

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF NEWTON-UPON-RAWCLIFFE & STAPE

The Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Newton upon Rawcliffe on Thursday 16th November 2017 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: *Chairman Ian Parkin
Deputy Chairman Steven Jackson
Councillor Ian Clough
Councillor Josephine Hall
Councillor Philip Jackson
Councillor David Hall
Councillor Jane Hemingway
Councillor Grant Nersessian*

Also present Parish Clerk Mrs Helen Pells

76/2016 *To Receive & Approve Apologies for Absence
All members of the council present.*

77/2016 *To Approve & Sign as a Correct Record the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 21st September
It was RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.*

78/2016 *Declarations of Members' Interests in Respect of Items on this Agenda
No declarations made.*

79/2017 *Open Forum
No members of the public present.*

80/2017 **Parish Precept**

Following a discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to apply for an annual precept of £2200 an increase of £100.

81/2017 **Cemetery Fees**

It was **RESOLVED** after discussion not to increase the cemetery fees.

82/2017 **Christmas Tree**

In previous years the Christmas Tree outside the former post office had been bought by Councillor Jane Hemingway. Ozzie and Christine Harrison had decorated it and provided the electricity for the lights. It was suggested that the council bought the tree itself and it was **RESOLVED** to contribute £50 towards its cost.

83/2017 **No Smoking for Play Areas**

RDC informed the parish council that there was money available for promoting 'smoke free' areas for example in children's play areas. A discussion of this topic followed in which members of the council felt it wouldn't make any difference; smokers will continue to smoke. However, it was also acknowledged by those councillors who go to the play park in Newton with their children that smoking has never been a problem. It was therefore **RESOLVED** to maintain the status quo.

84/2017 Traffic Speed Signs

Councillor Nersessian had been looking into the possibility of having traffic speed signs on both approaches to Newton but after discussion of their effectiveness it was **RESOLVED** not to pursue the matter. However, Councillor Jane Hemingway suggested that it might be possible to obtain 'horse riders' warning signs from the British Horse Society and she would liaise with Highways on this matter.

85/2017 Fracking

Councillor Nersessian sought the opinion of his fellow councillors as to whether or not anything was to be gained by discussing fracking. The parish council had voted against it in the past. However, since then new members had joined the council and the possibility of fracking at Kirby Misperton was more likely and protests were a frequent occurrence. There was little support for a new debate and the item was abandoned.

86/2017 Correspondence & Matters to report from the Clerk

- **Retirement:** The parish clerk informed the council that she would be retiring in March 2018. She had already informed the chairman.
- **Street Lighting** At a meeting of the RDC in July 2017 it was agreed to cease the special levy arrangements for street lighting in some areas including Newton upon Rawcliffe and transfer responsibility for street lighting over to Parish Councils. However, this action

was later deemed to be illegal. RDC now hope that it can enter into a voluntary arrangement with parish councils. It intends to conduct a survey of street lighting provided through the Special Levy to assess the implications of bringing the lamps and columns up to standard. RDC will then present options for the future delivery of street lighting. Consultation with parish councils will be made before any final decision.

- **Footpaths in Newton and signs for playpark.** Highways have agreed to repair the worst areas of footpaths in Newton. The engineer agreed that the playing field was difficult to find and has no objections to the parish council putting up signs provided they are off the highway and with the landowner's permission.

87/2016 Finance

Cheques for approval and signing:

16/11/17	558	Steve Hodgson	Mole Control	£200
16/11/17	559	Newton Village Hall	Hire for meetings	£204
16/11/17	560	Jane Hemingway	Christmas Tree	£50

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the cheques.

Balance: 31st October 2017 = £9751.19

88/2017 Ongoing Matters and Any Other Business

Councillor David Hall had contacted a charity which will dredge the pond but will need volunteers on the day to assist.

89/2017 *Reports from Councillors on other meetings attended*
None

90/2017 *Matters to report from the Chairman*
None

91/2017 *Matters for future consideration*
None at present

92/2017 *Date of Next Meeting*
18th January 2018
Councillor Phil Jackson gave his apologies as he would be away for this next meeting.

The meeting ended at 8.05 p.m.

Signed:

Chairman: _____ *Date:*