MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEWBOLD VERDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 1991 AT THE PAVILION, ALANS WAY.

PRESENT: Mr. M. W. Preston (in the Chair), Mr. M. B. Mensley, Mrs. H. M. Francks, Mr. W. W. Goddard, Mr. A. Hurst, Mrs. S. Spence, Mr. B. Davison, Mr. D. Colledge, Mr. J. R. Watson, Mr. E. A. Walsh (Clerk).
Parishioners: None

175. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. J. Crookes.

176. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 1991 were agreed and signed as a true record having previously been circulated.

177. ACCOUNTS

Payable:		£
1. Mr. E. H. Bell, caretaker's wages 7.1.91 - 3.2.91 - 4 wks at £20		80.00
2. Mr.E. A. Walsh, Clerk's Salary Jan	166.66	
Expenses	47.91	214.57
3. Society of Local Council Clerks Annual Subscription		24.00
4. J. P. Naylor & Co. Ltd. - Purchase of Playwall	108.00	
VAT	16.20	124.20
		442.77

Received:		
1. Leics. Cooperative Funeral Services Ltd.		
Purchase of grave re C. Ball	36.00	
Interment fee	15.00	51.00
2. Ginns & Gutteridge Ltd.		
Purchase of grave re C. Plant	36.00	
Interment fee	15.00	51.00
		102.00

178. CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter had been received from the Leicestershire Health Authority Mental Health Services Unit inviting the Parish Council to a presentation concerning the forthcoming community based mental health services in Leicestershire. The letter was noted.

2. A letter had been received from Marshall Fry Ltd. confirming that the outstanding repairs to the play equipment had now been completed and it was agreed that the cheque in payment of their fee be released.

3. An invitation had been received from the Mayor's Parlour at Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council inviting two members to this year's Civic Ball to be held on 13th April. The invitation was duly noted.

4. A letter had been received from Messrs. Moore & Gibson, builders, confirming that the building works on the pavilion would be commenced at the beginning of March and would be finished towards the end of that month. The letter was noted.

5. A letter had been received from the Director of Planning and Transportation at the County Council enclosing details of the proposed weight restriction on the B582 from Newbold to Barlestone. The members had no objections.

6. A letter had been received from Mr. M. Farmer, a local parishioner, complaining about certain damage to the Baptist Chapel. The members discussed the contents of the letter and were not aware of any premises that had been made in respect of any damage. No contact had been made by the Church committee and it was agreed that the Clerk should inform Mr. Farmer of this fact.

179. DRAGON LANE RECREATION GROUND DRAINAGE GULLY

Mr. Mensley was pleased to confirm that he had now cleared out the gully which had been heavily blocked with surplus gravel. Apparently the gully is now operating properly and the members expressed their appreciation of Mr. Mensley's assistance.

180. COMPUTER FACILITY

The Clerk reported the estimated cost of purchasing an Amstrad Pc1640 computer facility to include word processing and printer was approx. £890. The members instructed the Clerk to place an order for this equipment with ESPO.

181. CLERK'S SALARY REVIEW

It had been suggested that a fixed percentage increase of the Clerk's salary be agreed so that in future years the salary would automatically be increased. However, after some discussion, it was agreed that the present system of re-evaluation be maintained on an annual basis.

The members confirmed their previous decision that for the present financial year and the next (1991/92), the Clerk should include each month 1/12 of the precepted sum for expenses to be drawn with 1/12 of his annual salary.

Members agreed that for the next financial year the Clerk's salary should be £2,250 p.a. + £600 expenses.

182. CARETAKER'S SALARY

The members discussed the caretaker's salary which is at present fixed at £20 per week and after some discussion concerning the usage of the facilities at Alans Way Playing Field, it was agreed to maintain the present level of salary for 1991/92.

183. BUS SHELTER - BARLESTONE ROAD

It was reported that an unidentified behicle had hit the bus shelter on Barlestone Road which was now damaged beyond repair. It was agreed to wait until quotes were received for the replacement of the shelter on Dragon Lane before proceeding. In the meantime, Mr. Hurst agreed to arrange for the removal of the damaged shelter.

184. ALANS WAY PLAYING FIELD PRIVATE ACCESSES

The Chairman reported that he had recently seen the owner of 49 Peters Avenue erecting an access gate from the rear of his garden into the Council's playing field. It was agreed that the owner should not do this without formal permission from the Council. Other members also confirmed that there were several other gates from the rear gardens into the playing field and the Chairman was concerned that the owners may be attempting to establish private rights. It was agreed that the members should attend a site meeting to be held on Saturday 9th February in order to assess the extent of the problem and it was agreed that the matter should be left on the agenda for the Council's next meeting.

185. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

91/0055/4 - Statham Potatoes, Newbold Road, Barlestone. Planning application for building to have same use as existing adjacent building at 77 Newbold Road. No comment.

91/0046/4 - A. G. Jordan, 32 Mill Lane, Newbold Verdon. Planning application to continue use of garage at above site as a store. No comment.

91/0023/4 - A. Statham, Bagworth Road, Barlestone. Planning application for change of use from shop to restaurant at 129 Main Street, Newbold Verdon. The members objected to this application on the following grounds:-

a) car parking for visitors to the restaurant is too restricted and will create a serious road hazard with vehicles gaining access to and egress from the site, particularly in the evening. There is poor visibility from this position owing to the proximity of the bend in Main Street as it proceeds towards Desford Road.

b) Environmental objections were also raised in that the restaurant may well result in objectionable smells being suffered by adjoining properties and the times of opening may well also create a nuisance to those living nearby.

186. PLANNING APPROVALS

90/1278/4 - Planning permission for the erection of a shop unit adjacent to 92 Main Street, Newbold Verdon.

Members wished to raise their concern with the Borough Council that planning permission had previously been refused for a site on the other side of 92 Main Street and, indeed, the Parish Council had raised objections to the present application for the same reasons as those previously given. The Clerk was asked to write to the Borough Council seeking their comments on the basis on which the present approval had been given.

187. PARISHIONERS' QUESTION TIME

None

188. CHAIRMAN'S QUESTION TIME

1. Mr. Hurst raised the following points:-

(a) he pointed out that vehicles were being driven across the grass verge between Lord Crewe Close and Arnolds Crescent. The Clerk was asked to as the Divisional Highways Surveyor whether bollards could be erected along the edge of the grass to deny vehicular access.

(b) He also pointed out that the potholes on Dragon Lane were deteriorating.

2. Mrs. Spence raised the following:-

(a) She asked whether anything had been done to establish the solvent used by the County Council for the removal of graffiti. The Clerk indicated that he was still awaiting a reply.

(b) She pointed out that litter was still at a very bad level in the village and this matter was generally discussed by members. They agreed to keep a close eye on the situation as the Borough Council's new contract had just commenced. They agreed to wait to see if this improved matters.

(c) She pointed out that she had not attended the last meeting of the Association of Local and Parish Councils.

(d) She wished the members to know that Mr. Milner, the new owner of Hall Farm, had very courteously shown some of the members round the Hall since the last meeting. The Chairman pointed out that the planning proposals had received a favourable initial response from the local planning authority.

(e) She pointed out that the playwall had now been erected on Alans Way Playing Field. The Chairman said that the Market Bosworth Rotary Club were considering sponsoring the cost of the playwall. This was noted.

3. Mr. Watson pointed out that the gates at the top of Bells Lane leading on to the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground were in a very poor state of repair and needed replacing. It was agreed

that the Clerk should invite quotes for the replacement of the gates and report back in due course.

4. Mr. Goddard raised the following:-

(a) He pointed out that there are several rails missing from the fencing on the Dragons Lane Recreation Ground at the boundary with Dragons Lane. The Clerk was authorised to arrange for the necessary repairs.

(b) He pointed out that the lining of the play area on Dragons Lane Recreation Ground is still riding up and required re-seating. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Leicester Playscape inviting them to attend to the matter.

(c) He pointed out that the conifer trees in the garden of 7 Arnolds Crescent are overhanging the highway and require some cutting back. The Clerk was asked to write to the occupier requesting that this work be done.

5. Mr. Mensley raised the following:-

(a) He asked whether the Clerk had had any response from the Divisional Highways Surveyor about the poor visibility for vehicles leaving Harrys Lane. The Clerk replied that he was still awaiting a reply.

(b) He informed members that there was a considerable amount of illegal car parking going on at the council flats on Mill Lane. The Clerk was asked to write to the Borough Council's Director of Housing requesting some attention to the problem.

(c) He pointed out that an ambulance driver recently could not find the number of a particular house on Sparkenhoe and that this was because of the consecutive numbering system that had been used. He asked whether the Council could request the Borough Council to erect a sign showing clearly where particular numbers are situated.

(d) He pointed out that the road gully on Mill Lane at the junction with Barlestone Road was flooding badly and the Clerk was asked to notify the Divisional Highways Surveyor accordingly.

6. Mr. Davison raised the following:-

(a) The Water Authority had recently repaired a leak on Mill Lane. Following this work there is a considerable amount of mud on the pavement and carriageway and adjoining occupiers had suffered problems with blocked drains as a result. The Clerk was asked to notify the Water Authority accordingly.

(b) He asked whether the Parish Council would be willing to consider inviting the local police officer to attend future Parish Council meetings to discuss with members any events that may be occurring in the village. The Chairman confirmed that Mr. Roger Simmonds may be willing to attend in the future.

7. The Chairman pointed out to members that there is considerable congestion of visitors outside the video shop on Main Street. It was suggested that the Clerk write to the proprietor with a request that he ask his visitors either to remain within the premises whilst visiting or to depart from the environs of the shop afterwards. Apparently local residents are raising complaints about the number of people congregating outside the premises.

THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.10 p.m.