

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28 July 2021 commencing at 7pm.
The meeting was held by Zoom.

PRESENT: Cllrs Citarella (Chair), Atty, Moore, O'Keefe, Turner, Roughneen, and Clerk Sandra Jones.
No members of the public attended the meeting.

061/21

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apolgies were received from Cllr Casey, Cllr Baker and Borough Cllr Pope.

062/21

COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Citarella and Cllr O'Keefe declared a pecuniary interest in the items relating to Eden Tea Rooms.

063/21

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 23 JUNE 2021

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23 June 2021 should be approved and signed by the Chair.

064/21

ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The meeting was not adjourned for public discussion as there were no members of the public present.

065/21

PLANNING

a) Applications to be considered:

2021/0737/FUL - Single storey rear and side extension to existing dwelling at Dunstonia, 52 Course Lane – No comment.

2021/0798/PIP - Application for permission in Principle - Proposed demolition of existing bungalow dwelling house and replacement with up to three no. dwelling houses at 39 Cobbs Brow Lane – No comment.

2020/0688/FUL - Change of use of Lowes Farm Barn to create 4 bed dwelling and 2no. 2 bed apartments. Erect an agricultural storage building on an existing concrete slab at the Barn, Lowes Farm, Lowes Lane.

Councillors were reminded that when this planning application was originally submitted, the Parish Council had commented on the lack of a comprehensive ecological report. However, a report has now been submitted providing a lot of the information including how to deal with the wildlife present. Following discussion, it was resolved to make no comment.

b) To receive an update on the planning applications relating to the Eden Tea Room and Galleries site and agree any actions

There was no update on planning applications relating to the Eden Tea Room and Galleries site as there was nothing to report.

066/21

WORKPLAN

a) To receive a verbal update from the Road Investigation Working Group and agree any actions.

Councillors were informed that a response is still being awaited from Lancashire County Council regarding the Road Investigation Working Group report which was circulated last month. It is hoped that a response will be received soon and a meeting could be set up with relevant officers sometime in the Autumn.

b) To receive a verbal update on flooding issues in the village and agree any actions.

It was confirmed that flailing of the culvert beyond the A5209 had removed some of the build-up of deposits restricting the flow of water. However, it is hoped that further work can be undertaken to remove more deposits in the near future. More excavation work is still to take place on a gully at the bottom of Smithy Brow and further work to try to understand the source of the flood which affected the Post Office. There has been a further blockage of concrete and a displaced pipe in the pipeline on Back Lane immediately outside the school, which needs further investigation. However recent heavy rain has not resulted in a recurrence of flooding at the school, although the situation will be monitored during the school holidays. The Parish Council has offered its support if there are any problems. Further work has also been carried out by Lancashire County Council on Tabby's Nook.

c) To consider arrangements for Christmas 2021 and agree any necessary actions.

The Clerk confirmed that the School and Church had been contacted regarding the issue of holding a Village Carols event in December, dependant on any pandemic restrictions. A proposed date of Thursday 9 December had been suggested to both the School and the Church. Skelmersdale Prize Band had also been contacted and confirmed that they were available to play on this date if required at a cost of £100 (the same as previous years). Following discussion, it was resolved to go ahead with plans to hold a Village Carols event on 9 December and to approve the quote of £100 from Skelmersdale Prize Band to play at the event, should it be deemed safe to go ahead. The Clerk was asked to confirm these details to all parties.

Three quotes had been sought from local companies for the Christmas tree to go on the village green and the Clerk informed Councillors that Giltrees had kindly offered a tree for free again this year. The Councillors voiced their appreciation for the generous gesture and asked the Clerk to confirm acceptance of the kind offer. P&R Electrical Contractors had confirmed a quote of £300 plus VAT to decorate the tree, which is the same as previous years. In addition, the Clerk has asked P&R Electrical Contractors for quotes for the cost of a new star to go on top of the Christmas tree and will update Councillors when the quotes have been received. It was resolved to accept the quote from P&R Electrical Contractors to decorate the tree and to await the quotes for a new star for the Christmas tree.

067/21

TO CONSIDER WHETHER TO OPT IN TO THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL FOOTPATH DELEGATION SCHEME FOR 2021-22 FOR A PAYMENT OF £500 AND AGREE ANY ACTIONS.

The Clerk informed Councillors that the Parish Council had been invited to opt in to the Lancashire County Council Footpath Delegation Scheme in return for a payment of £500. Councillors had been sent the relevant details regarding the scheme and concern was expressed that a lot seemed to be expected in relation to the payment which was being made. Due to ongoing workload at the Parish Council and the uncertainty over the amount of work which would be required and the possible cost, it was resolved that the Parish Council would not take part in the scheme for 2021-22. The Clerk was asked to contact the relevant officer at Lancashire County Council to confirm the decision.

068/21

TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM THE SHADOW SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO PASS A MOTION TO SUPPORT THE RIGHT OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO OBJECT TO INDIVIDUAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS IN THEIR OWN NEIGHBOURHOOD IF THE AREA IS ZONED FOR GROWTH OR RENEWAL UNDER THE PROPOSED NEW PLANNING REFORMS.

Councillors had been made aware of a request from the Shadow Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Steve Reed MP, requesting that the Parish Council consider passing a motion to support the right of local communities to object to individual planning applications in their own neighbourhood, if the area is zoned for growth or renewal under the proposed planning reforms. The latest planning reforms aim to speed up the current planning process by implementing a more digital process and instructing local planning authorities drafting a local plan to designate all areas as either growth, renewal or protected. Under the proposals, once a local plan is approved, there would be no further opportunity for local communities to object to individual planning applications if they were in an area zoned for growth or renewal. Councillors expressed concern at these plans and it was resolved to accept the request to pass a motion to support the right of local communities to object to individual planning applications in their own neighbourhood regardless of the designation of the area.

069/21

FINANCE

a) To agree Accounts for Payment for July 2021, Schedule attached.

The Clerk asked Councillors to approve an additional payment of £140 for Mr Horrobin (already included on the list) for much needed work carried out on the footpaths along the canal. The Councillors agreed to the additional payment and the Accounts Schedule for July 2021 was approved. Payments will be made electronically wherever possible.

b) To note the Income Received from April 2021 – June 2021

Income Received from April 2021 – June 2021 was noted.

c) To note the Budget/Expenditure Statement as at 30 June 2021

The Budget/Expenditure Statement as at 30 June 2021 was noted.

d) To note the Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 30 June 2021

The Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 30 June 2021 was noted.

070/21

Exclusion of Press and Public

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and defined in Local Government Act 1972 ss 100A (2), it is proposed that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the press and public are excluded from the forthcoming items of business.

It was resolved to exclude the press and public from the forthcoming items of business due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The meeting ended at 8.05pm.

Schedule of Accounts for Payment – July 2021

Ref No	Payee	Amount
n/a	1&1 website charges	£ 11.99* Direct Debit
n/a	NEST Pension Scheme	£ 49.17* Direct Debit
n/a	Information Commissioners Office – data subscription	£ 35.00* Direct Debit
290721	Mrs S Jones – July salary and expenses	£ 693.92
290721	Inspire Graphic Design Ltd – printing of pamphlets	£ 190.00
290721	Mr J Horrobin – hedge and play area maintenance	£ 317.00 *Note
	TOTAL	<u>£ 1,297.08</u>

Note: Agenda stated £177 for Mr J Horrobin, however an additional £140 was approved during the Parish Council meeting resulting in a total payment of £317 (ref 069/21 a)

Income Received April 2021 – June 2021

16/4/2021	1st part of WLBC Precept	£8,422.00
21/5/2021	1st part of WLBC Concurrent Grant	£ 452.50
14/6/2021	Interest	<u>£ 14.61</u>
	Total	<u>£8,889.11</u>

Newburgh Parish Council				
Budget/Expenditure Statement		2021/22		
Detail	Budget	June	Underspend/	
	£	Expenditure	(Overspend)	
		£	£	
Clerk's Salary	8240	2023	6217	
Clerks Pension	605	98	507	
Clerk's Expenses	200	46	154	
General Admin	250	641	-391	
Postage	100	11	89	
Members travel costs	20	0	20	
School Hire	150	0	150	
Training inc Quality Registration	200	0	200	
Audit	60	50	10	
Website Management	250	35	215	
Uncontested Election Costs	0	0	0	
	10075	2904	7171	
Village Maint & Repair	627	0	627	
Bluebell Wood and field	1500	0	1500	
Play Area Maintenance	300	0	300	
Insurance	530	517	13	
Associations				
Local council Review	21	17	4	
LAPTAC Subscription	226	217	9	
Hon Sec Honorarium	17	13	4	
Society Local Council Clerks	150	0	150	
CPRE	40	0	40	
WL Heritage Association	5	0	5	
	459	247	212	
Activities				
Newsletter	250	0	250	
Maintenance of SPID	1664	0	1664	
Christmas Celebrations	800	0	800	
	2714	0	2714	
S137 Expenditure				
Best Kept Village Competition	30	0	30	
Civic Service	50	0	50	
Donations	200	50	150	
Maintenance of the Dell	75	0	75	
	355	50	230	
TOTAL	16560	3717	12843	
Concurrent Grant				
Village Cleaning & Maintenance	905	239	666	
	905	239	666	
Reserves				
Community Infrastructure Levy Grant	1522	0	1522	
Bluebell Wood	5000	0	5000	
General Reserve	6345	0	6345	
Footpath Reserve	895	0	895	

Newburgh Parish Council

Bank Reconciliation Statement
Month ending 30 June 2021

£

£

Bank Statement Balances

Clubs & Societies Account 30/06/2021

8,751.72

Savings Account 30/06/2021

13,039.15

21,790.87

Less unrepresented chqs

-

see below

21,790.87

Cash Book

Bfwd Balance 2021

17,064.45

Receipts to 30/06/2021

8,889.11

25,953.56

Less Payments to 30/06/2021

4,162.69

Balance

21,790.87

Unpresented Chqs

None

0.00

Prepared by: Sandra Jones
Clerk to the Council /RFO

Date: 09-Jul-21