

NEWTON-WITH-CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7th October 2021 commencing at 7.15 p.m. at Newton-with-Clifton village hall and via Zoom.

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

Councillors: S. Baugh (until 8.30 p.m.), Mrs. J. C. Benson, Mrs. G. Bevan, P. Collins (from 8.30 p.m.), Mrs J. McCormick, P. Morgan.

Borough/County Councillor: None.

Police: None.

Members of the public: One.

The chairman welcomed the new councillor and member of the public. The chairman then 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.

Arising from the Parish Elections held on Thursday 2nd May 2019 and subsequent co-option of one member at the meeting held on Thursday 2nd September 2021, prior to the meeting the co-opted member duly completed and signed a Declarations of Acceptance of Office. The member agreed to forward the Register of Members Interest (Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests) documentation, as previously provided by the clerk, for countersigning as complete and submission to Fylde borough council in due course.

a) **FORUM.**

i) Parishioner matters.

None reported.

ii) Police report.

No member observations subsequent to report circulated 4th October 2021.

1. PROCEDURAL MATTERS.

a) Apologies for Absence.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor P. Collins (in anticipation of late attendance) and Councillor S. Jones.

b) Chairman's communications.

i) Uncontested election of parish councillors for Newton-with-Clifton (Clifton ward) on Thursday 2nd May 2019, resignation office as a parish councillor.

The chairman referred to an email dated 2nd October 2021 from Mr. Christopher Bannister B.E.M. advising of resigning the office of councillor for Clifton ward with immediate effect. Following discussion it was agreed that council should send a formal letter expressing its appreciation and thanks acknowledging the former councillor's service including as chairman, vice chairman, council representative member on Fylde area committee of Lancashire association of local councils, nominative governor on Hornbies Newton charity, liaison member in respect of the council's grass cutting contract, parish tree warden and in many other associated roles & responsibilities. Also, it was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** the chairman and member arrange for a floral gift to be presented to Mr. Bannister in recognition of service over a period of over c. thirty eight years from 1983.

Procedural matters contd...

ii) Lancashire constabulary - PcsO deployment as a consequence of imminent promotion.

The chairman referred to an email dated 4th October 2021 from PcsO Lauren Vallely. Following discussion and recognising PcsO Lauren Vallely's endeavours over a period from c. 2018 it was agreed council express its appreciation and thanks and also offer congratulations on attaining promotion as a constable within Lancashire constabulary. To complement contact information that had been provided members agreed to request name details relating to the PcsO's successors(s) and extend an invitation to attend future council meetings. Also, reference was made to imminent potential changes in deployment of police in Kirkham and rural areas.

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. J. C. Benson formally Declared an Interest relating to Hornbies Foundation-Hornbies Newton Charity 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. 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 Newton Residents Association finance matters, if any. 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 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

i) Council meeting, Thursday 2nd September 2021.

The chairman put it to council that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd September 2021 as circulated, be approved and signed by the chairman as a correct record. It was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd September 2021 be approved and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

e) Matters arising from minutes.

No matters reported.

2. PARISH COMMUNICATION, SOCIAL MEDIA, GOVERNANCE.

a) Consider website development, receive report by chairman.

i) Councillor contact details for publication.

The chairman referred to this matter and the recently co-opted member agreed to provide details for publication.

ii) Casual vacancies in Office of councillor.

The chairman referred to the shortfall of members and the clerk advised that the ordinary elections held on Thursday 2nd May 2019 resulted in 4NO vacancies.

Although the ordinary elections resulted in 4NO vacancies, the parish council was nevertheless quorate, could fill the vacancies by co-option and without the need to publicise the 4NO vacancies. As a consequence of changes post the elections, the most recent being the resignation of former councillor Christopher Bannister with effect from 2nd October 2021, there are now 3NO vacancies; 1NO for Newton Ward and 2NO for Clifton Ward. Accordingly council continued to invite interested persons to submit a written application in support of their candidature for the 1NO Newton ward vacancy and 1NO Clifton ward vacancy. It was suggested that existing notifications could be more widely publicised e.g. a notice in the parish magazine. Also, in accordance with election rules a notice of the most recent Clifton Ward vacancy must be published to provide ward electors the opportunity to submit a duly signed notice stating that they wish the Fylde council returning officer to schedule an election timetable. If the returning officer is not so requested the parish council is then able to fill the most recent vacancy for Clifton Ward by co-option and council would again encourage interested persons to submit a written application in support of their candidature for the Clifton ward vacancy. Accordingly, it was agreed to process existing vacancies as outlined and a member agreed to liaise in this regard.

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

The chairman referred to this item explaining that the project is nearing completion, details posted on the website and much positive feedback has been received. 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.

iv) Ash dieback.

The chairman reported that details relating to ongoing initiatives had been posted on the website.

v) Littering in parish.

The chairman reported that details relating to ongoing initiatives had been posted on the website.

b) Hornbies Foundation - Hornbies Newton Charity, invitation to chairman to address the meeting.

The chairman referred to this matter and the clerk explained that the charity had not replied to the council's invitations. The chairman indicated that council records indicate nominative governor appointments are to be reviewed in May 2022 and effective from c. September 2022. Ahead of the review council would clearly welcome an opportunity to discuss with the charity chairman trustee the duties and responsibility of a Hornbies Foundation trustee and the work of the charity. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that the chairman prepare a list of questions to be put to the charity for consideration by members. 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, other than providing historic information as a council nominative governor, took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

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. Reference was made to a recent LCC communication advising LCC recognise that it is necessary for parents/carers to visit this location to pick up children and that the reported highway issues are not unique to the parish. LCC will not consider extending the one way order.

Highways contd...

LCC had advised: the current extent is clearly signed with warning signs approximately 150yds away before getting to the no entry signs, any extension of this would need to be significant for it to be effective and would almost certainly be met with objections from the residential properties that would be affected. The signage indicating "Entry to Blackpool Road Prohibited 150yds ahead " is adequate and correct, red signage with white lettering is generally used only for temporary signing, the wording is clear and concise and is clearly seen with one each side of the road. This signage complies with all necessary legislation. LCC recognise that school drop-off and collection activities have negative implications as seen across the county, the traffic issues are not extraordinary to this location and confirmed by the bus service that the issue is experienced at a number of primary schools along other bus routes. An LCC on-site survey confirmed there was a significant parking demand around the school that slowed vehicle traffic down considerably while having to manoeuvre around the parked vehicles but that non-heavy goods vehicles were passing safely, with due caution and LCC was not aware of any personal injury collisions on School Lane in the vicinity of the school in the last 5 years giving it a good safety record. Obstruction is an issue for the police to address, as is the issue of drivers ignoring the no entry/one way restriction and LCC advise the council to contact Lancashire constabulary requesting investigation and for appropriate action to be taken. If Lancashire constabulary contact LCC after having taken action but request assistance as it did not have the resources to effectively maintain enforcement, then LCC would consider a request sympathetically. Members expressed disappointment with LCC's response and agreed to request Lancashire constabulary to provide an increased police presence at peak school pick-up and drop-off times. In this regard council agreed to refer the matter to the Lancashire police crime commissioner Andrew Snowden and Chief Inspector Mark Douglas who had both attended a District/Parish liaison meeting held on Monday 20 September 2021.

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 that it had previously been agreed it could be raised with the newly elected county councillor at a future meeting. Following a response from the highways authority the county councillor had advised concern about the lack of crossing facilities and footways at this location was understandable, however LCC has no statutory duty to provide footways and many roads throughout Lancashire are either partly or wholly without footways. Given that LCC could not evidence poor road safety at this location it cannot justify expenditure towards footway improvements or crossing facilities at this time. A members suggested the lack of adverse highway safety evidence may be due to some incidents not being reported to the authority. It was agreed that the matter be monitored with a view to refer any incidents to support the parish council request to LCC.

iii) Public footpath NOS.6/7.

The chairman referred to this matter explaining that a recent LCC response indicated its public rights of way team will inspect the location and execute necessary remedial works in due course.

iv) Oak Lane, Newton-with-Scales, highway surface reinstatement required, following recent sewer installation/maintenance work associated with ongoing residential development causing potholes/subsidence.

A member referred to this matter explaining that LCC advised the road will be inspected and any carriage-way defects identified at least 40mm deep and at least 150mm wide, will be repaired within 22 days. It was agreed to again refer this matter to LCC recommending it contacts the construction company that is considered the responsible party.

b) New LCC matters.

i) A583/Blackpool Road/Bryning Lane, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales.

The chairman reported issues raised relating to ongoing works at the above junction commencing Saturday 25th September 2021. Subsequently Newton-with-Scales has been subject to severe highway disruptions as a consequence of ongoing gas pipe replacement work.

Highways contd...

This is adversely impacting drivers of vehicles seeking egress from the village to a degree considered unacceptable by parishioners. Moreover, access to/egress from a number of private residences on Blackpool Road was also adversely affected. LCC is aware that Newton-with-Scales has only one practical exit from the village. As a consequence of the above work vehicle drivers seeking access to/egress from the village are now using Oak Lane/Parrox Lane. Oak Lane already has a section coned off, arising from works associated with sewerage infrastructure installations, and previously reported reinstatement work had still to be executed. Moreover no prior information had been provided to individual owner/occupiers of property affected. Similarly, no notification had been received by the council or any general public notice other than the detail on its website and it is not possible to identify when this information was posted. If LCC had advised the parish council of highways works this would then have been published on the parish council website and may have mitigated, to some degree, parishioner inconvenience by being forewarned. The clerk reported that the matter had been referred to LCC and the area county councillor and a response had still to be received. It was agreed to pursue the matter further with LCC also recommending that while this work is ongoing signage should be provided, in the interest of highway safety, prohibiting vehicles, particularly HGV and similar accessing Parrox Lane from the A583/Blackpool Road.

ii) Grit bin, Thames Street, entrance off School Lane, Newton-with-Scales.

A member reported a parishioner request for a plastic salt grit bin to be located at the above location as it had been reported that Fylde council refuse collection vehicle drivers occasionally have difficulty in the winter months when accessing/egressing the area. It was agreed to request LCC to provide the salt grit bin at this locality.

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 explained it is still being dealt with by Westchurch Homes Ltd.

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, however it was agreed the issue should remain an agenda item for purposes of monitoring and to prevent any reversion.

iii) Littering in parish.

The chairman referred to this item and a member explained that available equipment had still to be provided in Clifton village. It was agreed that once litter equipment is made available in Clifton details will be published on the website.

iv) SpID operations.

The chairman and a member referred to this matter and explained that since decommissioning the SpID equipment, as it had become uneconomic to repair, there had not been any noticeable adverse impact on highway safety. Consequently it was difficult to justify purchasing new equipment. Members also referred to SpID operations in Ribby-with-Wrea and suggested an equipment sharing arrangement may be feasible on occasions, with Newton-with-Clifton parish council making an agreed financial contribution to Ribby-with-Wrea parish council. It was agreed the clerk seek the observations of Ribby-with-Wrea parish council regarding this suggestion.

4. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.

a) Planning applications.

The chairman reported there were no planning applications to consider.

Planning contd...

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

i) No decisions were reported.

5. PARKS AND OPEN SPACES.

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

The authorised officer/liaison member in respect of the contract reported maintenance is ongoing subject to prevailing weather conditions.

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

The authorised officer/liaison member in respect of the contract reported maintenance is ongoing, subject to prevailing weather conditions, in accordance with the contract conditions and specifications.

The authorised officer/liaison member reported the contractor had; removed box planter displays on Newton Hall Park fencing ahead of park improvement engineering works and executed weed-killing for the millennium circle and its blocked paving pathway and A583/Bryning Lane junction Newton-with-Scales, free of charge.

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

The clerk referred to the previously circulated report by council's FoNCP representative which was taken as read. With regard to specific FoNCP community parks improvement programme (CPIP) enquiries the clerk advised that the council's public liability insurance is £10m and the 2020/21 grant from Lancashire county councillor P. Rigby, Champion for Parishes in the sum of £315 will be transferred on receiving FoNCP's formal request together with its bank account details. Also, following a member enquiry, the clerk advised that Fylde council will be required to review its recreational equipment service level agreement with the council following completion of the CPIP. The council's FoNCP representative member reported positive feedback from users of the sensory garden and the features created by members of the working group subsequent to attending Dig In Northwest carpentry/pyrography workshops. An official opening of the play park will be publicised in due course subsequent to formal inspections being completed. The chairman referred to the pedestrian access with galvanised safety barriers. It has been proposed that this barrier is to remain in place with an additional stretch of bowtop fencing closing the gap between the play area and the existing barrier parallel to the road. However following discussions between FoNCP/Fylde council (FBC) and Lancashire county council highways (LCC) an additional panel had been proposed to provide a closed chicane as an additional safety measure and would ensure pedestrians cross the road at the barrier. LCC has stated it requires the parish council to indemnify the authority against potential third party claims in respect of the modified pedestrian entrance. It was understood that the existing pedestrian entrance meets LCC safety requirements and accordingly it was agreed to request clarification on this issue from 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.

The chairman referred to this item and the need to expeditiously resolve the prevailing situation. Previously it had been agreed that 2NO Clifton ward members and the clerk meet with the contractor.

Parks contd...

The contractor had not responded to the meeting invitation but had communicated with a Clifton ward member. From this communication it had been inferred that due to other work commitments the contractor cannot expeditiously deal with the council's recommendations to meet on site and is willing to permit another contractor, of the council's choosing, to execute remedial work which is to be funded from the sum retained by the council following a payment on account of the contractor invoice. However, since the council's communication of 4th September 2021 an issue relating to weeds on the constructed footway had been identified. It was considered that this issue began from late August 2021 becoming more prolific from September onwards. Discussion ensued and alternatives considered to rectify the situation. It was agreed that while the present situation was unacceptable a satisfactory outcome should still be achievable if goodwill is demonstrated by all parties involved. It was agreed that issues arising from the project, and the experienced gained as a consequence, will be considered by the contract working group in an attempt to avoid any future recurrence.

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

The chairman referred to this item and members reported details relating to local tree surgeons who could be invited to quote for future Ash dieback work. A member reported details relating to possible grant assistance i.e. woodland tree health grant and local authority treescapes fund. Discussion ensued and it was agreed to request further information from Lancashire county council and Fylde council relating to responsibility for Ash dieback work and any financial assistance towards work that is required to be executed. The chairman reported that 4NO diseased Ash trees on Newton Hall Park in proximity to the fence that is to be replaced as part of the community park improvement programme had been felled and removed.

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

The chairman referred to this item and the clerk advised that arrangements are in place for BT Openreach (BT) to visit the site on Tuesday 19th October 2021 between 8-1300. BT Openreach has provided an assurance that telephone advice half an hour prior to the engineer arrival will be provided for the convenience of others required to attend. Following an enquiry by the chairman the clerk advised; BT had not made any reference to a "universal service", charges would not be incurred in the event of BT being unable to provide the service and equipment relating to the order, BT Business Smart Hub 2 superfast, Hybrid connect &c was provided to the chairman for engineer installation in due course.

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.

The chairman referred to this item and advised that other than signage that had still to be delivered and fixed by LWT/NE the project is complete. The chairman advised of extensive positive feedback that had been received regarding the pond feature. 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 the clerk advised that the equipment has been ordered and a delivery date has still to be advised due to prevailing haulage issues.

i) Use of playing field, and ancillary facilities, adjacent Newton-with-Clifton Village Hall (NWCVH) by Kirkham Juniors Football Club (KJFC).

The chairman referred to this item explaining that at a meeting with NWCVHC it had been explained that discussions between NWCVH/KJFC relating to grass cutting operations remain ongoing. Hedge maintenance was also discussed and it was agreed council should approach a local contractor, with the necessary expertise and equipment to execute the work.

Parks contd...

Members had previously expressed their disquiet regarding matters relating to playing field maintenance, grass cutting operations &c particularly regarding grass cutting, arrangements for removal of arisings and a consequential heap accumulating in a corner of the field. Clarification was still required on matters relating to the playing field maintenance, instructions to contractors, invoicing arrangements &c and it was agreed that these matters should be resolved between NWCVHC/KJFC. The chairman advised that issues relating to car park bollards; potential trip hazard, vehicle damage &c are being addressed as is the village hall email address and new booking telephone number i.e. 07342763167. The chairman reported ongoing discussions relating to the management operations of the village hall and the relationship between the council, as the custodian trustee and NWCVHC as management trustees, particularly with regard to financial assistance, public liability insurances, responsibilities arising from hiring the village hall and the playing field adjacent the village hall &c. The chairman referred to the council appointed trustee to NWCVHC and that the existing nominative trustee had indicated an intention to resign the position. It was agreed to consider this situation in due course. The chairman suggested potential members needed to be fully informed about the duties and responsibilities of the office of councillor, particularly council appointments to other bodies. A members referred to the introductory information provided by the clerk in reply to individual enquiries relating to vacancies in the office of councillor. Following observations by the chairman the clerk referred to information circulated ahead of the council's annual meeting, following a member request, relating to the council appointments and the varying responsibilities related to these positions.

j) Fence and tree work, Nos. 11a and 15 Dixon's Farm Mews, Clifton impacting William Pickles Park, Clifton.

The chairman referred to this item and the clerk advised receiving one response to the council's communications acknowledging the position. This correspondence emphasised being unwilling to participate in any further consultation. It was agreed that council defer consideration of its options with regard to negating the unauthorised access facility at these properties until a later meeting.

k) Seasonal decorations - consider current arrangements and any suggested alternatives.

The chairman invited a Newton ward member to report on this matter. It was explained that at present costs information of large artificial outdoor Christmas trees is still not readily available. Accordingly it was agreed existing arrangements be continued and the clerk liaise with the 2NO local contractors to deliver and erect 2NO Christmas trees for Clifton and Newton-with-Scales, including storing and erecting temporary fencing and removal of this and trees in January 2022 and install maintain and remove Christmas lighting.

l) Hedge cutting - various locations.

A member reported the council's flower and shrub bed contractor had requested and been authorised to execute hedge cutting at Dixon's Farm Mews, off Preston Old Road, Clifton £40, Lodge Lane opposite Squirrels Chase, Clifton £30 and School Lane (Farm) Newton-with-Scales £25.

m) Newton Hall Park, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales - brambles encroachment.

The chairman reported this problem explaining the council's authorised officer/liaison member, parks and open spaces contract, is to liaise with the contractor in obtaining a quote to execute corrective maintenance.

n) William Pickles Park, Clifton Lane, Clifton, - brambles encroachment.

A member reported this problem subsequent to a strip of land no longer being maintained, probably to encourage biodiversity.

o) Hedge cutting, playing field adjacent Newton-with-Clifton village hall (NWCVH).

The chairman referred to this matter and it was agreed a local contractor be engaged to execute maintenance.

Parks contd...

p) Vehicle parking, Newton Hall Park, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales

The chairman advised that issues relating to overnight and daytime vehicle parking had mitigated subsequent to Friends of Newton Community Park notices requesting the co-operation of vehicle drivers/owners being placed on individual vehicles that regularly use the car park.

q) Newton Hall Park, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales, - Willow tree maintenance.

A member referred to this issue and agreed to liaise with a local tree surgeon in obtaining a quote to execute maintenance.

r) William Pickles Park, Clifton Lane, Clifton, shrub maintenance.

A member reported the council's flower and shrub bed contractor had requested permission to trim 4NO shrub bushes. It was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that this work be authorised.

s) Newton Hall Park, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales, deposit of excavated material arising from gas main replacement and related gas governor work, A583/Blackpool Road/Bryning Lane, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales.

The chairman reported that excavated material relating to this work had been temporarily deposited on the park by Cadent Gas Limited (CGL) contractor/sub-contractor. It was agreed that CGL be requested to arrange for the removal of the material as soon as is practicable.

6. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS.

a) Approve invoices for payment.

i) List 1.

The chairman referred to this item and it was Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that the following invoices &c be paid.

R. Kenyon T/A Kenyons Tree and Fencing Services	Fell and remove 4NO Ash trees, Newton Hall Park, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales. Vat	£500.00 £100.00	£600.00
Newitt & Company Ltd	Supply Harrod S/HW Lock goals at Newton Hall Park, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales. Supply Harrod S/HW Lock goals at William Pickles Park, Clifton Lane, Clifton.	£947.10 £947.10	Vat £378.84 £2273.04
Information Commissioner	Registration renewal fee 2021/22.		£35.00
Paul Gregory T/a Acer Contracts	Flower & shrub beds and floral displays September 2021. Cut hedge Dixon's Farm Mews, Clifton. Cut hedge opposite Squirrels Chase at Lodge Lane, Clifton. Cut hedge School Lane, Newton-with-Scales	£991.25 £40.00 £30.00 £25.00	Vat £217.25 £1303.50
+T. Pawson T/A PDQ Garden Services.	Grass cutting contract maintenance September 2021.	£1748.00 Vat £349.60	£2097.60 £6309.14

Finance contd...

i) List 2

+PKF Littlejohn	Audit fee 2020-21.	£300.00	
		Vat £60.00	<u>£360.00</u>

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 as members of the public were no longer in attendance and the clerk had indicated no confidential issues were to be raised, 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. **RESOLVED ACCORDINGLY.**

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

The chairman referred to this item and the clerk 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.

d) Management of contracts.

i) Consider chairman's report.

The chairman advised that contract review work is ongoing. An alternative open tendering approach, where contractors are invited to design a specification within a budget determined by the council, is being assessed. Fylde council has adopted this approach relating to the Community Parks Improvement Programme (CPIP) at Newton Hall Park. In due course, and following a review of documentation by the working group, details will be circulated for members consideration.

7. Queens Jubilee, District Parish Liaison meeting item Monday 20th September 2021, request parishes share ideas.

The chairman referred to this item and members explained that in 2022 the Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee of seventy years of service, acceding to the throne on 6th February 1952. An extended bank holiday, from Thursday 2nd June 2022 to Sunday 5th June 2022, will provide an opportunity for communities and people throughout the United Kingdom to come together to celebrate the historic milestone. The four days of celebrations will include public events, community activities and national moments of reflection. Following discussion members suggested that the contractor and the council's authorised officer/liaison member, flower and shrub beds contract, agree a design plan of a variety of flowers/plants for the beds and other displays with a colour scheme of blue, red and white. Also it was agreed to request Fylde council to supply and fix bunting for both villages over the period of celebration. Other suggestions included beacon, UK flag and pole installation, "Family Fun Days" and street parties and publicise details in parish magazine to enlist the support of local organisations. It was agreed the item remain on the agenda for further consideration.

Any other matters contd...

8. ANY OTHER MATTERS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY.

a) Christmas celebration.

A member suggested organising a parish council Christmas party and it was agreed to circulate some dates for consideration.

b) Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC) public consultation on proposals for new council wards and ward boundaries for Fylde.

A Clifton ward member referred to this matter and explained the LGBC's final recommendation are scheduled to be published on 30th November 2021.

c) Date of next meeting.

It was agreed that the next council meeting be scheduled for Thursday 4th November 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 21:55hrs.

Chairman

4th November 2021