

SHELFORD AND NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Shelford, on Wednesday February 25, 2015 at 7.00pm

Couns. Brian Squires (Chairman) (A)	
James Fisher (in the chair)	Mrs Margaret Goulder
John Fearn	Mick Unwin (A)
Kevin Brooks (A)	Stephen Fisher (A)

Also present: The clerk Mike Elliott, and four members of the public.

1] Apologies Couns. M Unwin, K Brooks, B Squires.

2] Declarations of Interests There were none

3] Minutes from the previous meeting held on January 28, 2015, were accepted as circulated and signed by the chairman.

4] Clerk's report

Coun. Mrs Goulder attended a meeting called by Trent Barton and held at East Bridgford, in regard to the local services. She said the discussion had centred on one service.

The clerk reported he had been in contact with Trent-Barton buses, Notts County Council and the contractors concerned in respect of a road works scheme to replace a water drain on Shelford Hill and the fact the road would be completely closed to traffic for a two week period in April.

The bus company had said it could not divert its current route into Shelford because it would add too much to the journey to allow it to maintain its schedule if their vehicles had to enter by using the A6097 and Manor Lane.

The contractors had said that it would be impossible to have the road in use for traffic on a one way system or for traffic light controlled use of it because the width was not sufficient. Large machinery would be used for the work to be able to proceed and this would make it impossible for traffic to pass. The safety of the contractors work force was another factor they put forward for a reason for total closure.

Talks had been held to look at the possibility of a shuttle bus service and earlier in the evening Notts County Council had advised the clerk this had now been agreed.

Notts County Council advised they would always notify a local parish council on any scheme they are undertaking in a particular parish, following a complaint that work on Shelford Hill had not been notified to the parish council. Sometimes if other contractors are involved they (the other contractors) don't give the necessary notice but they should.

5] Public Session limited to 15 minutes

Nothing was raised.

6] Newton Matters

The clerk was asked to advise Rushcliffe Borough Council that the Chipmunk Way road name sign had been found in the ditch at side of the road in Newton. Coun. Mrs Goulder reported that two of the firms currently working from the hangers at Newton would, she understood, be moving by the end of May.

The use of Wellington Avenue by heavy goods vehicles was continuing, and concerns were expressed that the correct route was not being used.

7] Correspondence

Rushcliffe Borough Council were to hold a community clean up on March 21 and it was agreed the council support this. An appeal would be made for residents in both Shelford and Newton to support the project. The ATC headquarters at Newton would be the starting base as would the village hall at Newton. The clerk was asked to ensure details of the event went on to the website and the village newsletter as well as noticeboards.

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Rushcliffe CVS were to hold meetings to show elderly people in the Borough the organisations that provided activities for them. The council agreed the initial meeting could be held in the village hall without charge.

8] Gravel extraction scheme

The meeting was told that there had been some press publicity for the action group SAGE. The County Council were currently looking at the comments that had been made during their consultation period.

The meeting discussed the balance held by SAGE of the grant made to them by the parish council and the clerk was asked to write to its chairman Mr Robin Whysall to ascertain how much had not in fact been yet spent. The meeting felt that this balance should be returned to the parish council before the break up of the two parishes. If further funding was required in due course the action group would, it has already been stated, approach a number of local councils including both Shelford and Newton.

9] Formation of separate councils for Shelford and Newton

The clerk was to attend a meeting the following day at Rushcliffe Borough Council offices with Paul Cox (solicitor), Daniel Swaine (deputy CEO) and a representative from the treasurer's department.

Among the questions he said he would be asking would be the need for new bank accounts and signatories, dates for the annual council meetings which would be suggested as May 19, with a 6.30pm start and a second one at 8.00pm. Play equipment at both Shelford and Newton was another point to be raised as was the way to deal with incoming emails and letters received after April 1 when for five weeks there would not be a council in office. The meeting agreed that the current clerk would be expected to continue to undertake work during the interim period before the new councils were formed.

It was suggested that the current minutes books for the joint council should be deposited with the County Archives office. The end of year accounts would be required to be finalised during April and it was expected the clerk would carry this out as usual and be paid for his time. The question of the future of correspondence etc. files was also raised.

The clerk was asked by the council to seek guidance from the Borough on 'overlapping' expenditure of the current council where it was meeting expenditure for the future for Shelford, such as the rent for the village hall and the playing field at Shelford. The clerk was to ask how part of that expenditure would be dealt with in regard to a return of part of it to Newton. The Borough was also to be asked how a valuation was to be made of village hall stock at Shelford and how this would be dealt with in connection with the sharing of the funds held at the time of the division of the two councils.

10] Playing Field

The acting chairman said he had ordered the necessary hedge cutting work and this would be carried out shortly.

11] Village Hall

There was nothing to report.

12] Planning including Notification of works in the parish

Rushcliffe Borough Council planning applications

15/00101/ADV Richard Eccles, Street Record, Newton Lane, Newton. Roundabout advertising signs, consists of two tubular metal posts secured into the ground plus a composite advertising plate attached to the posts. Object. The signs would be obtrusive in the rural area and distracting for passing motorists and therefore a danger.

Rushcliffe Borough Council planning decisions

There were none

13] Chairman's Matters

A comment was made that visitors to the meetings had difficulty in hearing comments that were made.

14] Agenda Items for Next Meeting March 25 (the last of the council) and the parish meeting.

It was agreed that the agenda for the final meeting of the council should be reduced as much as possible. It would be followed by the parish meeting and tea and coffee and biscuits would be served, with the Coffee Pot offering to do this. The clerk was to invite all former councillors and chairmen to the meeting. A check was to be made with NALC to see if they were able to suggest any type of Certificate that might be available to present to the members of the council in office at the close down meeting. The press were to be invited to the meeting and Coun. Mrs Cutts offered to pay for a special cake to be made and to be cut on the final night.

15] Finance. Payment of cheques was approved as per the circulated list

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.