MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEWBOLD VERDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 4TH JUNE 1990 AT THE PAVILION, ALANS WAY, NEWBOLD VERDON

PRESENT: M. W. Preston (Chairman), R. Watson, A. Hurst, H. Francks, W. W. Goddard, S. Spence, B. R. Davison, R. Kendall, M. B. Mensley, D. Colledge, E. A. Walsh (Clerk), J. Crookes (Borough Councillor).

PARISHIONERS: 4

81. APOLOGIES

None

82. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th May having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record.

83. ACCOUNTS

Payable:

			£
Allen Bostock (Builders) Ltd.			
Repairs to shelter, Desford Rd.		192.50	
	VAT	28.87	221.37
Dragon Lane Rec. repairs		120.48	
	VAT	18.07	138.55
Newbold Toddler Park Project - contribution			1,000.00
EMEB - Pavilion electricity charges			94.10
E. H. Bell - caretaker's wages - 14.5. -3.6.90 3 weeks at £20 per week			60.00
E. A. Walsh - salary	May	166.66	
	Expenses	47.91	214.57
W.D. & B. Harding & Son - grass cutting		814.00	
	VAT	122.11	936.11
		TOTAL	2,664.70

Received:

Gillivers - memorial fee - M. M. Underwood	15.00
G. Seller & Co. Ltd. - memorial fee - E. Walsh	15.00
Newbold Verdon Junior FC - pitch fees - Feb/Mar/Apr	40.00
Swan FC " " "	54.00
	124.00

84. CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter had been received from W. D. & B. Harding & Sons regarding the works carried out in the Cemetery and confirming that the level of soil from the hedges and fences would be reduced and that they were willing to seed the area that had been cleared of top soil.

A further letter from the Council's contractor confirmed that he had had a meeting with the Chairman and it had been suggested that the cricket outfield be cut weekly during the playing season. Mr. Harding also considered that there was not sufficient provision of cuts allowed for on the field itself and that the field should be cut at least every 14 days during the mowing season with a possibility that it be cut even more often when growing faster. It was therefore suggested that perhaps a further 6 cuts be allowed for to cope with the problem. Mr. Harding also pointed out that an area of the field adjacent to the river had not been reinstated following works on the brook and he suggested that it needed harrowing, seeding and rolling during the Autumn. The members agreed that the contractor be instructed to arrange weekly cuts of the cricket square outfield and that the Clerk obtain a quotation from the contractor to cover:

(a) harrowing, seeding and rolling the area adjacent to the brook, and
(b) harrowing and rolling the whole field.

2. A letter had been received from the Verdon in Bloom Association expressing their gratitude to the Parish Council for the generous donation of £750 towards their funds. The letter was noted.

3. A letter had been received from the solicitors of Mr. P. W. Bonsall regarding the proposed sale of the land adjacent to the Alans Way Playing Field, enclosing a plan identifying the area to be conveyed to the Parish Council. The solicitors pointed out that they had requested their client to confirm the size of the area of land to be conveyed and it was agreed that the Clerk should await further details before proceeding with the matter.

4. A letter had been received from the Leicestershire Rural Community Council giving details of the proposed Leics. Best Village Tree Planting Scheme for 1990. The closing date for entries was 1.11.90. It was agreed that the Clerk should request a formal entry form to enable the Parish Council to enter the competition.

5. A letter had been received from the Divisional Highways Surveyor confirming that the substantial branch of the tree outside 37 Arnolds Crescent had been referred to the Council's DLO for action. The members confirmed that this branch had already been removed.

6. A letter had been received from the Chief Executive and County Clerk of the County Council confirming that the County Council had made a definitive map modification order in respect of Hinckley and Bosworth in respect of Section 55(5)(b) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The effect of the order was to modify the definitive map and statement in accordance with proposals that had received no objection at the draft review. The order was duly noted.

7. A letter had been received from the Director of Development at Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council regarding the approval of a landscaping scheme in respect of the Cadeby Homes residential development in the village. The Director advised that he had received a proposal for the tree planting on the site which had now been approved by the Borough Council and offered to provide details of the scheme if required. The members confirmed that they did wish to have details of the scheme and the Clerk was asked to write accordingly.

8. A letter had been received from the Director of Public Services, Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, regarding the responsibility for maintenance of the section of hedge between the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground and the EMEB Sub-station No. 948L. The Director pointed out that the responsibility for maintenance of this hedge rested with the Electricity Board and suggested that the Parish Council address their complaint to them. The Clerk confirmed that a letter had already been sent to the EMEB.

85. COUNCIL INSURANCE & NEWBOLD IN BLOOM INSURANCE

The Clerk advised the members that the Council's Insurers, Cornhill Insurance, had forwarded details of a new form of local council insurance policy which had received full approval of the Association of Local and Parish Councils. Apparently the Association have issued an explanatory memorandum regarding the effect of the new policy but this was not yet available to the Parish Council. It was agreed that the new forms for the policy, which would be underwritten by Alexander Stenhouse UK Ltd. would be circulated for members to peruse and the matter would be considered further at a later date. The Clerk reminded members that the Parish Council's renewal premium had only just been paid in April and that it was hoped that if a new policy was taken out, the amount already paid to Cornhill Insurance would be credited to the Council as appropriate.

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Cornhill Insurance notifying the Council that a request had been received from the Verdon in Bloom Association that the Council's insurers provide an all-risks insurance cover in respect of a water tank with petrol driven pump worth £650 which had been acquired by the Association. As the Association was not a Subcommittee of the Parish Council, the insurers were unable to take instructions direct from them regarding insurance. Whilst the insurers would not normally wish to cover property which was neither owned by nor the responsibility of the Parish Council, the insurers did agree that if the Council were willing, they would be prepared to add the pump to the property damage section of the Council's policy at a rate of 75p per £100 for all-risks cover together with an additional premium of £4.88 p.a. The members agreed that the Council should pay the additional premium to cover the pump and recover the cost direct from the Verdon in Bloom

Association. The Clerk was asked to contact the Insurers and the Association's Secretary accordingly.

86. PLAY WALL - ALANS WAY PLAYING FIELD

This item had been placed on the agenda at the request of Mrs. Spence who reported that a group of young boys had approached her with a request that a brick wall be erected on the Alans Way Playing Field against which they could play football. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that any members expressing an interest in the proposed project should make enquiries of other parishes to establish details of size and specification with a view to reporting back to the Council so that the Clerk could then obtain the necessary quotations. It was agreed that the matter should be left on the agenda for the Council's next meeting.

87. MOWER - ALANS WAY PLAYING FIELD

The Chairman pointed out in his Annual Report that he had suggested the acquisition by the Parish Council of a small tractor mower with a rotary blade to enable the local cricketers and footballers to mow the Alans Way Playing Field facilities as required. He suggested that this might alleviate concerns which had been expressed in the past about the state of the field when it was felt that the Council's contract had proved deficient at times when there was excessive grass growth. The Chairman suggested that the approximate cost of such a machine would be £1,200. The members duly noted his proposal and it was agreed that this item remain on the agenda so that the matter could be re-considered when the extension to the pavilion had been achieved.

88. PARISHIONER'S APPLICATION TO PURCHASE PARCEL OF LAND - GILBERTS DRIVE

It was reported that a site meeting had been held at the green on Mallory Close regarding the application made by Mr. & Mrs. Childs to purchase a triangular parcel of land forming part of the green. The Clerk reported that the land had been acquired by the original developer, Bonsalls, and was the subject of a condition under a Section 52 Town & Country Planning Act 1971 agreement with the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council that the land should forever remain open land for use by the public. The Charges Register contained a restrictive covenant against the owner for the time being of the land using the same for any other purpose than open land for the benefit and amenity of parishioners of the village. In view of this restrictive covenant it was agreed that the Clerk should notify the applicants that the Parish Council was unable to consider their application any further.

89. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

90/0603/4 and 90/0602/4 - Application by I. Selkirk of The Hall, Main Street, Newbold Verdon for planning permission for demolition and refurbishment of barns and redevelopment of farmyard to create 14 dwellings. - The members objected

to the application on the basis:-

(a) that the development would create traffic flow problems along the Main Street carriageway which it was felt had restricted width;

(b) that the access from the development to Main Street would, in itself, form congestion;

(c) that this area of Main Street was already used for considerable parking by visitors at the Church and this would be a further cause for traffic congestion at the site of the development;

(d) that the proposal to develop 14 properties on the site adjacent to The Hall was, in view of its location, considered to be a general over-development of the site;

(e) the proposed plans indicate a total width of the carriageway to include footpath and grass verge of 30 ft. and members felt that in reality the overall width would be considerably less than this as seems to be indicated by the present width of the carriageway at this location.

The Clerk agreed to send these comments to the Borough Council.

90/0541/4 - Application by R. Smith of 1 Desford Road, Newbold Verdon to erect a garage at the same address - No comment.

90. PLANNING APPROVALS

None

91. PARISHIONERS' QUESTION TIME

1. Mr. Graham Law, on behalf of the Newbold Verdon Cricket Club proposed an amendment to the plan which had been submitted to the Parish Council in support of its application for planning permission to extend the pavilion. He suggested that a water tank be installed within the proposed extension to collect storm water from the roof of the pavilion to provide a water supply that would be available during any periods of water shortage. It was agreed that he should discuss the matter with the Clerk to arrange for this to be included in the planning application if appropriate.

2. A parishioner asked whether the proprietor of the new video shop in Main Street needed to obtain any form of licence to enable him to operate fruit or game machines within his premises. The parishioner was advised that it was likely that a licence would be needed and the appropriate licensing authority would be the Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council.

3. A parishioner pointed out that the Main Street road sign had been missing at the junction of Main Street with Barlestone Road for some time. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Borough Council requesting a replacement.

92. CHAIRMAN'S QUESTION TIME

a. Mrs. Spence raised the following points:-

1. Whether a letter had been sent to shopkeepers in the village requesting them to assist the Parish Council in its efforts to keep the village tidy for the purposes of the Best Kept Village Competition. The Clerk replied that the letter had been prepared and that copies would be circulated shortly.

2. She had noticed that Desford Parish Council had recently installed some cast iron antique-style litter bins with "Desford 1990" on them and asked why Newbold Verdon could not benefit from similar environmental improvements. Mrs. Crookes pointed out that Desford had benefitted, prior to the implementation of poll tax, from the vast revenue made available by local businesses in their Parish and that the Parish Council had also contributed a considerable amount towards the provision of these litter bins. The matter was duly noted.

3. She pointed out that Leicester Playscape had commenced installation of the Toddler Park play equipment but there now appeared to be a hiatus in their activities. The Chairman asked the Clerk to write to Leicester Playscape pointing out that the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground was the responsibility of the Parish Council and asking for details of the delay and when it was likely that work would be completed. It was agreed that a copy of the Clerk's letter be sent to the officers of the Toddler Park Project for information.

4. She wished the members to be aware that Mr. Mensley had done an excellent job in cleaning the War Memorial.

b. Mr. B. R. Davison raised the following:-

1. He wanted details of progress on the bottle bank and paper bank schemes which had been introduced by the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council and wondered whether Newbold Verdon was likely to benefit from the schemes. Mrs. Crookes pointed out that it was not financially viable to install bottle banks out in villages and that as far as paper banks were concerned, there was proving to be such a large amount of waste paper that the Borough Council were struggling to provide sufficient hoppers to cope.

2. He pointed out that the litter bin on Mill Lane had been torn out of its concrete base and further advised the members that the litter bin outside the Old White Swan Public House which had been destroyed by fire had not been replaced. The Clerk was asked to write to the Borough Council in respect of both.

c. Mr. R. Kendall raised the following:-

1. He advised the members that the wrought iron gates giving access to the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground from Bells Lane had a badly bent and corroded support post that would need replacement shortly. The matter was noted.

2. He pointed out that public footpath S.16, adjacent to the side of 4 Main Street required hedge cutting and clearing back. The Clerk was asked to write to the Divisional Highways Surveyor accordingly.

3. In view of the local Village Quiz Team's success in the County Questions Competition for 1990, he suggested that Parish Council provide a small trophy as a memento to the team members. It was agreed that this matter be placed on the agenda for the Council's next meeting.

d. Mr. W. W. Goddard raised the following:-

1. He pointed out that there was a large number of stones on the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground which it was felt had been caused by the excavation of the Toddler Park. It was agreed that this matter be addressed once details of the installation completion date were known from Leicester Playscape.

2. He reported that the new public seat which had been installed recently opposite the school on Dragan Lane Recreation Ground now had two bolts missing from the planks on the seat. The Clerk was authorised to place an order to effect urgent repairs.

3. He pointed out that a part of the public seat on Mill Lane had actually been sawn off by vandals. The matter was duly noted.

d. Mr. R. Watson raised the following:-

1. He was aware that a small child had been riding a motor bike on the Alans Way Playing Field and whilst his identity was not known it was believed that he lived in a property on Lord Crewe Close in the village. The Clerk was asked to notify the local policeman.

2. He pointed out that the metal goal posts on the Alans Way Playing Field were bent and that they could not be removed from their sockets in the ground. He felt that in order to remove them, they would require digging out. The problem was duly noted.

e. Mr. A. Hurst reported that he had witnessed the charred remains of a fire that had been started outside the door of the pavilion and that he had noticed numerous matches and

cigarette ends also. The problem was noted as a potential fire risk, however it was hoped that the proposed alterations to the pavilion might provide a long-term answer to the problem and for the time being the matter was noted.

He also reported seeing a street-sweeping machine in the village on two occasions when Dragon Lane, Mill Lane and Main Street had been attended to by the County Council. The members were pleased to note that this had been done.

f. Mr. Mensley reported that since the Parish Council had notified the East Midlands Gas Board of the problems in the highway adjacent to Harry's Lane, that one of the holes had been repaired but that the other still remained. The matter was noted. He raised again the question of the stones on the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground. It was agreed that this matter would be addressed again once Leicester Playscape had indicated when they hoped to have the Toddler Park project completed.

g. The members unanimously agreed that the Clerk should delay payment of the Parish Council's contribution towards the project until Leicester Playscape had adequately responded to the Parish Council's request regarding the delay.

THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.26 p.m.