MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEWBOLD VERDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 2ND SEPTEMBER 1991 AT THE PAVILION, ALANS WAY, NEWBOLD VERDON

**PRESENT:** M. Preston (Chairman), M. Mensley, H. Francks, S. Spence, P. Chick, R. Watson, G. Law, A. Hurst, J. Crooks (Borough Councillor), E. A. Walsh (Clerk)

254. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Mr. Goddard.

255. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st July 1991, having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record.

256. **ACCOUNTS**

Payable:

| | | £ |
|---|---|---|
| Severn Trent Water Ltd. - water charges, Pavilion | | 110.11 |
| East Midlands Electricity plc - electricity charges, Pavilion | | 103.46 |
| Leics. County Council - A/c CR718091 - Letterheads | | 38.00 |
| Public Works Loan Account | | 1,290.87 |
| Audit Commission | 118.50 | |
| VAT | 20.74 | 139.24 |
| W.D. & B. Harding & Son. - Maintenance charges and shed resiting - various accounts | 781.50 | |
| VAT | 136.78 | 918.28 |
| E. H. Bell, Caretaker's wages - 5.8.91 - 1.9.91 4 weeks at £20 | | 80.00 |
| E. A. Walsh, Clerk's Salary | Aug 187.50 | |
| Exps | 50.00 | 237.50 |
| W. D. & B. Harding & Son August maintenance accounts | 793.00 | |
| VAT | 138.78 | 931.78 |
| SRC Skips | 32.00 | |
| VAT | 5.60 | 37.60 |
| | | 3,886.84 |

Received:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| G. Seller & Co. Interment fee - | Clara Ball | 15.00 | |
| | Dorothy Bevins | 15.00 | |
| Ashes - | Edwin French | 15.00 | 45.00 |
| G. Seller & Co. Memorial fee - D. Statham | | | 15.00 |
| Radio Leicester - Prize for 2nd place | | | 200.00 |
| Hinckley & Bosworth B.C. - Second moeity of precept | | | 15,888.00 |
| Sale proceeds of old shed - Dragon Lane Recreation Ground | | | 35.00 |
| Ginns & Gutteridge - Sale of new grave - | S.K. Duncombe | 36.00 | |
| | Interment | 15.00 | 51.00 |
| | | | 16,183.00 |

257. **CORRESPONDENCE**

1) The Parish Council had received the draft Rural Parishes Local Plan for consultation purposes and the Clerk informed the members that public meetings and an exhibition had been arranged by the Borough Council.

2) The County Council had forwarded an invitation for two members for the forthcoming County Gathering to be held on Sunday 29th September 1991 at the Moat Community College, Leicester. It was agreed that any member interested in attending should contact the Clerk.

3) The draft County Council Minerals Local Plan Review had been received for the purposes of public consultation. The leaflets summarising the contents of the draft plan were to be circulated to members.

4) A letter had been received from the Divisional Highways Surveyor confirming that the graffiti on the roadsign on Barlestone Road was to be removed shortly.

5) A letter had been received from the Leicestershire Rural Community Council regarding the Best Kept Village Competition and confirming that the section for which Newbold Verdon was entered, i.e. previous winners, contained no preliminary round. The award for the winners of that section would be made in October.

6) An invitation had been received from the Association of Local Councils to its biennial Conference to be held at Southport from 24-26 April 1992. It was agreed that this matter should be placed on the agenda for the Council's next meeting.

7) A ballot paper for the election of officers for 1991/92 to the Leicestershire Association of Parish and Local Councils had been received. It was agreed that the nomination for Chairman should be Mrs. A. Pullen and that of Vice-Chairman should be Mr. G. M. Moulds. The Clerk was asked to return the ballot paper on behalf of the Parish.

8) A letter had been received from the County Council's Director of Planning and Transportation giving details of the launch of the new Leicestershire Waymark 2000 Scheme which is a project aimed at putting the County's Rights of Way in order by the year 2000. It was agreed that the circular accompanying the letter, giving details of the scheme and inviting Parish Councils to participate should be circulated for members to read.

9) A letter had been received from the Divisional Highways Surveyor confirming that the No Through Road sign for Pasture Lane would be re-erected shortly.

258. **RURAL PARISHES LOCAL PLAN PUBLIC MEETING**

The Clerk informed the members that the Director of Technical Services at the Borough Council had arranged with the Director of Libraries for an exhibition of the draft plan at the local library. The proposed public meeting to consider the plan in relation to Newbold Verdon was scheduled

to take place at the Newbold Verdon County Primary School at 7.00 p.m. on 24th September. This was noted.

259. PLAY EQUIPMENT - DRAGON LANE RECREATION GROUND

The Chairman reported that the roundabout on the recreation ground had once again been seriously damaged by vandalism. Over the summer period with the consent of members who were contactable, a decision had been taken to remove the roundabout from the Playground for safety purposes. The Chairman pointed out that it was currently at Mr. Vernon's property and the members agreed that it should be disposed of. The Chairman pointed out that he had inspected the site, that the swings were in a vandalised state but that the slide generally looked acceptable. He proposed to the members that the tarmaced area upon which the roundabout was situated should be removed and that an attempt should perhaps be made to carry out remedial works to the swings and have some resurfacing work done to the remaining play area. After some considerable discussion the members agreed that the Clerk should seek quotations to have these repairs carried out and a new safety play surface laid and expressed a preference that this should be both durable and, if possible, vandal-proof.

260. SALE OF STORAGE SHED - DRAGON LANE

The Chairman confirmed and the members approved the sale of the shed at a price of £35, payment for which the Chairman handed to the Clerk at the meeting. The Chairman pointed out that there had been considerable rubbish remaining in the shed after the football clubs had removed their belongings and that a decision had been taken in consultation with the members to arrange for the delivery of a skip to the site so that rubbish could be removed. The members confirmed their approval of this action.

261. RESITING OF STORAGE SHED FROM ALANS WAY

The Chairman confirmed that the Council's maintenance contractor had been willing to effect the removal of the shed from its site at Alans Way and place it on the newly-slabbed area on the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground. The Clerk confirmed that the temporary planning permission for the site of the shed at Alans Way could now be allowed to lapse.

262. ERECTION OF ROAD SIGN ADJACENT TO HARRYS LANE

In response to a request from the Parish Council, the Divisional Highways Surveyor had requested a meeting with a member of the Parish Council to consider the type and position of a proposed road sign at Harrys Lane. Mr. Mensley offered his services in this respect and confirmed that he had contacted the Divisional Highways Surveyor to arrange a meeting.

263. BUS SHELTER - DRAGON LANE

The Clerk confirmed that tenders had been received for the erection of a brick built bus shelter to replace the storm-damaged wooden one on Dragon Lane. The members agreed to accept the lowest tender received from Allen Bostock (Builders) Ltd. and the Clerk was asked to contact the company with a view to work commencing as soon as possible.

264. ALANS WAY PLAYING FIELD - FLOODLIGHTS

The Chairman confirmed that he had met representatives of the football clubs at their request to consider their proposal to erect floodlights on the side of the pavilion for the purpose of winter training. The football club representatives pointed out that in the long term they would like to persuade the Parish Council to the installation of an all-weather pitch at the side of the pavilion. Mr. R. Bell appeared as a representative of both the Jubilee Inn Football Club and the Newbold Verdon Junior Football Club and pointed out that the clubs were extremely desperate for this facility for the purposes of training this winter. He stated that the clubs would jointly fund the installation of the lights and that they would pay for the resultant electricity charges for running them which could be separately metered within the pavilion. Apart from general concern about the grass area becoming heavy in very wet weather, the members all agreed that the football clubs could proceed with their proposal.

265. CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

The Chairman raised his concern about the number of people who had recently been making small gardens on the graves. Members agreed that the Clerk should invite the undertakers to inform their clients that this should not be done as it was becoming an unmanageable problem for the Council's maintenance contractor. The Chairman also pointed out that there are approximately 12-15 graves where there are extensive mounds left on top of the graves that should really be flattened to facilitate maintenance. The members agreed that the Clerk should contact the Council's contractor with a view to instructing him to remove these mounds and, further, that the undertakers should be instructed to ensure that the grave digger did not continue this practice.

266. APPEAL HEARING RE THE PADDOCKS - LIONCOVE LTD

The Chairman reported to the members that he had attended the recent hearing of this Appeal. He felt that the members of the public present at the meeting were extremely disappointed at the way in which it was conducted and felt that it was, in general, a re-run of the Company's previous appeal. The Chairman expressed the view that the members of the public present were at an extreme disadvantage over the appellants in that they did not have the benefit of expert representation at the hearing. In fact, the Chairman suggested that the Parish Council should write to the Secretary of State to suggest that members of the public attending appeals against planning decisions should be offered the right to expert representation without resultant cost to them personally.

267. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

91/0783/4 -1st Newbold Verdon Scout Group, Jubilee Road, Newbold Verdon. Application for planning permission for extension to existing garage at above address. No comment.

91/0722/4 - Mr. D. Underwood, 157 Main Street, Newbold Verdon. Application for planning permission for extensions to the above address. No comment.

91/0627/4 - Mr. K. Measom, 10 Gilbert Drive, Newbold Verdon. Application for planning permission for extension to above address. No comment.

268. PLANNING APPROVALS

91/0627/3 - Permission for extension to dwelling at 10 Gilbert Drive, Newbold Verdon.

91/0565/4 - Permission for extension to dwelling at 9 Peters Avenue, Newbold Verdon.

91/0616/4 - Permission for extension to dwelling at 50 Main Street, Newbold Verdon.

91/9722/4 - Permission for extensions to dwelling at 157 Main Street, Newbold Verdon.

269. PLANNING REFUSALS

91/0426/4 - Refusal of planning permission for erection of agricultural dwelling on land adjacent to Cottage Farm, Kirkby Lane, Newbold Verdon as it was felt that the proposal was contrary to the intentions of the Structure Plan in that the application site lies within an area where the countryside policies apply.

270. PARISHIONERS' QUESTION TIME

1) A parishioner expressed his appreciation to the Parish Council for their efforts in replacing the bus shelter on Dragon Lane and hoped that this would proceed with all haste. He then expressed his concern at the number of speeding vehicles on Dragon Lane and asked what the Parish Council could do about it. The Chairman replied by saying that the Police had been informed of the problem and that they had indicated that it was not possible to put a speed trap on that particular area.

2) Another parishioner asked if annual maintenance checks were still being undertaken on play equipment in the village and pointed out that the Toddler Park had now been open for 18 months but that no work had been done on it. The Chairman replied that the play equipment had been inspected last year by playground specialists and it had been agreed that it would be inspected again this year. The Chairman confirmed that as yet maintenance had not been undertaken on the Toddler Park.

271. CHAIRMAN'S QUESTION TIME

1) Mrs. Francks asked whether a No Through Road sign could be installed at the junction of Red Lion Lane with Main Street because a lot of visitors turned into the road by mistake.

2) Mr. Mensley raised the following:-

a) That there was a considerable amount of grass and weeds in the gutters on Mill Lane. The Chairman confirmed that this was the County Council's

responsibility to spread weedkiller and the Clerk was asked to check with the Divisional Surveyor whether this was likely to be undertaken shortly.

b) He also expressed his hope that the Borough Council would undertake road sweeping in the village before the final of the Best Kept Village Competition in the autumn. The Clerk was asked to confirm with the Director of Technical Services whether an extra road sweep and litter pick could be organised before the judging took place.

3) Mrs. Spence raised the following:

a) She pointed out that the litter on Dragon Lane Recreation Ground was still a problem although on the Gala Day the Scouts had undertaken a litter pick to assist the problem. She pointed out that Mr. Goddard was no longer able to undertake the litter picking duties in respect of Dragon Lane and felt that the Parish Council should express its appreciation to him for the help he had given in the past and also to wish him a speedy recovery.

b) She pointed out that a resident on Pasture Lane had recently cut his hedge and that the litter was now lying around and were something of an eye-sore. The Chairman replied by saying that adjacent to this was a County Council sign pointing out the maximum penalty for litter and suggested that the County Council be contacted with a view to taking some action.

c) She pointed out that she was still receiving a lot of complaints from residents of the village regarding the problems of dog fouling. The Chairman replied by saying that he was still awaiting the new draft bye laws which had recently been published by the Secretary of State.

4) Mr. Preston suggested that the litter problem on the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground could perhaps be alleviated by the installation of litter bins at the ends of each public seat. The members expressed concern about how these bins would be emptied by the Borough Council's contractors. It was agreed that this matter and the question of litter bins on the Alans Way Playing Field should be placed on the agenda for the Council's next meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.23 p.m.