MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEWBOLD VERDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 14th MAY 1990 AT THE PAVILION, ALANS WAY, NEWBOLD VERDON

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

68. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Only one nomination was received of Mr. M. W. Preston and it was therefore resolved that Mr. M. W. Preston be elected Chairman for the ensuing year. Mr. Preston accepted the Chair, signed a declaration of acceptance and thanked the members for their continued support.

69. APOLOGIES

None

70. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd April 1990, having been circulated, were approved and signed as a true record.

71. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Only one nomination was received in respect of Mrs. H. M. Francks. It was resolved that Mrs. Francks be elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. Mrs. Francks accepted the position and signed a declaration of acceptance accordingly.

72. ACCOUNTS

Payable:

			£
W. D. & B. Harding & Son			
Disposing of blocks in cemetery & relaying slabs (Inv. 005280)	10.00 VAT 1.50	11.50	
Grass cutting (March) (Inv. 005281)	118.50 VAT 17.78	136.28	
Grass cutting (April) - cemetery extension (Inv. 005373)	16.00 VAT 2.40	18.40	
Grass cutting (April) - Mallory Close (Inv. 005372)	27.00 VAT 4.05	31.05	
Grass cutting (April) - Dragon Lane (Inv. 005371)	41.50 VAT 6.23	47.73	
Grass cutting (April) - Alans Way PF (Inv. 005370)	74.50 VAT 11.18	85.68	
Grass cutting (April) - Cemetery (Inv. 005369)	94.00 VAT 14.10	108.10	
Grass cutting (April) - Churchyard (Inv. 005368)	116.00 VAT 17.40	133.40	572.14

c/f

	b/f	572.14
Leicestershire County Council - Plant Hire - Brook and ditch cleansing Inv. No. 9T 681703		577.88
Leics. Association of Parish Councils - Additional cost on subs. (Increase in Local Reviews)		1.80
Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Refund of overpaid Parish balance		247.00
Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Supplying and fitting of 6' public seat Dragon Lane		145.00
Cornhill Insurance plc - Insurance renewal - 1.6.90 - 31.5.91		439.20
E. H. Bell - Caretaker's wages - 2.4.90 - 13.5.90 (6 wks at £20 per wk)		120.00
E. A. Walsh - Clerk's salary - April	166.66	
Expenses	47.91	214.57
Verdon in Bloom Association		750.00
E. Wright - Removal of topsoil from Dragon Lane Recreation Ground		600.00
		£3,667.59

Received

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council - One moiety of precept credited 27.4.90 - (Included precept balance for 1989/90)	£11,636.00

73. CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter had been received from Messrs. Harvey Ingram, solicitors for P. W. Bonsall, confirming that full details of the land proposed to be sold by their client to the Parish Council would be forwarded shortly in order to enable the Clerk to formally instruct the District Valuer. The letter was duly noted. Arnolds Cres. Corner

2. A letter had been received from the Newbold Toddler Park Project enclosing a copy of a letter from Leicester Playscape indicating that there would be a further delay on the installation of the play equipment. It was anticipated that the installation would be commenced in the week beginning 21.5.90. The letter was duly noted.

3. A letter had been received from the Divisional Surveyor confirming that the tree branch outside 37 Arnolds Crescent would be inspected and removed as soon as possible. The letter was duly noted.

4. A letter had been received from Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council's Director of Public Services confirming that various officers of the Borough Council had been circulated with the

items requiring attention and that action would be taken shortly. The Director pointed out that he was uncertain as to the responsibility for the maintenance of the boundary hedge on the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground. As far as the soil heap between Hill Street and Cadle Street was concerned, this was also receiving attention.

5. A further letter had been received from the Divisional Surveyor regarding the unauthorised planting of flower bulbs within the highway which was causing the County Council's grass cutting contractors problems with cutting the verges. The Divisional Surveyor requested if any persons throught the Parish wished to plant bulbs within the highway then they were requested to make contact with a member of his staff in advance in order that the planting locations could be agreed. It was agreed that local residents would be notified of the Divisional Surveyor's comments by a short report being placed in Verdon Views.

6. A letter had been received from the Rural Development Commission pointing out that Government monies were made available each year through the Commission to help provide special forms of transport in rural areas, and requested the Parish Council to notify any local bus operators of the scheme if this would prove beneficial to the Parish. It was agreed that this matter should be left on the table.

7. A letter had been received from the Leicestershire Rural Community Council confirming receipt of the Parish's entry for this year's Best Kept Villages Competition and notifying the Parish that preliminary judging would take place during the period from 4th June to 16th June 1990. The letter was duly noted.

8. A letter had been received from a Parishioner, Mr. M. Farmer, proposing that in view of the fact that Mr. Selkirk would shortly be leaving the Hall Farm, the Parish Council should consider the possible purchase of the old 'Woolpits Pit' which lies at the bottom of the school grounds, presumably for the benefit of the school. A copy of his letter had been forwarded to the local Headmaster and also to the Newbold Verdon Community Association. The letter was duly noted but in view of the fact that the Parish Council would wish to have no freehold interest in land belonging to the Local Education Authority, it was felt that the matter should be left on the table.

9. A letter had been received from Mrs. J. V. Childs of 16 Gilberts Drive, Newbold Verdon regarding her recent application to purchase a triangle of land forming part of The Green at Mallory Close which lies adjacent to her own property. Mrs. Childs pointed out that she had consulted adjoining resident and that none had expressed any objection to her proposal. On the contrary, local residents felt that this would ease traffic congestion on Gilberts Drive. Mrs.

Childs concluded her letter by requesting the Parish Council to find time to inspect the land and reconsider its earlier decision to refuse her application. The members agreed that a site meeting should be held prior to considering the matter again and it was agreed that this should take place on 21st May at 7.00 p.m. prior to the Annual Parish Meeting.

10. A letter had been received from Mr. Mould confirming that he and members of his staff would continue to use all reasonable endeavours to combat the litter problem in an effort to assist the Parish Council. Although the letter was duly noted, the members did comment that the content of Mr. Mould's letter was an unfair criticism of the Clerk in view of the fact that it was the Parish Council who had decided to write to him.

74. NEWBOLD TODDLER PARK PROJECT

The Chairman reported that following excavation of the proposed site for the installation of play equipment, the contractor employed by the Toddler Park project had deposited a large amoung of earth at the rear of the Baptist Chapel. He reported that over the Easter period this was causing considerable distress to local residents as a result of children scaling the mountain and throwing stones into nearby property. An urgent decision needed to be taken at the time to instruct the contractor to expedite the removal of the soil and he was duly instructed to remove it to the Parish Council's cemetery site at a cost of £600. The members ratified the Chairman's action and after some considerable discussion it was agreed that a letter should be sent to the officers of the Toddler Park Project instructing them to proceed as a matter of urgency with the installation of the play equipment in order to complete the project and to notify them that the problems caused by the excavation had cost the Parish Council and its ratepayers an additional £600.

75. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

90/0489/4 - Application by Mr. E. J. McSherry of 35 Main Street, Newbold Verdon for planning permission to erect a garage and replace a hedge with a 6 ft fence at the same premises. No comment.

90/0505/4 - Application by Val Hodkinson of 26 Merrylees Road, Newbold Heath for planning permission for a dwelling at the same address. No comment

90/0516/4 - Application by Mr. and Mrs. T. Spence of 57 Peters Avenue, Newbold Verdon for planning permission for domestic extensions and alterations at the same address. No comment.

90/0421/4 - Application by Mrs. S. M. Snape of 89 Arnolds Crescent, Newbold Verdon for planning permission for a domestic extension with utility room and storeroom at the same address. No comment.

90/0447/4 - Application by Mr. J. Mann of 7 Red Lion Lane, Newbold Verdon for planning permission for an indoor swimming pool at the same address. No comment.

76. PLANNING APPROVALS

90/0421/4 - Planning permission to Mr. and Mrs. Snape of 89 Arnolds Crescent, Newbold Verdon for an extention to their dwelling.

90/0348/4 - Planning permission to Mr. M. Matson of 33 Peters Avenue, Newbold Verdon for a two storey extension and conservatory at the same address.

90/0272/4 - Planning permission to Mr. J. Bibby of 12 Peters Avenue, Newbold Verdon for extensions to his dwelling.

90/0230/4 - Planning permission to Mr. E. J. McSherry of 35 Main Street, Newbold Verdon for the erection of a garage at his dwelling.

77. PLANNING REFUSAL

90/0339/4 - Refusal of planning permission to Mr. A. Rogers of 6 Mallory Close, Newbold Verdon for an extension to his dwelling above an existing garage as it was felt that the proposal would have an overbearing effect on the neighbouring property by reason of its height, mass and proximity which would result in the creation of an oppressive environment to the detriment of the residential amenities currently enjoyed by the occupants of that property.

78. CHURCH FARM DEVELOPMENT - LIONCOVE LTD.

The Chairman reported that he had received a telephone message from a local resident that Lioncove had appealed against the planning refusal of the Borough Council for the development of plots 6, 7 and 8, The Paddock, Newbold Verdon and that the appeal was due to take place before the Council's next meeting. The Clerk confirmed that no formal notice of the appeal had been received and Mrs. Crooks confirmed that she would look into the matter and notify the Council of the intended date of the appeal.

79. PARISHIONERS' QUESTION TIME

None

80. CHAIRMAN'S QUESTION TIME

1) Mr. Kendall raised the following points:-

(a) He pointed out that the library site was in a considerable mess and asked if the Parish Council could contact the County Council to arrange for it to be cleared. The Chairman agreed.

(b) He reported that there was a street light on Bells Lane that was intermittent and asked that the County Council's Street Lighting section be notified accordingly. The Chairman agreed.

(c) He pointed out that the highway improvement works outside the Old White Swan Public House which should have been completed by 31.3.90 had not yet commenced. The Clerk was requested to obtain a progress report from the Divisional Highways Surveyor.

(d) He reported that a public seat on the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground was now devoid of all but one of its wooden support rails. The Clerk was authorised to place an order for its repair.

(e) He reported that once again a large number of the May 10th editions of the local Herald and Post newspaper had been deposited in a litter bin outside 22 Bells Lane. The Clerk was asked to contact the newspaper in order to notify them of the problem.

(f) He reported that the unfinished repair works on Dragon Lane which had been carried out on behalf of the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council in providing services to the new bungalows were causing problems for cyclists and motor-cyclists using the highway. The Clerk was asked to write to the Borough Council informing them of the problem and requesting an improved temporary reinstatement to the carriageway.

2) Mrs. Spence raised the following two points:-

(a) She had been requested by a group of young boys who had been playing football on the Alans Way Playing Field to advise the members they would appreciate the construction of a wall to play against. The matter would be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

(b) A local parishioner had reported to her that whilst walking down the farm track adjoining the Alans Way Playing Field she had been startled by the Borough Council's litter picker emerging from the cover of an adjoining hedge. In view of the fact that it appeared this man was loitering round the village and causing concern to elderly parishioners, the Parish Council agreed to inform the local Police of its concerns.

3) Mr. Watson raised the following points:-

(a) A considerable hole in the pavement had been left for a long period of time on Arnolds Crescent outside Mr. Bonsall's property known as "The Pastures". It was agreed that this hole was unsatisfactory and presented a danger to pedestrians and the Clerk was asked to write to the Divisional Highways Surveyor accordingly.

(b) He pointed out that he was still dissatisfied with the grass cutting undertaken on the Alans Way Playing Field and in fact suggested that during the growing season the playing field should be cut at least once a week. The members agreed that the Council's contractors should be asked to keep the grass short on the Alans Way Playing Field in particular around the cricketing area. It was agreed that Mr. Harding should be invited to a meeting with Council members in order to remedy the problem of grass cutting on the playing field and it was agreed that the Clerk should ask Mr. Harding to contact the Chairman direct with a view to arranging a meeting to discuss the matter.

4) Mr. Mensley raised the following points:-

(a) A 4' deep hole had been left in the carriageway in Mill Lane following works carried out by the East Midlands Gas Board. The Clerk was asked to write to the Chief Distribution Engineer at the Gas Board requesting early remedial works to be carried out.

(b) Following the removal of topsoil from the Cemetery it was apparent that perhaps more soil had been taken out than was needed. This had resulted in soil being piled in the bottom of the iron railings adjoining the Cemetery and along the hedge. Mr. Mensley requested that this area be tidied up by the Council's contractor as soon as possible and also pointed out the area where the soil had been removed now required seeding. He further pointed out that the Dragon Lane Playing Field required seeding at the Baptist Chapel end of the recreation ground. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr. Harding accordingly.

(c) He requested the members approval to carry out cleaning works on the Council's War Memorial. The members unanimously agreed.

(d) He reported that although repair works had been done to the bridge as requested the track up to the Manor Farm from Brascote Lane still required surfacing repairs to be carried out which had been promised by the Divisional Surveyor but were still not complete. The Clerk was asked to contact the Divisional Surveyor's office for a progress report.

5) Mr. Davison raised the following points:-

(a) He pointed out that the state of the highways gutters in the village was disgusting and asked if the members could put pressure on the County Council to arrange for them to be cleaned. He pointed out that Barlestone had recently had their gutters and drains cleared and it appeared as though Newbold was being neglected. The Clerk was asked to contact the County Council in order to ascertain when Newbold was going to be attended to.

(b) He pointed out that there were holes in the pavement outside the recently refurbished cottages on Mill Lane. These holes had been temporarily covered by means of slabs and also chunks of timber. He explained that the holes appeared to be the result of service connections and that plywood had been used to cover the holes after connections had been made. It was clear that this was dangerous to pedestrians and the Clerk was asked to notify the Divisional Surveyor.

6) Mr. Hurst informed the members that the brook on Brascote Lane was now presenting a serious health risk to the village in that there appeared to be a broken drain which was now discharging unsanitary waste into the brook. The problem was duly noted.

7) Mr. Goddard pointed out that a rail was missing from the fence opposite the school on Dragon Lane and that this was the result of groups of boys meeting at the public seat at this point in large numbers. Further that the Council's roundabout on the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground had been vandalised and now required wooden slats on a solid top fixing to it in order to effect a satisfactory repair.

THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10.15 P.M.