**NEWTON SOLNEY PARISH COUNCIL**

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MINUTES of Council meeting held on Tuesday 19th March 2024 at the Village Hall 7pm**

**Present:** Councillors ; D Smith (Chair), K Makin-Wall, L Charles, S Kelsey

1 member of the public

Susan Stack – Locum Clerk

**MINUTES**

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|  | **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**  No residents questions  Report from County Councillor;  A reminder that the Police and Crime Commissioner and Mayor elections will take place on May the 2nd. Please remember your ID.  The Derbyshire electoral  division boundaries are now at the consultation stage with the consultation  running until April 1st.  The recommendation is the number of County Councillors stays the same as 64 but instead of three of the county’s 61 divisions having two Councillors there would be 64 divisions with only one councillor. If anybody want a say they can contact the LGBCE website. ( Local Government Boundary Commission for England )  Council tax up to 4,99%  ( this includes 2% for Adult care.)  Budget update.  Indicators show there will be an overspend forecast of about £34.1 m in the current financial year and a predicted funding  Gap of around £40m for 2024/2025.  The budget savings proposals put forward in the Revenue Budget Report would save approximately £66.6m over the course of the councils Five Year Financial Plan up t 2028/29  Pot hole situation.   Up to 25 reactive teams are filling more than 2000 potholes each week. We are doing what we can considering the atrocious recent weather.  Report from District Councillor;  The Council plan and budgets have now been approved and can be viewed on the SDDC website.  Reviews for planning, housing and communication are in progress and we'll update when we get some more information.  Applications for energy efficiency grants are still available – these are for residents not connected to mains gas and EPC bands D,E,F and G.  The Council will commemorate its 50 year anniversary on 1st April and preparations are underway to celebrate this milestone across the year.  The Statement of Community Involvement consultation is now live - this covers everything relating to planning, from a single planning application through to the local plan and how they are communicated to residents. |
| **1/3/24** | **To receive apologies for absence**  G Tulley (NSPC)  G Fenlon (NSPC)  Kerry Haines (SDDC)  James Lowe (SDDC)  David Muller (DDC) |
| **2/3/24** | **Variation in order of business** |
| **3/3/24** | **3/2/24 Declaration of members interest**  None |
| **PART 1** | | |
| **4/3/24** | **To consider various items of the non-exempt minutes of the meeting on 13th February 2024 (including approval for accuracy)**  Resolved to accept as a true record. DS KM  Weight restriction sign needs re-enforcing as being abused. DS to e-mail. |
| **5/3/24** | **To determine which items in any of part 1 of the agenda should be taken with the public excluded** |
| **6/3/24** | **To discuss and comment on Planning items:**   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **MPA/2024/0128** | **7 Hollies Close, Newton Solney, Burton On Trent, DE15 0SB**  Commented on prev. | **Garage conversion, first floor front extension, detached garage with office space above, boundary fence with gated entrance to driveway -called in by Cllr James Lowe** |  |  |  | | **DMPA/2024/0123** | **The Poplars, Repton Road, Newton Solney, Burton on Trent, DE15 0SG**  No objections | **The installation of solar panels to the garage roof** |  |  |  |   Tree work – The Cedars, Main Street – site inspection planned  Crown on Oak Tree, Fairfield – support work |
| **7/3/24** | **Traffic calming in village**  Speedwatch progressing, meeting tomorrow, A representative from Repton will chat to the group and contact will be made with a retired inspector for a meeting and initial training. Officer Bob does the kerbside training. Budget required anticipated as £500 and potential funding may be on offer.  Noted that the Police did a 3 hour speed/vehicle inspection session at the entrance to the village last week |
| **8/3/24** | **To discuss and actions on Village in Bloom 2024**  A request for the Parish Council to purchase plant out tubs with annuals was agreed up to a sum of £500. It is for a recycled product (self watering) to go on the Green with Village in bloom group agreeing to plant out. |
| **9/3/24** | **To discuss and actions on Quote for riverside tree works**  Meeting held with resident of house. Quotation for tree work and habitat stacks creation on Trent Lane by the River. It was resolved to appoint Midland Landscapes and Treecare Limited at £1575 plus VAT (£787 deposit). Work to start mid-April |
| **10/3/24** | **To discuss and actions on Village Bonfire**  New location suggested as the field above the Brickmakers pub. Event date 2nd November. 6pm start with fireworks at 6.30pm. Planned to cordon off road and pub car park. Outdoor bar and food will be available. Ticket admission £10 family, £5 other on the night. Silent fireworks will be used.  The site will be restricted to prevent fly tipping with local residents policing what is on it.  School to be invited to do guys and permission given to put them in front of the Alms Houses.  A £800 credit note is outstanding from a supplier (circa 2016). DS to find original information from RFO, Ron Parker.  Parish Council to insure the event and do risk assessment. |
| **11/3/24** | **To consider items raised by the Clerk;**   1. **To purchase a new laptop, Microsoft 365 with OneDrive up to £600 ex vat total** 2. **To discuss changing website domain from .org.uk to .gov.uk** 3. **To set up domain led e-mail account for the Clerk** 4. **To consider setting up Council controlled e-mail accounts for the Councillors** 5. **To adopt a Document retention policy and make arrangements to go through Council documents accordingly** 6. **To set up a Government Gateway account and register as an employer (if required)** 7. **Appointment of Internal auditor for 2023/24 year – East Midlands Audit Service.**   All the above resolved |
| **12/3/24** | **To receive the Chairman’s report including;**.  No additional items |
| **13/3/24** | **To receive reports from Parish councillors**  L Charles - Village hall are investigating solar panels on the hall. Planning have no objections. Estimated cost £15.500  Reported lamp post – awaiting repair  SDDC confirmed funding is still in place for the shed and when plans are finalised it will be submitted together. Anticipate a 3 months turnaround for planning application.  S Kelsey – Toads crossing (Bretby Lane in particular is very busy). DS to ask if there are signs available from County Council. |
| **14/3/24** | **Contribution to mower service by Gary Wall - 50% contribution to mower service requested – e-mail of 14th Feb Total amount £307 therefore £153.50**  Resolved to make contribution as suggested |
| **15/3/24** | **Update on Christmas lights- American oak**  Ongoing. New box design accepted. |
| **16/3/24** | **Update and authorise any spend required on shed and orchard**  See Councillor reports above |
| **17/3/24** | **Childrens Fun Day – to receive update and authorise any spending required**  Ongoing |
| **18/3/24** | **Willington Solar Farm**  No update |
| **19/3/24** | **Cemex**  No update |
| **20/3/24** | **Quote for tree works on Trent Lane**  Dealt with earlier |
| **21/3/24** | **Consideration of accounts for payment - signing of cheques**     |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Payee** | **Payment for** | **Amount** | | **Susan Stack** | **Clerking Services** | **202.50** | | **Gary Wall** | **Lengthsman** | **120.00** | | **SDDC** | **Dog bin emptying** | **66.92** | | **SDDC** | **Play area inspection** | **65.58** | | **Proludic** | **Play equipment** | **13,680.00** | | **Midland Landscapes and Tree care Ltd** | **Deposit for tree works** | **787.00** | |
| **22/3/24** | **The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 16th April 2024**  Noted |
| **23/3/24** | **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS – To resolve that public and press are excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted in accordance with Section 100(a) of the Local Government Act 1972**  Resolved |
| **24/3/24** | **To discuss outcome of interviews and appoint a Clerk, set terms of engagement and agree offer letter details**  No applications have been received. It was resolved that the locum Susan Stack will stay on until July with a re-advertisement taking place in June.  Advance apologies – Karen MW next meeting |