

## PARISH COUNCIL OF NEWLANDS

**MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2023 AT NEWLANDS COMMUNITY HALL, NEWLANDS AVENUE, WATERLOOVILLE, HAMPSHIRE, PO7 3BX COMMENCING AT 7.30 pm**

Members: Cllr A Berry (Chairman) (P) Cllr A Carden (P)  
Cllr A Kirby (P) Cllr L Price (P)

Also, present Cllr David Crichton – Chairman of the Parish Council and Gordon Tate RFO to the Council.

001/24H Apologies: All councillors were present.

002/24H Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

003/24H Minutes: The minutes from the Highways and General Purposes meeting held 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023 were received. **It was RESOLVED by the councillors who were present at the previous meeting that the minutes of the Council meeting be accepted as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.**

005/24H Public Session: There was no requirement for a public session.

There was a point of order by Cllr Crichton who pointed out that the committee now has some new councillors present who were not on the committee at the last meeting. This was duly **NOTED**.

006/24H Outstanding Matters and Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

Cllr Crichton stated that there has been correspondence with Winchester RE Grass cutting in parts of Wellington Park. He suggests that when we take over the open spaces, some areas can be allocated as “Wild Flower” areas.

The Chairman stated that we should have a proper schedule set up for the grass cutting.

Cllr Kirby suggested sending this to the amenities committee as that committee has discussed the landscaping of the site and they would be ideal for this sort of thing.

Cllr Crichton mentioned the country file programme on the TV who give information about a company that can supply wild flower seeds.

The Chairman mentioned that he has not seen any signs that there has been any attempt to control the weeds in the borders.

Cllr Kirby stated that Havant have faced a similar problem and they are using signs to designate that grass is being allowed to grow to inform the public as to why.

Cllr Kirby stated that Amenities have discussed the grass cutting situation and are making a plan.

Cllr Crichton stated that there have not been any applications made re Wellington Park for grass cutting. There are areas that Taylor Woodrow are responsible for that are now becoming overgrown.

There was a discussion around the use of weed killers and the use of environmentally friendly products.

Cllr Crichton stated that there have not been any applications in Wellington Park for Grass Cutting. Some areas that are under the control of Taylor Wimpey are becoming overgrown. It would seem that Havant are not maintaining the borders. The clerk to

write to Havant with regards to this as the unkept borders are making the estate look untidy. These areas are the responsibility of Havant BC.

007/24H Adoption Update: Cllr Crichton mentioned that some local residents have received correspondence from a company called HML, who are an estate management company appointed by one of the builders. It would appear that residents on the estate have been asked to pay for maintenance of the borders. Cllr Crichton is investigating if this is reasonable or not. This will depend upon when the roads are to be adopted. The Chairman suggested handing this job over to the clerk to research. All correspondence should go through the clerk. The Chairman thanked Cllr Crichton for raising this matter and looking into it for us. Cllr Crichton is investigating the scope of the maintenance services currently provided. A discussion took place as to who should be responsible for the commercial open space areas in Wellington Park. Cllr Crichton confirmed that there are no car parking areas within this area.

008/24H Correspondence:

Cllr Crichton informed the committee that we have had correspondence from the addresses Dept in Winchester Ref Street naming for some streets, they have effectively said that they will accept the road names that we have chosen.

As we have gone past the deadline for this there is nothing much we can do. He is suggesting that we request that they allow us plenty of time to make any decisions on road names and that once done they recognise our decisions.

Cllr Price has obtained Government Guidance on road naming. There appears to be a question of precedence between the District Council and the Parish Council and indicates that the decisions on this matter should be made by local representatives.

However, we need to find out if these decisions are to be made by the Parish Cllrs or the District Cllrs. This needs to be clarified.

There was also a question of the designation of the Spur Road in Proxima Park. All of the units but one, 320 are now let out, this is, however, up for offer.

There is just the one outstanding. It has been agreed that properties here will be known by their unit numbers. There are only two properties on this road and they will be known by their unit Nos 320 and 410.

Cllr Crichton has gone back to them and requested that they will need to organise post codes for this road. There may be a problem to decide if Winchester or Havant will rule on this.

There is precedent in Wellington Park.

We are waiting on the planning dept to come back to us when we have a post code for it. Also, there could be a problem in that the management of Wellington Park has been replaced by the owners, a pension fund and our contact there is no longer involved.

has knowledge of the replacement who used to work for Grainger and I now working for the new fund managers. Cllr Crichton will make contact with him.

The discussion on whether to use names or numbers on the business premises is not our problem to solve.

It was proposed to accept this, the Chairman seconded and was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED**.

The Clerk to write to Winchester addresses Dept ref this question of names and/or numbers and try to obtain a post code for it.

Cllr Crichton informed the group that there is a new monitoring officer at Winchester who is to arrange to visit us to discuss post codes etc to settle any dispute between Winchester and the Parish Council and the adjudication officer with settle the question.

The clerk to write to Winchester on this as we need a separate post code for it and clarification.

Cllr Crichton asked The Chairman to raise this at the to report this to the Southern Parishes at the next meeting and to report that we have had an issue with this in the past re planners not accepting what we decide or giving us sufficient time to make our recommendations on the naming of new streets, apparently there are other Parishes who are have the same problems, so it would be useful to gain the support of the Southern Parishes at least as a potential back up.

009/24H Street Naming: This item had previously been covered.

Newlands Parish Signage: The Chairman updated to say that he has had an email from Steve who says it is nothing to do with them, but to talk to Hampshire.

We have some name signs to place on entries to the estate, these are to be used on adopted roads, but there are some on roads that have not been adopted, there is no requirement to consult with County Council as yet but we need some more as the road building progresses.

With reference to the design and wording on the signs, we also need to make a decision on where we are to get them from and then where we are going to place them.

We need to establish our identity by putting up signs around the estate to let people know that we are Newlands. We also need to go back to the highways authority to request that the street signs which currently have the name Berewood on them changed to Newlands. The name Berewood would go below Newlands and the same process in Wellington Park. Currently everyone thinks that the estate is called Berewood, this causes problems for the people in the Havant area who do not know who their representatives are when they wish to complain.

The Chairman suggested placing our Logo at the top of the signs, then welcome to Newlands beneath and the Winchester at the bottom.

Cllr Crichton recommended that this be discussed at the next full council meeting. It was agreed.

The clerk is to be asked to put together some designs for the signs using the Winchester design and fonts.

The Chairman stated that the designs should come back to this committee for pre-approval before being sent to Winchester.

Ask the clerk to put some designs together for presentation.

Cllr Crichton stated that once the clerk produces the design, it can straight for approval.

The Chairman thinks that the clerk has enough work to do so this should be done by the committee then to full council.

The clerk to send the draft to Highways members for comment first. Cllr Crichton agreed.

Cllr Kirby suggested that the best place for the first sign would be this side of the main roundabout.

The Chairman suggested that we should write to Hampshire and ask them to put a sign on the roundabout for us.

Cllr Kirby said that realistically the best place for the sign is this side of the roundabout so that people can see it

Cllr Crichton suggested that the clerk should write to the company to ask who actually owns and pays for the maintenance of the roundabout. It is sponsored by a disability equipment company, perhaps we should ask them who they pay their fees to.

If it is being paid the Havant Council, then it needs to be transferred.

If it should be to us, then they need to be informed.

We need to raise the matter of the sign with Grainger at the next meeting next Tuesday. There was a discussion about whether to put the signs up in the Havant area or just in certain roads.

The Chairman stated that once we adopt these areas, we will have to put up notices up saying things like No HGV's etc in these areas.

There was a discussion on what to put on the signs when there is a boundary between Winchester and Havant.

010/24H Allotments: To receive a list of interested parties wishing to rent an allotment plot. How to consider how to allocate plots and to consider any further actions.

The Chairman has not seen the list, Cllr Crichton stated it was sent round by email.

Cllr Kirby stated that there are 70 names on the list and we have received the first 20 names.

The Chairman stated that it has been agreed that allotments would come under highways, there was disagreement. Cllr Crichton stated that full council it was agreed that this should come under the amenities committee.

There was then a discussion on the subject of which committee would be responsible for these signs, amenities or highways? This to be decided.

Cllr Kirby suggested that the clerk be asked to look into best practices on this subject with the National Alliance Association.

The Chairman stated that he has already done this and obtained an indication of what should be charged. He thinks that we should be charging .52p per square meter, with a 15% reduction for the over 65s. there will also be a water charge.

Cllr Kirby said we should go to the National Alliance Association, via the clerk, and put together a proposal of what is required and what should be done for the committee to be able to look at.

Which committee to do this has yet to be decided.

All requested to be channelled via the Clerk.

Cllr Crichton stated that where the responsibility lies should be decided at the next full council meeting.

Cllr Kirby suggested setting up a subcommittee to work on this. This would be an opportunity to bring people in from outside of the council with specific skills in this area.

Cllr Crichton suggested that the Clerk should apply for membership of the Allotments Association to make available the support that they can offer in such matters as legal advice and assistance etc. He feels it is important for us to join official professional bodies.

Cllr Kirby also stated that we should not just rely on our own knowledge and abilities, but we should look for outside advisers, we should utilise the clerk and the RFO more. We need to build up our list of professional connections for support purposes.

He suggested that the clerk will need more hours.

Cllr Crichton suggested that we may now need more community involvement both from inside the council and outside.

Cllr Kirby stated the membership of the Association is free to start with if you are an association member. We are currently relying a bit too heavily on some of the councillors and we would be in trouble if one of these councillors could no longer work with us due to ill health or other reasons.

011/24H Speed Monitor Device: It has been agreed that the clerk to write to Donna Jones and the Waterlooville and Bishops Waltham Police Ref Speed Monitoring.

Cllr Kirby stated that there appears to be little the police can do because they are unwilling to try enforcement, but wonders if there is a safety argument to be made to the owners of the land.

Cllr Kirby mentioned Footpath rights, it is the legal responsibility of the owners of the land to ensure that the footpaths are safe, even if the cross private land. Can we ask Grainger, given this information, that we can show them that it is unsafe for pedestrians in this development.

It has also been noticed that at certain times of the day and especially at weekends, the average speeds on the estate tend to rise above the accepted limits. If we tell Grainger that it is not safe for pedestrians on this area, what risk assessment are they doing, and what mitigations are they putting in place to ensure that the risk is as reasonably low as reasonably practicable within the phrasing of the Health and Safety Act. That the puts the responsibility on Grainger as the people responsible for these roads to do something about the safety of these roads.

We should mention the responsibility for the safety of the roads to Grainger at the next meeting with them.

Cllr Kirby noted that the speed monitor and the flashing sign do not appear to be having any noticeable effect on reducing the speeds on the estate.

The Chairman mentioned that two nearby Parish Councils are using cameras that record the registration of speeding vehicles and this information is being sent directly to the police.

Cllr Crichton his would possibly mean introducing ANPR cameras onto the estate, which are far more expensive than the ones we are using, at a cost of circa£4,000 each to have any noticeable effect on the speeds being driven on the estate, as these would register offenders directly with the police. Without these cameras, we would have no redress and would be unable to stop the speeding.

Next month's report will give an indication to show if the current signs have had any effect on the speeding problem, which could indicate if people are actually taking any notice of the signs or not.

Cllr Kirby mentioned that there are a growing number of councils introducing 20 mph speed limits in residential areas and certainly around schools. The fact that 90% of cars are travelling faster than 20 mph. 25 % of deaths in the UK are down to excess speed statistically.

Cllr Crichton stated that we need to start to identify areas on the estate ready for when we adopt those roads. We have to make a case for implementing a 20m.p.h. speed limit. There is present in Cowplain near the school.

Cllr Kirby stated that Brakes Road Safety Charity offer support in developing a plan for road safety.

Cllr Kirby proposed approaching Brake and asking for guidance in developing a road safety strategy, and was seconded by Cllr Barneveld.

Cllr Crichton Mentioned that, in the next few years there will be two roads leading through the estate which will mean even more traffic. There was a discussion on the feasibility of sleeping policemen road humps as a traffic calming measure.

012/24H Update on Outstanding Issues: The Chairman mentioned that we are still waiting for the developers to complete the jobs that we have asked them to do, like clearing old concrete rubbish from the site.

The Chairman requested the Clerk to contact the Environmental Fly Tipping Officer to come and check on the occurrences on our estate. The Clerk also to look into the costs and feasibility of installing Fly Tipping Cameras onto the estate.

The Chairman suggested that the Clerk discuss this with Luke.

Cllr Crichton mentioned that it would be useful to talk to Hampshire County Council to obtain advice on the use of cameras to trap fly tippers as a lot of the tipping is done on Hampshire.

The meeting closed at 8:51pm

The next meeting of the Highways and General-purpose Committee is scheduled for Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023 starting at 7.30pm.