

NEWTON-WITH-CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the annual meeting held on Thursday 3rd June 2021 commencing at 7.15 p.m. at Newton-with-Clifton village hall and via Zoom.

Chair: Councillor Mrs. B. Duckworth (chairman).

Councillors: C. L. Bannister (withdrew from meeting c.20:30hrs.), S. Baugh, Mrs. J. C. Benson, Mrs. G. Bevan, P. Collins, Mrs. J. McCormick, A Metcalf.

Borough/County Councillor: None.

Police: None.

Members of the public: Two.

The chairman explained that the convened meeting was an ordinary face-to-face/in person meeting of the council and also via Zoom, advised that comments or observations from members of the public are invited to be made in the open forum session prior to the meeting and that it would be appropriate to restrict these comments and observations to a three minute time limit. The chairman emphasised that questions or comments from the public area will not be permitted during the meeting. The venue had been set up to by a member of the Newton-with-Clifton Village Hall Management Committees complying with COVID-19 secure requirements.

a) **FORUM.**

i) Parishioner matters.

a) School Lane, Newton-with-Scales.

A parishioner reported issues relating to drivers of vehicles disregarding the one way system signage applicable east bound in the vicinity of Bluecoat Crescent. The chairman explained that the matter will be formally considered under the highways and transportation agenda item.

ii) Police report.

None received.

1). **PROCEDURAL MATTERS.**

a) Apologies for Absence.

None received.

b) Chairman's communications.

None

c) Declarations of interest.

The chairman reminded members at the commencement of the meeting that any direct or indirect pecuniary, prejudicial or other interest should be declared in accordance with the requirements of council's Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011.

In accordance with the requirements of council's Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. J. C. Benson formally Declared an Interest relating to Lancashire Wildlife Trust(LWT)/Natural England(NE) - and other wildlife ponds within the Fylde borough agenda item. In accordance with the requirements of council's Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. G. Bevan formally Declared an Interest relating to the Friends of Newton Community Park (FoNCP) agenda items. In accordance with the requirements of council's Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. B. Duckworth (chairman) formally Declared an Interest relating to the Friends of Newton Community Park (FoNCP) agenda items.

Declarations contd...

In accordance with the requirements of council's Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. B. Duckworth (chairman) formally Declared an Interest relating to application 20/0357 to be considered under the planning and development agenda item. In accordance with the requirements of council's Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. J. McCormick formally Declared an Interest with regard to any finance related Friends of Newton Community Park (FoNCP) agenda items.

d) Signing of Minutes (annual meeting 05/05/21).

The chairman put it to council that the minutes of the annual meeting held on Wednesday 5th May 2021, as previously circulated, be approved and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

It was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the annual meeting held on Wednesday 5th May 2021 be approved and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

e) Matters arising from minutes.

i) Lancashire county election Thursday 6th May 2021.

A member referred to the above matter and it was agreed that a formal invitation to attend the next meeting scheduled for Thursday 1st July 2021 should be extended to the newly elected county councillor to consider a number of matters that the council want to progress with the county council highways authority.

f) Residual appointments as council representatives; 2021-22 Municipal Year.

i) Newton-with-Clifton Village Hall Committee of Management Trustees (NWCVHC).

The chairman referred to this item and the clerk explained that;

a) NWCVHC's Conveyance and Trust Deed required a number of local organisations, including the parish council, to appoint representatives.

b) Councillor A. Metcalf, council's current representative had previously indicated an intention to resign the post with effect from the next NWCVHC Annual General Meeting (AGM) scheduled for Thursday 8th July 2021. Following discussion it was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that Councillor S. Baugh be nominated as the council's NWCVHC representative for formal election at the AGM.

g) Parish tree warden.

The chairman referred to this item and the clerk explained that;

a) Councillor C. L. Bannister, council's current representative, had previously indicated an intention to resign the post. Councillor C. L. Bannister affirmed this intention. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that the Ash dieback initiative had to some extent superseded the tree warden role. Accordingly members considered it unnecessary to formally appoint a replacement parish tree warden and this position could be reviewed in future should circumstances change.

h) Lancashire Association of Local Councils (LALC Fylde Area Committee).

The chairman referred to this item and following discussion it was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Mrs. G. Bevan be formally appointed as the council's third LALC representative.

i) Contract liaison officer (s) - Ash dieback.

The chairman referred to this item and following discussion it was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that Councillor P. Collins be formally appointed as the council's second liaison member relating to this initiative.

2. PARISH COMMUNICATION, SOCIAL MEDIA, GOVERNANCE.

a) Consider website development, receive report by chairman.

i) Public information.

Parish communications contd...

The chairman advised that recent consumer alerts and notices had been/will be published on the website, these included information relating to, anti-social behaviour, highway works necessary to promote sustainable travel and alleviate queueing, requested by Lancashire county council highways authority including the upgrading of the east and west bound bus stops on the A583, upgrading the traffic signals at the junction of the A583 with Bryning Lane to include a new signal controller, and pedestrian facilities. secured via the Unilateral Undertaking linked to the outline planning application for up to 50 NO dwellings (all matters reserved other than access)" at Land off Woodlands Close, Newton with Scales in accordance with the terms of the application 16/0554, "In the Know and Lancashire Talking" police community contact initiative, Lancashire Wildlife Trust(LWT)/Natural England(NE) – Great Crested Newts and other wildlife ponds within the Fylde borough, application to develop sites creating ponds, vehicle parking issues, and a notice relating to the 3NO vacancies in the office of parish councillor. The chairman referred to social media comments relating to the recently installed parking signage at Newton Hall Park and it was agreed that an explanatory news item could be posted on the website in due course. Reference was made to website requests of a commercial nature and it was agreed that these should not be displayed on the website.

ii) Parish noticeboard displays.

The chairman and a member referred to the present arrangements for displaying public notices and it was agreed that publication of councillor details on the noticeboard and website should be consistent and arrangements were ongoing in this regard.

iii) Website rating.

Following a member enquiry the chairman explained that a rating facility was unavailable on the website although it was likely an available option at an increased cost.

3. HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION.

a) Ongoing Lancashire County Council (LCC) matters; including parish highway safety, Newton-with-Clifton.

i) Vehicle parking and waiting restrictions, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales.

The chairman referred to this matter and a member advised that the Newton Bluecoat School Headteacher had challenged some parents/carers parking in an indiscriminate manner. A member again suggested that the school should purchase "Parking Here Could Endanger a Child's Life Sign Stand/ banner signage for display outside the school. It was understood that the LCC highways authority could assess the road markings but the school should arrange to purchase signage. A member explained that the NO75 bus 15:00 hours service was unavailable in the afternoon because such indiscriminate vehicle parking prevented access to the village on the scheduled route. It was agreed that the bus operator should be contacted for further information in this regard.

ii) A583/Blackpool Road, footway and footpath improvement and pedestrian crossing facilities, particularly at junction with Preston Old Road, Clifton.

The chairman referred to this matter and the observations of LCC highways authority explaining that the suggested measures will not be implemented following an initial costs/benefit analysis. A member suggested that a barrier could be installed on the pedestrian refuge island It was agreed that this matter could be raised with the newly elected county councillor at a future meeting.

iii) Public footpath NOS.6/7.

The chairman referred to this matter explaining that members had still to walk the paths to better assess the situation.

b) New LCC matters.

i) School Lane, Newton-with-Scales.

Street scene matters contd...

The chairman referred to this matter raised by a parishioner in open forum. Reported issues related to drivers of vehicles disregarding the one way system signage applicable east bound in the vicinity of Bluecoat Crescent. It was agreed that the matter should be referred to the LCC highways authority for its observations.

c) Street scene matters.

i) Relocate noticeboard from Bryning Lane, Newton-with-Scales and related improvements to enhance amenity in central village area.

The chairman referred to this matter and the action agreed at the annual meeting held on Wednesday 5th May 2021 i.e. meet with the site manager Westchurch Homes Ltd to progress matters. An on-site meeting was arranged and the following details were provided; The site is now owned by Community Gateway Association (CGA). The chairman and one member met with Ian Stocker (Westchurch Operations Director), Catherine Newton (Poole Dick Employers Agent), John Metcalf (CGA) and Stephen Galbraith (CGA Community Manager) on Tuesday 25th May at the Bryning Lane end of Sandy Gap. The current plans show a fenced off path running from the new houses to the junction with the Bryning Lane pavement adjacent to the shop and is expected to be 1.8m wide and about 30cm from the boundary with the shop. The existing plans also suggest a fence that would run parallel to the existing fenced boundary with the shop. It was agreed that this would create an alleyway that may create problems with public safety and/or anti-social behaviour and was not conducive to integration of new residents with the wider community. Ownership of the land was discussed and it is recognised that "Sandy Gap" is not registered land but has been maintained by the parish council for some years. It was considered that the most pragmatic way to progress matters was not to address protracted and unresolved ownership issues and accept that the land could be re-opened by the removal of the existing fence that runs parallel to Bryning Lane. CGA expressed a willingness to landscape the stretch from the end of the new houses to the existing flower bed/Christmas tree location with a sweeping wild flower type area and to maintain that patch of land and to relocate the public noticeboard and plaque. Westchurch agreed to draw up a landscape plan and share with the council for consideration. If the council accept the plans Westchurch can update their formal planning documentation submitted to Fylde council local planning authority. It is anticipated that Avenham Place residents, whose gardens back onto part of "Sandy Gap" will be comfortable with the land being re-opened. If, however, this becomes an issue then council might consider adding some native hedgerow along that boundary where some are in-situ and, historically, it is likely that this type of hedgerow would have been in place along that stretch.

ii) Dog fouling – Bryning Lane/School Lane, Newton-with-Scales.

The chairman referred to this issue and generally it was recognised the problem had improved in recent weeks. Accordingly, it was agreed to continue to assess the situation, which will remain an agenda item and should it revert then previously discussed initiatives could be considered for implementation.

iii) Littering in parish.

The chairman referred to this item and a member provided an update relating to the volunteer litter collection arrangements. A local shop owner had agreed to distribute any additional equipment to volunteers from a central shopping location in Newton-with-Scales. Fylde council had already been requested by another parishioner to provide more litter collection equipment.

iv) Highway works necessary to promote sustainable travel and alleviate queueing, requested by Lancashire county council highways authority including the upgrading of the east and west bound bus stops on the A583, upgrading the traffic signals at the junction of the A583 with Bryning Lane to include a new signal controller, and pedestrian facilities. secured via the Unilateral Undertaking outline planning application for up to 50 NO dwellings (all matters reserved other than access)" at Land off Woodlands Close, Newton with Scales in accordance with the terms of the application 16/0554.

The chairman reported these works due to commence from Monday 10th May 2021 had not yet started and an information request had not resulted in material information being provided by Lancashire county council highways (LCC) claiming general data protection regulation complications.

Street scene matters contd...

It was agreed that LCC should be requested to provide further information for display on the website.

vi) SpID operations.

A member referred to this matter and advised the intention of SpID operations is to modify and not enforce driving behaviour. A member enquired if equipment could be provided that displays different messages e.g. NO EXIT. The clerk advised that such equipment is available and becomes more expensive depending on its sophistication and whether it is fixed/portable, battery/solar powered &c.

The council's SpID operative had confirmed the existing device is uneconomic to repair. A member advised that driving behaviour on Clifton Lane, Clifton and School Lane, Newton-with-Scales was modified when the SpID is deployed. A member reported issues, on Bryning Lane, Newton-with-Scales, relating to vehicles being partly driven on the footway undertaking stationery traffic.

A member enquired about the possibility of obtaining a financial grant for SpID equipment and it was agreed this option could be considered in due course.

vii) Memorial bench, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales.

A member reported a parishioner request for a replacement memorial bench to be placed at the easterly end of the highway c.80m from the A583/Blackpool Road access. The bench memorial plaque will be for the parishioner's wife, now deceased and replaces the one for his deceased mother-in-law.

The supply cost is to be met by the parishioner and it was suggested the installation cost could be met by the council in recognition of the parish community work by the deceased over many years.

It was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that the clerk arranges for a local contractor to liaise with the parishioner in executing the bench installation and subsequently invoice the council.

4. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.

a) Planning applications.

The chairman referred to the planning applications consultation details of which had previously circulated to members for observations.

20/0357 Change of use of land to use as a residential caravan site for 3NO gypsy families each with 2NO caravans, together with the erection of an amenity block, erection of a boundary fence, installation of a package sewage treatment plant, the formation of a landscaped area and alterations to the vehicular access with alternative scheme of contamination remediation to that previously approved under condition 14 of 12/0118.

Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that it be recommended the application is refused planning permission and that the local planning authority (LPA) be advised accordingly; Members expressed their disappointment that, given the issues to be addressed, the LPA had not provided more time for a consultation response to be submitted. However, notwithstanding the limited time made available for a consultation response members expressed disquiet relating to the submitted remediation scheme proposals, it was agreed that council completely support Newton Residents Association (NRA) representation to the LPA with the complementary report from GeoSyntec consulting engineers, expert in civil infrastructure, environment and natural resources.

In 2016 the Secretary of State for communities and Local Government agreed with the planning inspector's findings and conclusion that remediation by removal and treatment of contaminated material was necessary for the site to be of acceptable environmental quality for the proposed residential use.

Members remained of the opinion that the response of the applicant's adviser does not address the salient points as raised by the LPA planning committee at its meeting held on Wednesday 28th April 2021 i.e. methods of ensuring that the material that is to be retained on site is securely and permanently protected from future access, additional details regarding the nature of the material that is to be removed from site, the techniques to be used in its removal, provision of any necessary revisions to the site plan together with other details of the development, including the foul drainage arrangements and methods of securing the site boundaries. The response is unclear regarding remediation criteria and objectives, does not indicate a timeframe for the works nor the necessary site management procedures related to the work.

Planning contd...

Given the history of the site; previous disposals of asbestos waste in addition to controlled waste referenced by the Environment Agency (EA), the presence of other buried wastes in the vicinity of where the foul, wastewater and other utility infrastructure are to be installed cannot be disregarded. As such the installation of these should be implemented prior to the institution of the no dig layer, as the excavation activity will in itself generate more contaminants and waste for subsequent characterisation and removal. Although the EA agreed the waste could remain buried this was conditional on the land being recorded on a public register of contaminated land which, it is understood, has still to be produced by the LPA. The proposed removal of the bunds and central mounds without prior characterisation of contaminants does not comply with best practice i.e. collection and analysis of samples, waste acceptance criteria tests, asbestos screening and quantification all of which should be clearly documented, validated and agreed prior to any on-site activity. The EA has indicated the current foul and wastewater scheme is unlikely to be valid, notwithstanding this position the applicant continues to affirm that the package treatment plan is acceptable and has not applied for a permit as recommended by the EA. Consequently the applicant should be required to implement a scheme properly licensed by the EA prior to commencement of infrastructure and remediation work. A revised foul and wastewater scheme would lead to a modified site plan with potential disturbance of infrastructure workings. A new plan should be required to take account of the removal of bunds and mounds, the impacted boundary fence line, exact location of the buried waste and the proposed concrete capping layer and an approved foul and waste water scheme.

In accordance with the requirements of council's Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. B. Duckworth (chairman) formally Declared an Interest in the matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

20/0589 Application for approval of the reserved matters of appearance, landscaping and scale pursuant to outline planning permission 18/0840 for the erection of a permanent rural worker's dwelling at "Barnfield", New Hey Lane, Newton-with-Scales, Preston, PR4 3SA.

Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that it be recommended the application is refused planning permission and that the local planning authority be advised accordingly; Members consider the reserved matters application is not in accordance with the outline planning permission application in terms of the proposed development's indicative property layout dimensions and lack of related detail regarding height and width.

21/0316 Installation of a 20 metre high electronic communications mast including three antennas to provide faster Wi-Fi internet access for the local rural community at land adjacent "Yew tree farm", Treales Road, Clifton, Preston, PR4 0SA. The chairman referred to this application reported at the annual meeting held on Wednesday 5th May 2021. Members had considered more time was necessary for an informed opinion to be submitted and accordingly had agreed to advise the clerk by Wednesday 12th May 2021 to facilitate a consultation response to the local planning authority. The clerk advised 2NO responses, both supportive, had been received.

Following discussion it Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that it be recommended the application is granted planning permission and that the local planning authority be advised accordingly.

21/0359 Erection of replacement industrial unit (Use classes B2 and/or B8), including formation of 8 additional car parking spaces Unit 6, Clifton business park, Preston New Road, Clifton, Preston, PR4 0XG. Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that it be recommended the application is granted planning permission and that the local planning authority be advised accordingly.

21/0468 Change of use of former outbuilding to separate dwelling, retrospective application "Cherry tree farm, Blackpool Road, Newton-with-Scales, Preston, PR4 3RE. Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that it be recommended the application is refused planning permission and that the local planning authority (LPA) be advised accordingly;

Planning contd...

The site is located within an Area of Separation (AOS) as designated on the Fylde Local Plan to 2032 Policies Map. The development fails to meet any of the limitations where development can be permitted in the AOS under policy GD3 of the local plan and, accordingly, does not fall properly within any of the categories of development that are appropriate within this designation. The development should be precluded from representing infill development for the purposes of the allowance in policy GD3 f) due to development's curtilage, siting and lack of containment by existing buildings where it borders adjoining land. The LPA is able to demonstrate a supply of deliverable housing sites in excess of five years, the restrictive approach to new residential development in the AOS contained in current policy GD3 of the Fylde Local Plan to 2032 and there are no other material considerations to indicate that the application should be determined other than in accordance with the development plan. The development does not satisfy any of the exceptions where residential development can be permitted in the AOS, it is in conflict with the development strategy in the local plan when taken as a whole and contrary to the requirements of policies S1, DLF1 and GD3 of the Fylde Local Plan to 2032, and paragraphs 2, 12 and 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework which require developments to come forward in accordance with a genuinely plan-led system. The development involved the replacement of former outbuilding to form a dwelling, together with access, parking &c which may extend beyond its previous commercial curtilage. The development, by virtue of its scale, suburban design and siting is unsympathetic to the rural character of the site and its surroundings, to the detriment of the rural scene and is a cause of injurious urbanisation of and encroachment upon the AOS. Accordingly, this compromises the AOS function in protecting the identity and distinctiveness of settlements. The development design is of a quality that would not assimilate with its rural surroundings and fails to improve the character and quality of the area in conflict with the requirements of Fylde Local Plan to 2032 policies GD3, GD7 and ENV1, and paragraphs 127, 130 and 170 b) of the National Planning Policy Framework. The dwelling development is located in close proximity to adjacent operational commercial storage buildings. The development's proximity and relationship with the adjacent commercial storage use results in conflicts between the previous use and the application's use, having particular regard to noise disturbance arising from ongoing commercial operational activities which would result in a poor standard of amenity for occupiers of the dwelling and could introduce additional restrictions on the operation of the existing commercial storage use as a result of the development. The applicant has failed to demonstrate that the development can be integrated effectively with the existing commercial storage use (including through mitigation measures required to allow the two uses to co-exist) to ensure that a high standard of amenity is achieved for occupiers without compromising the operation of the commercial use. The development is therefore in conflict with the requirements of policy GD7 of the Fylde Local Plan to 2032 and paragraphs 127 f), 180 a) and 182 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Members consider that the development is not dissimilar to previous applications, frequently retrospective, on this site. Some of these applications have been refused planning permission or withdrawn, however should the LPA be minded to grant planning permission the council strongly recommends that it is conditional on the recommendations of the Lancashire county council highways authority, relating to withdrawn planning applications 19/0243 and 19/0245, being fully implemented and request the LPA to attach these conditions in the interest of highway safety.

b) Fylde Borough Council Planning Committee (FBC) planning decisions/notifications/parish recommendations.

i) Potential unauthorised developments.

a) "Annie's Egg Shed", Parrox Lane, Newton-with-Scales PR4 3RJ.

A member referred to the above development issue. The clerk advised that the member had previously referred these matters informally for attention, and following investigation FBC enforcement had subsequently advised the operation and scale of the business is not at the stage where it would invite a change of use planning application.

Planning contd...

The owner was also informed that should the activity or scale of operation increase FBC may revisit the matter and appropriate permissions could be required.

b) Application 15/0312 “Lynwood” Blackpool Road, Newton-with-Scales, Preston Lancashire PR4 3RU.
A member referred to the above development issue. The clerk advised that the member had previously referred these matters informally for attention, and FBC enforcement is making further enquiries.

ii) 21/0481 Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed development involving the erection of a new storage building (Use Class b8) “Cherry Blossom Farm”, Blackpool Road, Newton-with-Scales, Preston, PR4 3RE.
A member referred to the above application published in the FBC’s weekly list. The clerk advised that FBC had still to invite council to provide a consultation response.

iii) No other decisions were reported.

5. PARKS AND OPEN SPACES.

a) Parks, open spaces, rural area grass verges, grass-cutting contract, receive report from authorised officer/liason member in respect of the parks and open spaces maintenance contract.

The chairman referred to this item and the authorised officer/liason member in respect of the contract reported maintenance is ongoing subject to prevailing weather conditions. Grass verge areas on Scale Hall Lane and School Lane will be maintained in the near future. Members advised that issues on Scale Hall Lane have previously arisen because one resident on Scale Hall Lane has asked the contractor if earlier scheduled maintenance could be deferred until the cow parsley, native flowers &c, that grow rapidly in the summer months, start dying back. The liaison member agreed to raise matters with the contractor.

b) Flower/Shrub beds maintenance contract - receive report from authorised officer/liason member in respect of the flower/shrub beds maintenance contract.

The authorised officer/liason member, pro tem, in respect of the contract during May 2021 reported maintenance is ongoing, subject to prevailing weather conditions, in accordance with the contract conditions and specifications. It was recommended that the display at Lodge Lane, Clifton and future purchase of barrels for flower displays should be assessed by members and the contract working group in due course. A parishioner complaint relating to maintenance of a bed on Hill Crescent, Newton-with-Scales will be assessed in due course by the interim and successor authorised officer/liason members, and ultimately flower and shrub bed maintenance generally assessed by the contract working group.

c) Friends of Newton Community Park (FoNCP) receive report, if any, from member.

The clerk referred to the previously circulated report by the council representative member on FoNCP which was taken as read. It was explained that subsequent to preparing a design brief and invitation to tender 4NO tender had been received by Fylde Borough Council (FBC). These will be evaluated by both FoNCP and FBC independently using the same evaluation criteria prior to a consensus scoring meeting on 9th June 2021. Subsequently, it is anticipated that a contract will be awarded by FBC. In accordance with the requirements of council’s Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. G. Bevan formally Declared an Interest in the matter and, other than presenting the report, took no part in the discussion or voting thereon. In accordance with the requirements of council’s Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. B. Duckworth (chairman) formally Declared an Interest in the matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon. In accordance with the requirements of council’s Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. J. McCormick formally Declared an Interest in the matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

d) Footway resurfacing, including sections of fence replacement, William Pickles Park, Clifton.

Parks contd...

The chairman referred to this item and a member explained the delay was due to a fencing sub-contractor who, although having sourced the requisite materials has still to schedule the work. It was agreed to defer the matter for another month.

e) Tree replacement arising from dieback disease that is affecting Ash trees.

The chairman referred to this item and a member reported some details relating to dead/dying trees. A member explained that a full survey assessment by two councillors and the Fylde council (FBC) arboriculturist is now scheduled for August 2021. Woodlands Trust initiatives were reported and subsequently it was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that the member be authorised to place an order for one pack (c.112) “year round colour” saplings. An order for alternative “working wood” saplings, primarily for Clifton area, could be considered at a later stage. An Ash dieback liaison member referred to a FBC parish tree planting initiative and also agreed to provide a councillor with a list of trees diseased/dying trees identified to date.

f) Provision of CCTV, Newton Hall Park, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales.

The chairman referred to this item and quotes that had been received based on a revised specification. Following discussions between the chairman, another member and a parishioner with CCTV expertise it was considered further clarification was still required from an accredited contractor, who had submitted the lowest quote, relating to some points. Consequently, a meeting between the chairman, another member, parishioner and contractor has been arranged for Thursday 10th June 2021 starting at 11:00 hrs.

g) Lancashire Wildlife Trust(LWT)/Natural England(NE) – Great Crested Newts and other wildlife ponds within the Fylde borough, application to develop sites creating ponds.

Following an enquiry by the chairman the clerk advised that all matters were now to be progressed by LWT. In accordance with the requirements of council’s Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. J. C. Benson formally Declared an Interest in the matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

h) Provision of football goals and nets at William Pickles Park, Clifton Lane, Clifton.

The chairman referred to this item and, following discussion, a member agreed to obtain price details for the maintenance of the existing goals and, alternatively, purchase of new goals. Chairman and a member agreed to make enquiries relating a contact from “Dig in” (a rehabilitation charity using horticulture as therapy to help ex-service personnel) deployed at Newton Hall Park sensory garden and had mentioned the possibility of obtaining goals from a contact at Preston North End football club.

i) Use of playing field, and ancillary facilities, adjacent Newton-with-Clifton Village Hall (NWCVH) by Kirkham Juniors Football Club (KJFC), including maintenance/development of an adjacent watercourse(s).

The chairman referred to a recent NWCVH committee report, copies of which had previously been circulated to members, explaining all issues of concern have been addressed and matters are progressing. The chairman reported the NWCVH committee’s annual general meeting is now scheduled for Thursday 8th July 2021 via Zoom.

j) Damaged basket swing, William Pickles Park, Clifton.

The chairman advised that the swing had still to be replaced. Members recognised that matters had been unnecessarily complicated by a parishioner taking unilateral action ahead of a Fylde borough council (FBC) play equipment inspection and possible claim on a manufacturer warranty. It was agreed that FBC should be requested to provide an update. Also a member agreed to provide FBC emergency contact numbers for display on noticeboards and the website for parishioners to raise serious health and safety issues.

k) Trees, William Pickles Park, Clifton.

Parks contd...

The chairman referred to this issue details of which had previously been reported concurrently with trees on Stanagate, Clifton that are the responsibility of Lancashire County Council. A member agreed to arrange for a local tree maintenance contractor to provide a quote for maintenance of the trees on William Pickles Park that allegedly are encroaching on privately owned land and buildings

6. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS.

a) Approve invoices for payment.

i) List 1.

The chairman referred to this item. The chairman referred to the invoice list and copy invoices circulated on the 29th May 2021 and the subsequent contract invoices circulated on 2nd June 2021. The clerk explained that it was always likely that some contractor invoices will be received after the agreed 29th May date and in the opinion of the clerk, as responsible financial officer (RFO), it was reasonable to concurrently consider these for payment. An anticipated invoice from the council grass cutting contractor, due to be paid for May 2021 operations, had still to be received and will be circulated separately in due course. Subsequently, it was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that the following invoices &c be paid.

BHIB.	Council insurance 2021/22.	£753.72
CLB Cleaning Services.	Amenity Cleansing January 2021-March 2021	£3255.00
	Less, period non-contract service payments.	-£1410.00
	Less, period non-contract service payments.	-£815.10
		£1029.90
Pete Marquis	Village hall watercourse - dredge and dispose of arisings	£1230.00 Vat <u>£246.00</u>
		£1476.00
1 st Clifton Rainbows.	Grant 2021/22 s.137 Local Government Act 1972.	£225.00
1 st Clifton Brownie Guides.	Grant 2021/22 s.137 Local Government Act 1972.	£225.00
1 st Clifton (St Johns) Guides.	Grant 2021/22 s.137 Local Government Act 1972.	£225.00
1st Clifton Scout Group (Comprising 1st Clifton (Lund) Beavers, 1st Clifton (Lund) Cub Scouts, 1st Clifton (Lund) Scouts).	Grant 2021/22 s.137 Local Government Act 1972.	£675.00
Northwest Air Ambulance .	Grant 2021/22 s.137 Local Government Act 1972.	£225.00
Fylde Citizens Advice Bureau Ltd.	Grant 2021/22 s.137 Local Government Act 1972.	£225.00
Fylde Coast YMCA "Rural Splash".	+Fylde Coast YMCA 2021/22 Donation towards "Rural Splash" Kirkham baths annual running costs. s.19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.	£1100.00
**F. Wilson	Honoraria to June 2021.	£1707.36
**HM Revenue and Customs	Statutory remuneration deductions, charges.	£297.55
**National Employment Savings Trust Corporation	Pension contributions.	£377.17
+Microsoft	Microsoft 365 licence renewal 2021/22	£59.99
+Reimbursement to F. Wilson		£8601.69

Finance contd...

ii) Invoices discussed/submitted at meeting.

Paul Gregory T/a Acer Contracts	Flower & shrub beds and floral displays May 2021.	£991.25
	Cut hedge Clifton Triangle/Silver Street, Clifton.	£30.00
	Cut hedge at Dixons Farm Mews, Clifton	£30.00
		Vat <u>£210.25</u> £1261.50

Paul Gregory T/a Acer Contracts	*Hedge maintenance, School Lane, Newton-with Scales.	£40.00
	*Hedge maintenance, Hall Park, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales.	£60.00
	Hedge maintenance Dixons Farm Mews Clifton	£50.00
		Vat <u>£30.00</u> £180.00

*A member agreed to ascertain from the contractor the maintenance executed at specific areas of School Lane.

+T. Pawson T/A PDQ Garden Services.	Grass cutting contract maintenance May 2021.	£1748.00
		Vat <u>£349.60</u> £2097.60
		<u>£3539.10</u>

+The clerk reported anticipated invoice for PDQ's May grass cutting has still to be received. It was agreed authorised payments will only be processed once invoices received.

b) **Workplace pensions - automatic enrolment.

Exempt Item**. In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s.1. Council may resolve to exclude the public (which includes the press) on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The chairman advised that members of the public were no longer observing the meeting, the clerk had indicated no confidential issues were to be raised and council was not required to resolve to exclude the public (which includes the press) on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. The clerk reported that matters continue to be progressed as agreed with both the National Employment Savings Trust Corporation (NEST) and The Pensions Regulator. The clerk explained that in addition to the scheduled employer and employee contributions (3.75% and 5.0% respectively) an ad-hoc relief at source additional voluntary contribution of £250.00 had been payroll processed resulting in a reduction in net pay for June 2021. The pooled contributions and charges are payable to NEST. Exempt Item**. **RESOLVED ACCORDINGLY.**

c) Friends of Newton Community Park (FoNCP) - funding Community Parks Improvement Programme (CPIP).

The chairman referred to this item and it was explained that there was no information to report. In accordance with the requirements of council's Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. G. Bevan formally Declared an Interest in the matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon. In accordance with the requirements of council's Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. B. Duckworth (chairman) formally Declared an Interest in the matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon. In accordance with the requirements of council's Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011 Councillor Mrs. J. McCormick formally Declared an Interest in the matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Finance contd...

d) Management of contracts.

i) Consider chairman's report.

The chairman advised that there was no information to report other than it was anticipated the contracts management working group would likely resume meeting in the near future and continue its review of contracts.

e) Finance and Accounts.

Finance and Accounts - consider, approve and adopt i) the Annual Governance Statement, ii) related Accounting Statements, iii) complete 2020/21 Financial Year Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) by signing the AGAR all in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (copies of which had previously been circulated to members).

i) Annual Governance Statement.

The chairman referred to this matter and the clerk reported that all related matters had been executed in accordance with established procedures relating to governance including insurance, internal audit, risk assessment &c. Members duly considered the findings of the Annual Governance Statement review as a whole and subsequently it was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Annual Governance Statement be approved by resolution and the chairman and clerk be authorised to sign the approved section 1 of the AGAR annual governance statement, statement of assurances including an effective implementation and review of its governance in respect of internal audit and control arrangements and assessment of risk for Financial Year 2020/21.

ii) Consider related Accounting Statements and completed 2020/21 Financial Year Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) by signing the AGAR all in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (copies of which had previously been circulated to members).

Members duly considered the 2020/21 financial year accounting statements and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR). Following a member enquiry the clerk advised that millennium gardens expenditure primarily related to maintaining flower/shrub beds/hedges at the Clifton millennium garden. Following an enquiry by the chairman it was explained that amenity cleansing expenditure and income 2021/22 budgetary figures predated the council's 4th March 2021 decision to revert the service to Fylde council as the authority with statutory responsibility. Subsequently it was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Annual Governance Statement be approved by resolution and the chairman and clerk be authorised to sign the approved section 2 of the AGAR accounting statement for Financial Year 2020/21, in accordance with the Account and Audit Regulations 2015.

7. ANY OTHER MATTERS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY.

a) Date of next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting be scheduled for Thursday 1st July 2021 commencing at c.7:15 p.m. at Newton-with-Clifton village hall and via Zoom.

There being no further business the chairman declared the Meeting closed at 22:30hrs.

Chairman

1st July 2021