

## **Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 22 May 2018 at Newport Village Hall**

1. The minutes of the Annual Village Meeting held on Wednesday 10 May 2017 were approved and signed as a correct record.

2. Opening address by the Vice-Chair of Newport Parish Council. Cllr Etherington welcomed everyone present at the meeting. He commented on the following:

- this is not a parish council meeting. The purpose of the meeting is so that the chair of the Parish Council can give a run down on what it has been doing over the last year and it enables members of the public to have their say on anything they consider is important to the people of the Parish.
- that Parish Council meetings have had to move from the school to the village hall because of ERYC's new rules. Meetings will normally be on the 2nd Wednesday every month at Newport Village Hall starting at 7.00pm except in June and July this year the meetings will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month as the hall is not available on Wednesdays. There is a Public Forum at each meeting when members of the public can speak for a limited period of time on any matter that they wish to bring to the Parish Council's attention, but the council is legally restricted on what, if anything it can do.
- PC held 11 meetings 2017/18
- Current vacancies for councillors – 4

The council received 14 planning applications 2017/18 – fewer than 2016/17, most relating to domestic properties. Current concern re application for 24 hour, 7 day a week operations at JZ Flowers – (parking of HGV issues on road, extra traffic etc), have been relayed to ERYC – will add to existing problems.

**Cemetery and churchyard.** The cemetery is under the control of Newport Council. The churchyard is under the control of the Church of England but Newport Council is responsible for its maintenance.

- Churchyard: new fencing on the western boundary has been installed. Grass on the right hand side of the churchyard can be cut with a mower, but grass on the left hand side and behind the church has to be strimmed because the ground is very uneven. The council has increased the number of strims to keep it looking tidy.
- Cemetery: new notice board purchased to display cemetery rules, a map of the cemetery to make it easier for visitors to find graves, and contact details.

**Canal Side East.** The council is aware of extensive damage to grass verges over the winter months. Verges are the responsibility of ERYC which has said it cannot undertake any repair work at present. The council is aware of the poor state of the road surface.

**Youth project:** This continues to be successful and is promoted by ERYC as an example of good practice. Over 140 young people aged 9-16 from Newport and Gilberdyke are registered and we employ 3 youth workers. We ran summer holidays activity programme last year with the aid of a grant from the Sixpenny Wood windfarm fund and will be doing another summer programme this year with the aid of a grant from ERYC. Always looking for volunteers to help out at weekly sessions.

### **Brickyard:**

The bog area has been removed and infilled because it was very difficult to maintain. The bike track has been refurbished.

3. Public Session.

Councillor John Harrison, attending as a member of the public, commented on the following:

- He had only recently become aware of the existence of Community Engagement Officers employed by the Police and Crime Commissioner. Ward councillors had been told of their existence but not parish councils.
- He had met with Miss D Fagan, the officer for East Riding on 11 May to discuss the Community Speeding Project (CSP) and traffic calming measures in Newport. The CSP has been trialled in Lincolnshire and appears to have been a success according to an acquaintance of Mr Harrison. The project will be studied for effectiveness and then a decision will be made on whether it should be rolled out to all communities. Funding might be an issue.
- He had obtained information on the mobile speed camera which visits Newport and cited the (i) the number of speeding enforcements between 1 May 2005 and 30 April 2018; (ii) statistics on the breaking of speed limits and (iii) the total number of hours the mobile speed camera had been in Newport.

Mr A Batty, expressed his dissatisfaction at 'the state' of the village, in particular the amount of litter and weed growth in road gutters. He passed on photographs he had taken of litter. He questioned whether the council could employ a street cleaner as it had in the past, to deal with these issues. Other members of the public disagreed that the village was 'in a state'. Mr Batty was advised that there was no record of the council ever employing a street cleaner, but a contractor was used twice weekly to sweep Main Road and any other area deemed to require attention. He also commented on dog walkers failing to clear up after their dogs on the public footpath running south alongside the canal from Main Road bridge.

Mr John Harrison commented that the same problem existed on Hopwood Lane. The Clerk to the council said that she would put up notices at the two locations to remind people to pick up after their dogs. Mr Harris said he had seen dead rats on the track alongside the M62 between Hopwood Lane and Canal Side East.