approximately to give more light.

NO public comments have been received. The applicants are only taking some of the branches off. The Parish Council were surprised they are not taking more of it as the tree is unbalanced and does need the work done. It was proposed and seconded to approve this application – all cllrs voted in favour unanimously.

- **1196/17** – Erection of rear single storey extension. Formation of en-suite to Bedroom 4. Removal of existing UPVC entrance lobby to be replaced with a new lobby and storm porch at Willow Lodge – 7 Chapel Road, Old Newton. This application was only received on Monday so was unable to include in tonight's meeting for discussion due to lack of public notice. The Parish Council will need to arrange another planning meeting tonight. Clerk suggests Monday 24th April. This is the deadline for this application but also the Monday prior to the Annual Parish Meeting. Agreed to try and do this at 6pm. Clerk to check with the booking clerk and confirm.

12. Planning Decisions from MSDC

- **4864/16** – Barn at Old Newton Hall, Sandford Road, Old Newton. Change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling-house (following demolition of side lean-to extensions) and demolition of agricultural building to the east (previous change of use from an agricultural building has been approved under prior approval application 2666/16). **MSDC planning permission has been granted.**
- **0392/17** – Dagholme, Silver Street, Old Newton, IP14 4HF. Extension to existing detached property, following demolition of existing single storey annex. **Planning permission from MSDC has been granted.**
- **4874/16** - Hill House, 62 Church Road, Old Newton IP14 4ED. Alterations to outbuilding including new windows, and installation of entrance gates. Remove and rebuild the garage roof with increased pitch. **Planning permission from MSDC has been granted.**

13. School Parking / Infrastructure / Road Signage

A meeting took place on 14th March with a representative from SCC. Cllr Baker provided a report for the meeting. A good discussion took place and Cllr Baker responded to SCC although she has not had a response back yet.

Items requiring immediate attention were -

- the replacing of the buff non slip surfacing on the junction (which has worn away and is now hardly visible),
- the repainting of the road markings in front of the school and the surrounding area, the positioning (and redirecting) of the sign,
- the safety barrier by the pedestrian access to the school which needs to be either repaired or replaced as it is badly damaged.

Items requiring consideration were -

- the moving of the 30mph signs which are extremely close to the school,
- additional ‘ SLOW’ signs painted onto the surface of Chapel Road,
- the repositioning of the 20’s plenty signs on to Chapel Road as they are currently so close to the junction they are too close to be seen.

- 14. B1113 Speed Restriction / Mini SID Update** – Cllr Clements looked into upgrading our unit. Cllr Clements has spoken to the company, the calibration is apparently correct and there is a 10% leeway either way. An upgrade to collect data would be an additional cost of £350 + VAT and that includes post and packaging costs. Cllr Clements to ascertain what data capture can be collected. Comments heard have been that people coming towards it they are responding to it. Clerk to ensure this is an agenda item again for the May meeting.

- 15. MSDC Street Names / Old Names Update** - Clerk received correspondence from MSDC for the last meeting that a request to amend a street name to reflect its former name can be formally requested if the parish council believe this is of significant proven historical interest. The cost of a replacement sign would be circa £100.00 per sign.

Whitehall Road – (formerly known as “The Knoll”) – Cllr Shave asked for this to be an agenda item. Cllr shave has asked the people who originally requested it and they have said that it would no longer be a request due to the costs involved.

Asked if possible to suggest past Cllr Names for street names in the future. This has apparently been done before and there is no reason why this cannot be done again in the future.

16. Cemetery Update –

Baby grave – Details provided to the Chairman at tonight’s meeting. Chair asking for guidance – Do we ask the parents to remove the surround. Sensitive letter with the rules.

Agreed that a Cemetery meeting take place to confirm the rules and then issue letters accordingly.

17. Assets of Community Value – Cllr Stearn

Cllr Stearn gave a list out. Clerk asked if this could be emailed. This list is incomplete and Cllr Stearn asked to make some additions and amendments before asking the parish council to submit. Clerk to investigate what this is and who this information benefits for the next meeting.

18. Councillors matters to be brought to the attention of the council.

- Noticeboard – Outside the school – This is an embarrassment.
- Road sign on Sandford Road is entwined with ivy - Cllr Miller will look at it on behalf of the parish council.
- Property on B1113 on Finningham road – Future residents use of private motor vehicle. Mrs Borley uses a motorbility scooter and this seemed unfair. We have an issue with this application because we objected to the original application so it would seem inappropriate to submit a justification to overturn the refusal.

- Village Hall Meeting – very productive. Any ideas or suggestions for things to improve could you bring to Cllr Bakers attention and she will raise it at future meetings. Comments being asked on the fireworks for this year if the project goes forward.
- 26th April 7.30pm – Annual Parish Meeting.
- Railway paperwork – Include in the additional meeting of 24th April.
- We agreed to fund the broadband for the village hall, can we move this forward – Also funding for a projector and screen to be made available to be discussed at one of the finance review meetings. Funds should be allocated as reserved.

19. Public Forum

- Parishioner wanted to thank the parish councillors for their patience and understanding with regard to the issues we have all experienced with broadband and obtaining broadband for our parish. Parishioner also wanted to thank Cllr Stringer and Mr Arnold for all their efforts and assistance.
- Footpath signs – list for the clerk to report to SCC. Clerk to email Mr Arnold the footpath map
- Assets of community value – Consultation before properties are to be submitted as an asset. Clerk to investigate and report to the May meeting.
- Footpath map and village website information for Kevin Swinburne. Clerk to forward.

20. Additional Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the May meeting.

- Assets of community value
- Footpaths

Planning meeting on 24th April + Network Rail at 6pm – Check village hall availability

21. Date of the next Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 26th April will be the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm. The May Meeting will be the Parish Council AGM on Wednesday 3rd May 2017.

Meeting closed at 21.13hrs