MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEWBOLD VERDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 1994 AT THE PAVILION ALANS WAY NEWBOLD VERDON

PRESENT : M. W. Preston ( Chairman), H. M. Francks, J. R. Watson, S. Spence, D. Colledge, P.Chick, A. Hurst, E. A. Walsh (Clerk).

Parishioners : 8 : J. Crooks ( Borough Councillor )

655. APOLOGIES : M. B. Mensley, G. Law.

656. MINUTES : The minutes of the meeting held on 4th July 1994, having been circulated were approved and signed as a true record.

657. ACCOUNTS :

Payable:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| W. D. & B. Harding & Son maintenance charges (July) | | 707.50 | |
| | VAT | 123.82 | 831.32 |
| W. D.& B. Harding & Son maintenance charges (August) | | 1113.00 | |
| | VAT | 194.79 | 1307.79 |
| East Midlands Electricity plc Pavilion electric charges | | 121.15 | |
| | VAT | 9.69 | 130.84 |
| Public Works Loans Account Pavilion bank loan | | | 1290.87 |
| Tony Redshaw - replacement seat DLRG | | | 308.90 |
| E.H.Bell - caretakers wages 1.8.94 - 4.9.94 | | | 125.00 |
| E. A. Walsh - Clerks salary August | | 283.33 | |
| | Expenses | 58.33 | 341.66 |
| | | TOTAL | 4336.38 |

Received:

| | |
|---|---|
| G. Seller & Co. Ltd. New grave - Dorothy Biddle | 57.00 |
| Gillivers - memorial fee D. Underwood (N.B.memorial installed pre May 1994) | 15.00 |

| | |
|---|---|
| G. Seller & Co. Ltd.<br>new grave - W. Wright | 57.00 |
| Gillivers - new grave<br>C. Statham | 57.00 |
| TOTAL | 186.00 |

658. CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter had been received from the Planning Inspectorate advising of a forthcoming public inquiry into the application for a diversion of footpath S26 at Brascote. It was agreed that when the Clerk received formal instructions on the date and venue for the inquiry a notice would be placed in the Verdon Views and on the Parish notice boards inviting as much public response as possible.

2. The Borough had formally notified the Council that the precept for April 1995 onwards would be payable in two instalments one in April and the other in September.

3. The Director of Planning & Transportation confirmed that an order had been placed for the erection of the courtesy signs on the B582 at Newbold Heath.

4. A copy of a notice had been received from the Charity Commission which the commissioners had sent to the Trustees of the Newbold Verdon Institute for publication in respect of an order appointing new trustees.

5. The results of the semi-final of the Best Kept Village Competition had been received. The village had not been successful in reaching the final stage this year.

6. A Notice of application had been received from solicitors acting for Mr. W. Aris for the granting of an Off Licence in respect of premises at 90 Main Street Newbold Verdon. This was noted .

7. A letter had been received from the Director of Libraries with the results of a feasibility study to convert former shoe warehouse premises into a public library. The cost of adaptation works was estimated at £142,000 and the cost of aquisition of the site would be £125,000. There would be additional costs for furniture and equipment and additional bookstock but that may be able to be offset to some extent by the sale of the existing library site. Members agreed to invite the Assistant Director to a meeting of the Council to consider the proposals further.

8. A letter had been received from Mr. B. Callis on behalf of the Mallory Close Neighborhood Watch Scheme expressing their appreciation to the Council for the payment of the cost of signs.

9. A letter had been received from the Secretary of the Newbold Verdon W.I. thanking the Parish Council for agreeing to the planting of a maple tree at Mallory Close. The secretary advised that she would prefer the Parish Council to both aquire the tree and arrange for it's planting.but would liaise further with the Clerk nearer the time that they would require the work to be done.

10. A letter had been received from the secretary of the Cricket Club informing the Council that there had been irritation expressed by a resident of Peters Avenue at the fact that players were practising around the area of the pavilion and this was causing annoyance. The secretary pointed out that he could only ensure that players actually associated with the club did not cause such a nuisance and not to other people who may use the playing field.

11. A letter had been received from the Insolvency Service advising the Parish that John Sutton who traded as 'The Mowerman' had been made the subject of a bankruptcy order on the 13th July 1994 and that a mower in his possession belonging to the Council should be collected. The Clerk advised that he had contacted the Service and also Mr. Sutton and had been told that he was now trading again in mower repairs under new contracts with his customers. He confirmed that the work on the council's mower would be completed as previous warranty work and he would then liaise with Mr. Law to arrange the return of the mower. The Clerk was asked to establish the current position with Mr. Law.

12. A letter had been received from a Company known as Levercrest manufacturers of playground equipment advising the Council of the appointment of a new area sales manager and asking whether the Council might be interested in any of the Company's products. The Clerk was authorised to find out more information and to place the matter on the Council's next agenda.

659. DRAGON LANE RECREATION GROUND - PUBLIC SEATING

660. DRAGON LANE RECREATION GROUND - LITTER

661. VILLAGE VANDALISM

Members agreed to take these three agenda items together. The Clerk advised the meeting that letters of complaint regarding the siting of the public seats on the recreation ground had been received from Mrs Fox at the Rectory and also

from the resident of the bungalow on Bells Lane adjacent to the ground.
Gangs of youths were apparently using the seats as a meeting point and were using the venue for drinking and also possibly the use of drugs. One of the seats had almost been completely destroyed and this had recently been replaced in the same location by the Council. Mrs Fox complained that empty bottles of beer were constanly being thrown over the fence into her garden. In addition the Rectory fence had recently been repaired at considerable expence to the diocese owing to vandalism.
The resident of Bells Lane stated that the rubbish bin is constantly being emptied and it's contents thrown over the fence into his garden. His fence is also the subject of vandalism and he too requested the Council to move the seats to another location.
A letter had been received from the Chief Constables Office advising members that special attention had been paid by his officers to this recreation ground as a result of the number of complaints being received. Although the attention of the police to the problem had had some impact he requested the Council also to consider the moving of the seats to a more suitable position away from the residences referred to.
The Clerk reminded members of the terms of the Council's contract with Focsa Services for the clearing of litter on the ground and this was for a quarterly clearance with weekly emptying of the litter bins. It was agreed that as an emergency measure in future the Clerk would request the assistance of the Borough's Environmental Health Officer who had powers to deal with the dumping of litter.
The Chairman advised the meeting that when the new seat was being installed vandals had damaged the fresh concrete and this had to be repaired. The police had been called to the site but had advised that there was nothing that could be done about the problem unless the perpetrators were actually witnessed causing damage.
Members expressed concern that the moving of the seats would merely amount to moving the problem to another location and that in reality every attempt should be made with the assistance of the police and Borough Council to apprehend and/or deal with the offenders. Mrs Crooks advised the meeting that the CEHO had new powers to deal with 'nuisances' and that these could be reported and monitored provided information was passed to the Borough.
The Clerk was asked to write to both the police and the Borough Council with these views and seek their assistance.

662. CEMETERY - CULTIVATION OF PLOTS

The Chairman reported that the Council's maintenance contractor was having extreme difficulty in carrying out the terms of his contract in relation to the cemetery owing to the number of people who were 'planting' plots instead of placing cut flowers in vases as should be the case. It was agreed that

the Clerk place a notice on the notice board of the cemetery pointing this out to visitors and advising them that owing to the increasing cost of ground maintenance no plots should be planted and any damage caused to plants by the maintenance contractor would not therefore be the responsibility of the Parish Council.
It was also reported that some of the new plaques in the garden of remembrance were not 'flush' with the ground as had originally been instructed and the Clerk was asked to contact the stone masons responsible for their instalation to arrange for them to be lowered.
Members also agreed that the gap in the boundary hedge between the cemetery and Mr. Kent's property should be filled with the erection of a wattle fence over a distance of approximately five yards. In addition there was a gap in the hedge and a need to replace the old wrought iron fence which had collapsed between the tree and the gate on the boundary between the cemetery and the churchyard. The clerk was authorised to request the maintenance contractor to provide a quote for this work to be carried out and also to set a new hedge along the line of the new post and rail fencing to be installed.
The clerk was also asked to request that the mounds of earth on new graves be removed quicker in the future and this would assist in improving the cosmetic appearance of the site.

663. ALANS WAY PLAYING FIELD - FOOTBALL POSTS

A request had been received from the Junior football club for the use of the senior pitch for the next season for their under 15's and under16's. There was a doubt expressed by the members that the pitch would be used by the Swan next season and it was therefore agreed that if the Swan F.C. did not need the pitch then it could be offered to the Junior F.C.
A further request had been made by the club for the replacement of the goal posts on the playing field which were in a very poor condition. Members expressed concern that the condition of the posts was caused through neglect by the Club not removing them to storage after each match. The Clerk advised that he had received a personal assurance from the secretary that the posts would be removed and stored as requested. Members therefore agreed to replace the posts but insisted that the Clerk advise the Club that if the posts were not removed then they would be taken down by the Parish Council and the club would be charged £10 on each occasion that this proved necessary.

664. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

94/00686/FUL - Mr & Mrs Osbourne 7 Rush Close Newbold Verdon - Application for permission to erect a side extension to their property at that address - No comment.

94/00560/FUL - Mr & Mrs Cheese 50 Laburnam Ave. Newbold Verdon - Application for permission to build lounge, utility, w.c. and playroom at that address. No comment.

94/00622/FUL - The Methodist Chapel Main Street Newbold Verdon. Application for permission to erect an entrance hall and W.C. No comment.

94/00630/FUL - Mr. A. Gilbert 55 Mill Lane Newbold Verdon. Application for permission to erect a conservatory to his side gable at that address. No comment.

94/00670/FUL - Mr & Mrs. Hammond 35 Arnolds Crescent Newbold Verdon. Application for permission to build an extension to form a kitchen and breakfast area. No comment.

665. PLANNING APPROVALS

94/00462/FUL - J. Newbold 64 Dragon Lane Newbold Verdon. Permission to extend his dwelling at that address.

94/00433/FUL - Williams Builders Ltd. 19a The Nook Anstey Leics. Permission to erect three dwellings on land adjoining no. 4 Merrylees Road Newbold Heath.

94/00467/FUL - Mr. P. J. Hales 40 Peters Ave. Newbold Verdon. Permission to extend his dwelling at that address.

94/00403/FUL - Messrs. Twigg & Son Wrask Farm Desford Road Newbold Verdon. Permission to extend agricultural building at that address.

94/00514/FUL - M. Ball 193 Main Street Newbold Verdon. Permission to erect a detached garage at that address.

94/00501/OUT - J. Robins 14 Merrylees Road Newbold Heath. Permission to erect one dwelling on land adjacent to 14 Merrylees Road Newbold Heath.

94/00560/FUL - Mr & Mrs Cheese 50 Laburnam Ave Newbold Verdon. Permission to extend their dwelling at that address.

666. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

1. Mrs Fox asked why the Council had not considered moving the public seats on the Dragon Lane Recreation Ground. The Chairman replied by saying that this matter had been considered at an earlier agenda item and a decision had been made not to relocate the seats. Mrs Fox asked if the matter could be placed on the agenda again for further consideration and the Chairman stated that the Council would monitor the situation and see what transpired over the coming month before agreeing to consider the matter formally again.

2. Mr. Trail advised the meeting that he had been one of the objectors in respect of the footpath diversion at Brascote and that he had arranged a site meeting for Thursday 8th September 1994 if anyone was interested in attending. It was agreed that he would liaise with the Clerk in advance of the Public Inquiry into the matter.

3. Rev. Fox expressed his concern that the recent works carried out in furtherance of the Borough Council's Improvement Programme adjacent to the Church now meant that people could not park their cars off the road and this was likely to cause concern for both funeral and wedding cars visiting the Church. It was pointed out that the land in question did not form part of the public highway, it did not belong to the Church and neither did it belong to the owners of the houses opposite. It was felt that it may have formed part of the land belonging to the Hall Farm but that in any event there had been no formal liaison by the Borough Council with the Parish over their proposals they had merely notified the Parish once the decision to improve the site had already been made.

4. Rev. Fox further pointed out that the stone wall on the boundary of the Church towards Hall Farm was covered in ivy and was likely to cause damage. It was agreed that the Clerk should request the Council's contractor to strip the ivy off the wall.

667. CHAIRMANS QUESTION TIME

1. Mrs Spence raised the following:

(a) She expressed concern at the number of people parking cars outside the nursery opposite the bus stop next to the Co-op. Discussion took place over various options including the imposition of a traffic regulation order but it was agreed that this should be a matter for the police to monitor as a potential obstruction.

(b) She advised members that a branch had been broken off a tree on the Alans Way playing field but that the police had been informed.

(c) She requested whether anything further had been received in respect of the Cadeby Homes Development proposals. The Clerk confirmed that nothing had been received.

2. Mr Colledge pointed out that a vehicle was repeatedly being parked on the pavement outside no.25 Bramble Drive thereby obstructing pedestrian usage.It was agreed that the clerk would write to the occupier requesting that this cease.
He also advised that the top of a water stop cock was missing outside no.23 Bramble Drive.

3. The Chairman reported that the bollard at the top of Bells Lane at the entrance to the Dragon Lane Recreation Groung had been broken off and the Clerk was authorised to arrange for the necessary repairs.

4. The Clerk reported that the member's proposals to have the bus shelter on the Main Street adjacent to the Old Rectory replaced with a brick shelter had not been met favourably by the Borough Planning Officer. He had requested that the members consider refurbishing the shelter with wood which would be more in keeping with the conservation area. Members however felt that they still wished to proceed with an application for permission to replace the shelter with a brick one and suggested that the brick could perhaps be in red to match tha adjoining wall of the rectory.

5. The Clerk also reported that he had received confirmation that the cost of installing a total of six 'Doggie Bins' for the Council's voluntary poop scoop scheme would be in the region of £1500 to include the provision of signs. In addition the cost of emptying the bins would be £12 per week. These prices were exclusive of VAT. Members confirmed their agreement to the previous decision of the Council that the Clerk should place an order with Focsa Services Ltd for the work to be carried out.

THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.20PM.