MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEWBOLD VERDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 1990 AT 7.30 PM AT THE PAVILION, ALANS WAY

PRESENT: M. W. Preston (in the Chair), R. Kendall, R. Watson, D. Colledge, S. Spence, B. R. Davison, A. Hurst, H. Francks, E. A. Walsh (Clerk) - Parishioners - 8

107. APOLOGIES: Mr. Mensley, Mr. Goddard

108. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July, having been previously circulated, were agreed as a true record and signed.

109. ACCOUNTS

Payable:

		£
W. D. & B. Harding & Son - Grass cutting		
July	702.65	
August	541.67	
Cemetery	1299.50	2,543.82
R. Watson - Part cost of planning application		26.50
G. Law - " " " "		43.70
Allen Bostock (Builders) Ltd. - invoice dated 31.7.90 - repairs to seats, roundabout, gutter	319.73	
VAT	47.95	367.68
A. B. Wallace - Trophies - 6 shields and engraving, including VAT		23.37
EMEB - Pavilion electricity charges		94.26
Public Works Loan Account		1,290.87
Edward Hands & Lewis - deposit on purchase of land		65.00
E. H. Bell - wages 6.8.90 - 2.9.90 4 weeks at £20		80.00
E. A. Walsh - Salary August	139.66	
Expenses	47.91	187.57
		4,652.57

Received:

Radio Leicester - County Questions Prize money		400.00
W. W. Busby & Sons - memorial fees		
Naylor -	15.00	
Morris -	15.00	30.00
		430.00

110. CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter had been received from British Gas plc concerning excavations at the junction of Barlestone Road and Mill Lane, confirming that repairs would be completed by 6th July. The letter was noted.

2. A letter had been received from the Divisional Highways Surveyor confirming the following:-

(a) that the improvement works outside the Old White Swan Public House would be completed by the end of July 1990;

(b) that the hole in the pavement in Arnolds Crescent would be repaired shortly;

(c) that footpath s25 (track from Brascote Lane) had been passed to the Highways Inspector who would undertake an inspection shortly;

(d) gully-emptying - that the village was swept on week ending 6th June and the Divisional Surveyor confirmed that the village would be swept on a quarterly basis thereafter;

(e) holes in pavement (Mill Lane) - the Highways Inspector had contacted the builders responsible for the holes and they had now been reinstated.

3. A letter had been received from Marshall Fry Limited apologising for the delay in repairs to the play equipment on Dragon Lane Recreation Ground. It was hoped that the repairs would be completed before the end of 6 weeks from 11th July.

4. A further letter had been received from the Divisional Highways Surveyor regarding footpath s16 confirming that an inspection revealed that there had been no overgrowth of hedges likely to impede pedestrian users. Adjoining occupiers were cooperating with the County Council. The letter was noted.

5. A letter had been received from the Director of Public Services, Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council confirming that the replacement road sign on Main Street and the damaged litter bins in the village would be repaired and/or replaces as soon as possible.

6. A letter had been received from the Director of Public Services confirming that the replacement street name plate for Alans Way had been ordered and that, if additional words 'leading to sports field' were required then this would have to be funded by the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk should request an estimate of the cost.

7. A letter had been received from the Leicestershire Rural Community Council confirming that the village had been successful in reaching the final of the Best Kept Village Competition for 1990.

8. A letter had been received from the Director of Development regarding the Environmental Improvement Programme which scheduled two schemes as priority A schemes, namely land at the junction of Main Street and Arnolds Crescent at an initial cost of £3,529 and secondly the Sparkenhoe amenity open space for the provision of one mature tree at an initial cost of £100. Within the category B schemes, the pavement required delineating outside the Working Men's Club on Main Street and the Director commented that the car park needed resurfacing. It was agreed that the Clerk should ascertain why the cost of landscaping the Arnolds Crescent scheme should be so high and, secondly, why the car park resurfacing was scheduled as part of the scheme as it was privately owned by the Working Men's Club.

9. A letter had been received from the Divisional Highways Surveyor regarding:-

(a) the junction of Barlestone Road and Bagworth Road - The problem regarding the inadequate lighting had been passed to the Director's Lighting Section for their attention and they would contact us shortly;

(b) The work outside the Old White Swan Public House had now been completed and he apologised for the delay in rescheduling the work and implementing the scheme.

10. A letter had been received from the Director of Planning and Transportation regarding the proposed erection of a street lighting column on the Preston Drive footpath, Montague Close in the village. Unfortunately there are no funds available which have not already been committed for this financial year although an estimate for providing the column had been provided by the Director should the Parish Council wish to fund it. The letter was noted.

11. A letter had been received from the Verdon in Bloom Association requesting information on the insurance cover provided by the Parish Council's insurers and it was agreed that the Clerk should inform the Secretary of the Association accordingly.

12. A letter had been received from the newly appointed development officer of the Hinckley and Area Voluntary Organisations Council describing the nature of his organisation's services and seeking some assistance from the Parish Council in relation to voluntary activity in its area. The letter was noted and the Clerk was asked to reply accordingly.

13. A letter had been received from a local parishioner, Mrs. Webb, complaining about the state of the footpath outside the chip shop in the village and also the graffiti on the bus shelter adjacent to the library. The letter was noted and the Clerk was asked to inform Mrs. Webb that the Parish Council was not responsible for cleaning the footpath although the cooperation of all business proprietors in the village had been sought in an endeavour to contribute towards the general appearance of the village, not least for the Best Kept Village Competition purposes. It was agreed that an order would be placed immediately for the graffiti to be dealt with.

14. A letter had been received from the Director of Planning and Transportation regarding the unlawful dumping of garden waste from residents in Bramble Drive confirming that it was an offence under the terms of the Control of Pollution Act 1974. Leaflets were enclosed with the letter for distribution together with a Wasteline plaque which it was agreed should be placed in the window of the Post Office.

15. A letter had been received from a local parishioner, Mr. Farmer expressing his concern over the goal post holes on the Dragon Lane Playing Field and also the decorative pavement recently installed outside the Old White Swan. The letter was duly noted.

16. A letter had been received from Mr. M. Francks on behalf of the County Questions Quiz Team expressing his gratitude to the Parish Council for its support during the competition and offering the team members services for the 1991 competition. The Quiz Team expressed a wish for the £400 prize money to be put towards the cost of a village clock which, hopefully, could be sited outside the old persons bungalows opposite the shops on Main Street. The Midland Bank who had presented the cheque requested that they be present when the clock was presented and/or dedicated to the Parish. The letter was noted.

17. A letter had been received from the Leicester Housing Association regarding the Jubilee Court development, expressing regret that because of the decline in the general house market, it would not be able to effect the necessary sales in order for the scheme to 'break even'. Accordingly, the Association had purchased two blocks of flats from Leicester Housing Development Services Ltd., the development company, in order to enable the flats to be let to persons of over 55 years of age on assured tenancies. The Clerk pointed out that he had recently requested information regarding the flats and had been informed by the Association that they would only be available to couples and not to single occupiers of retirement age. The members were disappointed at this news and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Association pointing out that a considerable number of Newbold's senior citizens lived alone and, even though they may have an interest in the flats, would not qualify because

of the somewhat punitive rules imposed.

111. MAINTENANCE OF TODDLER PARK

The members of the Toddler Park Project were present at the meeting and confirmed that an additional item of play equipment in the form of a sputnik was being purchased by them and would shortly be installed. Apparently Playscape also wished to do more concreting around the base of the bouncing toys. It was pointed out to the Project that the fibre glass lining in the pit required relaying properly as parts of it were riding up and causing the bark to get underneath. As far as future maintenance was concerned, it was agreed that this would really relate to forking of the bark on a regular basis which would be done by volunteers. Mrs. Johnson would furnish the Clerk with a breakdown of the individual costs of the equipment to enable insurance cover to be provided.

112. ALANS WAY PLAYING FIELD - PLAYWALL

A quotation had been received from J. P. Naylor & Co. Ltd. for the provision of a reinforced concrete playwall, the erection of which should have cost £386.50 but which was being offered to the Council at a special rate of £108. The members unanimously agreed to accept the quotation and Mrs. Spence was asked to liaise with the company to determine (with Mr. Watson and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman) on the exact location to enable the installation to proceed.

113. LIONCOVE - PLANNING APPLICATION 'THE PADDOCKS'

The Clerk reported that since this matter was discussed at the last meeting the Appeal Inspectors report had been received confirming that the company's appeal against the Borough Council's refusal to grant planning permission had been dismissed. The members expressed some concern over the way in which the Borough Council sought to comply with the accepted village plan for Newbold Verdon. On some occasions the Borough sought to restrict development within the confines of the existing village plan and on other occasions sought to regard it as a non-statutory plan and relied merely on the Leicestershire Structure Plan approved in 1987. The Clerk was asked to write to the Director of Development to seek his comments on the efficacy or otherwise of the village plan and his proposals relating to future developments outside the plan.

114. BAPTIST CHAPEL

This item relates to a drain in the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground which is sited at the rear of the Baptist Chapel and is constantly being blocked and causing a nuisance and inconvenience to users of the Chapel. It was acknowledged by the members that the drain was the responsibility of the Parish Council and that a proper inspection of its working needed to be undertaken in order to ascertain how best to

remedy the problem. The Clerk was asked to contact the County Council's engineers to ascertain whether they would be willing to assist.

115. PAVILION SECURITY RAILINGS

It was agreed that this matter need not remain on the Council's agenda since the problem of security at the pavilion, it was agreed, would be resolved when the extension to the building was completed which would necessitate the redesigning of the front porch area.

116. ALANS WAY CAR PARK SURFACE

Whilst this matter had been discussed on several occasions in the past it had never been made a formal agenda item and it was agreed that there was no precepted budget to cover the cost of resurfacing the car park. It was agreed that this would be precepted for in January when the Council set its precept for the financial year 1991/92.

117. CEMETERY GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

The Clerk reminded members of the proposal made by Mrs. Francks for a raised circular flowerbed and the matter was generally discussed. It was agreed that the Council's landscape contractor be invited to contact Mr. Hurst and Mrs. Francks in order to discuss her proposals. It was agreed at this point to request Mr. Harding to effect some trimming back of the large tree in the centre of the cemetery.

118. ALANS WAY CAR PARK - GATES

It was agreed that the question of replacing the pedestrian swing gate at the entrance to the playing field would be addressed again after the Parish Council had completed its purchase of the additional land at the entrance.

119. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

90/0783/4 -Newbold Verdon Parish Council - Application to build extension to pavilion to provide equipment store. No comment.

90/0833/4 - Mr. M. Harding, 57 Arnolds Crescent, Newbold Verdon. Application for planning permission to build new bedroom over garage, extend utility room and erect new bedroom over utility room. No comment.

90/0758/4. Mr. G. J. Turner, 7 Barbara Avenue, Newbold Verdon. Application for planning permission for first floor extension to form bedroom over garage. No comment.

90/0775/4 - Mr. & Mrs. G. T. M. Healey, Stocks House, Desford Lane, Peckleton. Application for planning permission for extension to existing house. No comment.

90/0724/4 - Mr. J. A. Storer, 39 Barton Road, Osbaston. Application for planning permission to erect a private dwelling at Kirkby Lane, Newbold Verdon. No comment.

90/0719/4 Whetstone Bros., New Road, Atherstone. Application for planning permission for erection of entrance lobby at Newbold Verdon Working Mens Club. No comment.

90/0727/4 Mr. D. Underwood, 7 Gladstone Street, Kibworth Beauchamp. Application for planning permission to erect a single dwelling with vehicular access at land adjacent to 157 Main Street, Newbold Verdon. No comment.

90/0928/4 Lioncove Ltd. 36 Evington Road, Leicester. Application for planning permission to build three detached houses at plots 6, 7 and 8 The Paddock, Newbold Verdon. The Parish Council objected to this application on the grounds that the development was outside the line of the accepted village plan. One of the properties already erected by the applicant is outside the village plan and further development would merely represent further incursion into the adjoining countryside. The original application for the erection of five dwellings was itself objected to and further development is, therefore, objected to in principle. It is felt that the housing needs of the village are insufficient to warrant this sort of application. The Developer has already felled trees that should have remained in situ and certainly considerable problems would arise in accommodating the increased traffic flow on Main Street should this development be allowed.

90/0913/4 LWK Ltd., High Tor West, Keates Lane, Earl Shilton. Application for planning permission to build a new unit, shop/office for Building Society use adjoining 92 Main Street, Newbold Verdon. The Parish Council objected to this application on the basis that it would be prejudicial to the amenity of the adjoining Ivy Cottage which is a listed building. A similar objection was made by the Council in respect of the recent proposal to develop the land on the corner of Main Street and Arnolds Crescent which is effectively on the other side of Ivy Cottage.

120. PLANNING APPROVALS

90/0758/4 Mr. G. J. Turner, 7 Barbara Avenue, Newbold Verdon. Planning permission to extend dwelling.

90/0783/4 Newbold Verdon Parish Council. Planning permission to extend existing pavilion to provide equipment store.

90/0727/4 Mr. D. Underwood, 7 Gladstone Street, Kibworth Beauchamp. Planning permission to erect a dwelling on land adjoining 157 Main Street, Newbold Verdon.

90/0719/4 Whetstone Brothers, New Road, Atherstone. Planning permission for erection of entrance lobby to Newbold Verdon Working Mens Club.

90/0516/4 Mr. & Mrs. T. Spence, 57 Peters Avenue, Newbold Verdon. Planning permission for extensions to dwelling.

90/0817/4 Mr. P. Mountain, 34 Peters Avenue, Newbold Verdon. Planning permission for extension to dwelling.

90/0680/4 Severn Trent Water Ltd. Planning permission for erection of pumping station on land at Bagworth Road, Newbold Heath.

121. PLANNING REFUSALS

90/0724/4 Mr. J. A. Storer, 39 Barton Road, Osbaston. Refusal of planning permission for erection of dwelling on land adjoining 3 Kirkby Lane, Newbold Verdon on the grounds that (a) the site was of insufficient width to accommodate the proposed dwelling and the development, if permitted, would create an incongruous feature in the streetscene to the detriment of visual amenity, and (b) the proposed development would involve the use of an access which is inadequate in terms of visibility, to the detriment of highway safety.

90/0657/4 CPL Ltd. Church View, Dragon Lane, Newbold Verdon. Refusal of planning permission for the erection of a single storey office building on Church View, Dragon Lane, Newbold Verdon on the grounds that the proposed development would result in the removal of a number of poplar trees of amenity value; the proposed 1 m distance separation between the proposed building and the southern boundary is insufficient for a replanting scheme to safeguard visual amenities.

122. PARISHIONERS' QUESTION TIME

1. A Parishioner complained about the state of the drains on Dragon Lane adjacent to the school. It was pointed out that the drains were often blocked by leaves and tree debris and this caused a problem.

2. A Parishioner raised a query regarding building plots at Newbold Heath and pointed out that when these were purchased by the owners they were generally described as building plots but that they can no longer be developed. It was pointed out that this was as a result of the adoption of the new structure plan over which the Parish Council had no control. It was pointed out that some infill development was, however, still being permitted at the Heath.

123. CHAIRMAN'S QUESTION TIME

1. Mrs. Spence raised the following points:-

(a) A tree had been knocked down on the Alans Way Playing Field which it was believed had been caused by a car running into it and asked whether a new tree could

be planted to replace it. It was pointed out that another tree on the playing field has its supporting stake missing and a further tree had also died. The Clerk was asked to request Mr. Harding to arrange two replacement trees on the playing field and to replace the missing stake.

(b) Mr. T. Satchwell had recently replaced the padlock on the Parish Council's shed on the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground.

(c) Considerable noisy activities had been going on on the playing field around the Bank Holiday period at 11.30 pm which had resulted in her contacting the Police. She commented on the extremely poor Police response. It was agreed in future that any direct contact with the Police must result in the Police being asked to log the complaint.

2. Mr. R. Watson raised the following points:-

(a) He pointed out that the Council's contractor no longer needed to mow the cricket outfield as an extra item and could merely mow it when he did the playing field generally.

(b) He asked if the Parish Council would agree to insisting that the Newbold Verdon Junior Football Club take down the football goal posts after each match in a similar manner to the practice undertaken by the senior clubs. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Secretary of the Junior Football Club accordingly.

3. Mr. Davison commented on vandal damage to the pavilion and reported that the downright drainpipes on the pavilion were both damaged and required replacement. He also asked if the graffiti on the front wall of the pavilion could be cleaned off. The Clerk was authorised to place an order for these works to be done as a matter of priority.

4. Mrs. Francks pointed out that the hedge of the property at the corner of Pasture Lane and Main Street was considerably overgrown and was obstructing the pavement. The Clerk was asked to write to the occupier to request his cooperation in trimming it back.

5. Mr. Hurst pointed out that the hedge of the property at the corner of Main Street and Bells Lane was still considerably overgrown. The Clerk reported that he had written to the vendor's agents regarding this. However, the property had recently been sold and it was hoped that the problem would be dealt with shortly. He also expressed his grave concern at the amount of vehicular speeding going on around the village, particularly in the early evening. The matter was noted and the Clerk was asked to contact the Coalville Police with a view to obtaining their cooperation in attempting to deal with the matter.

6. Mr. Watson asked if the matter of the pavilion extension could be made a specific agenda item for the next meeting and the Chairman agreed.

7. Mr. Preston pointed out that much of the litter problem opposite the school on Dragon Lane could be alleviated if the large litter bin at the school could be repositioned by the public seat on Dragon Lane. The Clerk was asked to write to the Borough Council's Director of Public Services to ascertain whether this could be arranged.

THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.45 P.M.