

# NEWTON ON THE MOOR & SWARLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Swarland Village Hall  
**Wednesday 27th July 2022**

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| <b>1.</b> | <p><b>Public Question Time (Max 15 minutes in total):</b></p> <p>a. <u>Vyner Park Charity AGM</u> – A member of the public queried if– at the VPC AGM the previous night – the Directors of Nelsons should have been asked to leave when Nelsons was being discussed. Cllr Francis responded that the Directors have the same standing as other members of the public at the meeting and it was not necessary for them to leave.</p> <p>b. <u>Name Tags</u> – A member of the public commented that the Cllr name tags asked for were not in place for which the Clerk apologised.</p> <p>c. <u>PC actions</u> – A member of the public said that it had been noted all the actions in the PC minutes were assigned to the Clerk. The Clerk couldn't do everything so could members of the PC take things on?</p> <p>d. <u>Leamington Lane Bus Shelter</u> – Felton PC have offered to repair the bus stop and then hand it over to this PC. Would this PC agree to this? Cllr Francis responded that the PC needs to consider this offer, and also to check the ownership. The member of the public said it was on the Felton PC asset list. Cllr Francis said this might be wrong. The member of the public said that the bus stop was not in our Parish. Cllr Francis responded this was not relevant, our PC needs to determine if it has a legal interest in it. A resident said the bus shelter would only be for northbound buses. What about southbound buses? Cllr Francis said that provision of the bus service was a separate issue. Currently the PC is looking at the legal liability for the shelter. The PC needs to investigate this matter and talk to Felton PC. A resident asked if it belonged to this PC would the PC demolish it? – Cllr Francis said this had not been discussed yet. Cllr Letts said that regarding the provision of a bus service, we were in the early days of talks with NCC on this. If a service is provided we don't know what it will look like but it's unlikely to be huge double deckers. A priority is to get a bus service into the village.</p> <p>Cllr Francis said that the PC definitely owns the bus stop at The Square in Swarland and the one opposite the Cook &amp; Barker. The PC is not sure about the one at Leamington Lane/Rashercap.</p> |  |
| <b>2.</b> | <p><b>Present:</b> Cllr D. Francis (Chair) Cllr S. Woolfrey, Cllr G. Anderson, Cllr E. Clark, Cllr C. Letts, Cllr N. Mansfield, Cllr. Cllr K. Howard-Row, and Cllr D. Rixon.<br/>                 County Cllr Trevor Thorne.<br/>                 The Clerk was in attendance, and a number of local residents.</p>  |  |
| <b>3.</b> | <p><b>Apologies for absence:</b> None.</p>   |  |
| <b>4.</b> | <p><b>Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda:</b> None.</p>   |  |
| <b>5.</b> | <p><b>Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 22nd June 2022:</b> Agreed.</p>  |  |
| <b>6.</b> | <p><b>To consider matters arising from the Parish Council meeting held on 22nd June 2022:</b></p> <p>a. <u>Condition of Swarland Roads</u> –The Clerk has sent an email to Rob Murfin for an update and for a date for this to go into NCC's capital plan. Cllr Francis said he had spoken to Mr Murfin who had confirmed NCC were 'on the case' legal advice was being obtained and the project is likely to take 2 or 3 years. Cllr Thorne asked about progress on the site visit that had been planned. Cllr Francis said that that some sort of site visit will still be needed to help determine the priority of works. Members of the public commented that the roads were</p>   |  |

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|  | <p>very bad, and complained about the site meeting had not taken place and there had been no progress. Cllr Francis said there had been progress. NCC have accepted that they do have responsibility and are looking to improve the roads including those not adopted. Some of the roads may end up being improved but will not be adopted. Cllr Thorne said it would be useful to have a site meeting and he would help set it up.</p> <p>A member of the public said that Studley Drive had been wrecked by Cussins but Planning said they couldn't do anything about its condition. Part of Studley Drive is adopted. The resident said she would contact Mr Murfin.</p> <p>b. <u>Mirrors to aid traffic at Newton on the Moor</u> – Emails have been sent to Neil Snowden at NCC regarding this, the issue about the school crossroads (see h below), and that the school traffic calming works were unfinished. There had been no response to emails. It was commented that there was no sign to warn that a school was ahead. Cllr Thorne said he would take up these matters with the officer concerned and also about the recommended location for traffic calming works in NotM.</p> <p>c. <u>Planning Appeal on Percy Wood application 19/01687/FUL</u> Planning Inspectorate ref: APP/P2935/W/22/3299391 - Cllr Francis had drafted a response for the PC, which had been circulated for comment to the PC and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>d. <u>Traffic speeding in Swarland and NotM (Cllr Rixon)</u> – Cllr Rixon said both villages have issues with speeding traffic, particularly Leamington Lane and The Avenue. NotM has a 20mph limit which he thought was not effective. Cllr Woolfrey agreed and asked Cllr Thorne about the installation of a chicane. Cllr Thorne said he would be happy to fund something in Swarland and NotM and the procedure is for an NCC officer to come out, look at the site for suitability. This could be put in the Local Transport Plan. Cllr Thorne said he was happy to talk to Highways, find out the cost of works and take it from there. Cllr Rixon and Woolfrey will assist.</p> <p>e. <u>Electricity supply affecting possibility of Xmas Tree in the Square, Swarland.</u> – The Clerk said she had been unable to get any response on this matter. Cllr Thorne suggested approaching Graham Bucknall. At this point a member of the public complained to Cllr Thorne about Parish Council requests not being responded to by NCC staff. Cllr Thorne apologised for this.</p> <p>f. <u>Jubilee Tree Planting</u> – Two trees had been planted by the PC, one in Vyner Park and one in NotM. The remaining funds would be used to plant bulbs in Hazon and Hartlaw later in the year.</p> <p>g. <u>Vacancies for Parish Councillors</u> – It was agreed that it would be useful to advertise the vacancies in The Column.</p> <p>h. <u>School crossroads visibility impaired by new railings</u> – (See b above).</p> <p>i. <u>Neighbourhood Plan</u> - An invitation had been sent to NCC neighbourhood planning team to attend an autumn PC meeting. They have agreed and will come back to the Clerk with a suitable date.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Cllr<br/>Thorne</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cllr<br/>Thorne/<br/>Cllrs<br/>Rixon<br/>and<br/>Woolfrey</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cllr<br/>Francis</p> |
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| <p>7.</p> | <p><b>Requested agenda items:</b></p> <p><u>a. Vyner Park update</u> – Cllr Woolfrey said the AGM had been well attended by the public the previous night. There were questions about the rent paid by Nelsons and the VPC Management Committee will be obtaining independent valuations under current licensing conditions, and checking on the Sports Council restrictions. At the AGM the committee was reappointed with the exception of Andy Ferguson who has resigned. Brian Fergie has joined and has been appointed as Treasurer. Cllr Woolfrey continues as Chairman. The Culvert at the east of the site has been railed off and Cllr Woolfrey thanked everyone who had been involved. Next project is to replace the fencing to the east of the children’s play area in August and volunteers are needed to complete this before the Show. A new side door has been installed to help prevent mud being traipsed into the pavilion, and a replacement pedal on outdoor gym equipment is being arranged. NCC have agreed to pay. Donations are coming in for the use of the facilities. Preparations for both the Show and Firework Night are ongoing. An FOI request has been submitted from a resident wanting information from the confidential review meetings held with Nelsons. This was refused and the request is now being reviewed by the PC. Cllr Woolfrey concluded by saying that all the work at Vyner Park was only made possible by a group of volunteers and a committed committee, whom he thanked.</p> <p>It was commented that Vyner Park was rebuilt with a grant from Sport England to which it was tied in for 25 years, expiring around 2025. Grant conditions will need to be checked before any changes can be made to the pavilion as there is a risk of the grant being clawed back.</p> <p>Cllr Thorne said that an application had been made to him for some play equipment but that it would be better made to the NCC Community Chest so he could use his grant for highways improvements.</p> <p><u>b. Swarland and Newton on the Moor Action on Climate (SNAC) update.</u> – Appendix A on NCC Climate Change tool attached for discussion. Cllr Clark said the survey on footpaths in the Parish had been completed and a meeting had been held with a Footpaths Officer from NCC. They are happy for the SNAC group to carry out minor works to improve the footpaths. Cllr Letts had met with Alec MacLennan from the Forestry Commission to look at the footpaths in Swarland Woods. A meeting is planned with Neil Easton of NCC re: bus service provision. Its planned to have a public meeting with Neil to talk about the results of the survey and what might be possible in the Parish. Cllr Letts had found out more about the NEED bus and would like feedback from users on this service.</p> <p>With regards to the Climate Change Tool information attached, Cllr Clark asked for Cllrs to provide comments within 2 weeks.</p> <p>The Toolkit has provided a broad brush indicator of Parish Carbon Footprints. Ours is higher than average which is not surprising given that our parish is rural, has no buses, and uses oil fired heating etc. NCC is planning a toolkit to be issued later this year to calculate carbon footprints at an individual dwelling level which will help produce a more accurate Parish footprint. NCC have asked for feedback on their plan which is up to residents to take forward. Some things would be the responsibility of the PC and some would fall to SNAC. NCC are interested to hear about what is happening in our Parish.</p> <p><u>c. Proposal of New School in Longframlington</u> – For further discussion and decision. Cllr Francis said this was talked about at the PC’s May meeting and since then a working party has been set up. Cllr Thorne said [the school] is just</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>All</p> |
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|                   | <p>Trevelyan MP and she was also unhappy with this decision. NCC is making its case.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>9.</b></p>  | <p><b>Finance</b></p> <p><b>a.</b> Clerk's salary for July 2022 - £410.55<br/>         Payment to HM Revenues &amp; Customs PAYE<br/>               = £82.00<br/>         Payment to Clerk = £410.55 plus expenses £134.94 - £82.00<br/>               = £463.49</p> <p>Please note: Expenses include repayment for Display boards to be paid for from SNAC grant held by the PC.</p> <p><b>b.</b> Other receipts and payments: None.</p> <p><b>c.</b> Account balance as at 21st July 2022: £26,306.07</p> <p><b>d.</b> Request for PC to purchase 6 Walkie Talkies (£229 inc VAT) and 3 Card Readers (£239.97inc VAT) for community use eg During emergency power outages, at Firework Night, Swarland Show, Jubilee Hall etc.</p> <p>All the above were agreed/noted.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>10.</b></p> | <p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>21/02696/S106A</b> - Hawkshaw, Old Swarland, Swarland, Morpeth, Northumberland NE65 9H. The Parish Council objected to this application to lift a s106 agreement condition to ensure the property was kept for local people. Application REFUSED 27th June 2022.</p> <p><b>22/00503/FUL</b> - Demolition of existing porch; extension to the gable to form an enlarged kitchen, utility, W/C and relocated front door; extension to front elevation to form an enlarged living room and bedroom; internal remodelling. 5 Percy Drive, Swarland, Northumberland, NE65 9JN. The PC did not object to this application. Application GRANTED 19th July 2022.</p> <p><b>22/01325/VARYCO</b> - Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) on approved application 18/02730/FUL to alter design and position of the two bungalows Land West Of 36 Park Road Park Road Swarland Northumberland. GRANTED permission 8th July 2022.</p> <p><b>b. Applications pending decision by NCC</b></p> <p><b>20/02884/CCMEIA</b> - Land North Of Shiel Dykes, U3050 Swarland Junction To Stouphill Junction, Swarland, Northumberland. Phased extraction of approximately 5 million tonnes of hard rock and importation of inert material for use in restoration using overburden from site and imported inert materials over 30 year period . This application is not within the Parish but may impact on the area. The Parish Council did not object to the application subject to a range of comments. Cllrs Cutforth and Howard-Row objected to the development. As at 19.6.22 decision still awaited.</p> <p><b>21/04446/FUL</b> - Construction of 7no. detached bungalows and associated road and ground works on former grazing land. Land North Of 3 Nelson Drive, Nelson Drive, Swarland, Northumberland. The PC made a detailed objection to this application on several grounds including overdevelopment of the site.</p> |  |

As at 21.7.22 decision still awaited.

**21/04600/DISCON, 21/04601/DISCON and 21/04602/DISCON** - Drainage and the culvert at Alexander Grove, Swarland. The Parish Council objected to these applications on the grounds that sufficient evidence of an Engineering inspection had not been provided.  
**22/00196/FUL** – Land south of Newton on the Moor. New field entrance and hard standing. The Parish Council objected to this application for a range of reasons including, no information had been provided as to the reason for the application, Highways safety, and errors on the application form. As at 21.7.22 decision still awaited.

**22/04972/FUL** - Tourism development comprising of 9no. timber lodges within woodland setting with associated access, hardstanding and landscaping. Garden And Rush Plantations, Newton-On-The-Moor, Northumberland. The PC did not object to the application but made several comments. As at 21.7.22 decision still awaited.

**22/02029/VARYCO** - Removal of condition 7(Ground Gas Protection) on approved application 20/00369/FUL Land To The Rear Of 2 Kenmore Road, Swarland, Northumberland. The Parish Council objected to this application as NCC Public Protection requirements had not been complied with. As at 21.7.22 decision still awaited.

**19/01687/FUL PLANNING APPEAL Planning Inspectorate ref: APP/P2935/W/22/3299391** - Change of use of land for the siting of up to 60 static caravans, along with associated infrastructure and hard and soft landscaping. Archaeological report received 09.2.2021 and amended site location plan received 26.02.21. Land North West Of Springwood, Coast View, Swarland, Northumberland. The PC submitted further objections.

**22/00292/REM (Reissued)** - Reserved matters application for access, appearance, landscaping, layout, scale, boundary treatment, car parking area and cycle parking relating to 1no 2 storey dwelling southern part of site (approved application 20/01037/OUT) Location Land South Of Bowling Green U3135 Swarland Village Loop Road Swarland Northumberland. The Parish Council resubmitted its objections mainly that a two story house is not suitable for this site. As at 21.7.22 decision awaited.

**c. Planning matters for Parish Council to consider**

**22/02068/FUL** - Construction of a self-contained detached annexe. 7 Home Farm, Cottages, Swarland, Northumberland, NE65 9JH. Comments invited until 28th July 2022.

**22/02326/FUL** – Construction of 5No One and a half storey dwellings. Land South Of Woodside, 1 Coast View, Swarland Northumberland NE65 9JE. Comments invited until 26th July 2022.

**22/02358/FELTPO** -Tree Preservation Order Application: T6 Cherry Fell, T10 Silver Maple Crown reduce to 6-7m above ground level, reshaping crown to maintain balanced flowing crown shape, T14 Lime 2m height regrowth from stump. Dead Sorbus sp. Noted to South side of T14, remove dead Sorbus, T22 Oak Selective prune to remove storm damage branches and remediate

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|                   | <p>branch stubs. Remove dead wood &gt;25mm diameter, T26 Oak Crown reduce tree to approximately 12-15m above ground level and prune to maintain flowing crown shape, T31 Oak Crown reduce tree to approximately 7m above ground level and prune to maintain flowing crown shape, T36 Beech Clear storm damaged branching from crown. Undertake remedial pruning to T36 to prune back any stubs and damaged branching, T37 Scots Pine Reduce to 8m standing low branches over driveway to maintain 3-4m clearance to ground level, T45 Goat Willow Selective Prune to give 2m clearance of branches to the roof apex, T46 Beech Selective Prune to give 2m clearance of branches to the roof apex, T47 Goat Willow Selective Prune to give 2m clearance of branches to the roof apex, T48 Goat Willow Fell to near ground level, T49 Robinia Fell to near ground level, T50 Western Red Cedar x3 Fell/clear x3 trees near to ground level and T51 Scots Pine Fell to near ground level. 5 Studley Drive, Swarland, Northumberland, NE65 9J. Comments invited until 28th July 2022.</p> <p><b>22/02370/FUL</b> - Conversion of outbuilding to create new dwelling. Newton Low Hall Farm, Newton-on-the-Moor, Northumberland, NE65 9LD. Comments invited until 28th July 2022.</p> <p>22/02334/FUL – Erection of selfcustom build dwellinghouse with attached garage at the Plot to rear of 32 Park Road, Swarland, NE65 9JD. Comments invited until 16th August 2022.</p> | stem (wildlife mo                              |
| <p><b>11.</b></p> | <p><b>Complaints:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leamington Lane drain and manhole outside Swarland Primary school – blockage issues referred to NCC 5.2.2020. Being taken up by NCC/OpenReach.</li> <li>• ‘No footpath’ sign at entrance of The Springwood knocked down<br/>Footpath sign broken off east of PW main entrance, Leamington Lane<br/>Footpath sign broken off behind Douglas Crescent, Swarland.<br/>Signs to be replaced by NCC Summer 2022 – some signs already replaced.</li> <li>• Request for ‘No entry’ sign at Cherry Tree Drive due to Percy Wood visitors getting lost. - referred to NCC - 22.9.21.</li> <li>• Request for weedspraying in lane to south of The Square.</li> <li>• Complaint about misleading road closure signs at Kenmore Road – 22.7.22</li> </ul> <p>There had been confusion over the signs displayed. The continued problem seems to be that a water main can't be located. The road is still closed and nothing seems to be happening. Cllr Woolfrey agreed to take this up with NCC.</p>   | <p align="center"><b>Cllr<br/>Woolfrey</b></p> |
| <p><b>12.</b></p> | <p><b>Correspondence:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Google Analytics June report on website usage. 160 users.</li> <li>• Healthwatch Northumberland Annual Report 2021/22</li> <li>• Age UK – Thank you letter for PC's donation.</li> <li>• Northumberland Town and Parish Council Climate Change Toolkit</li> <li>• National Highways – Delay to A1 Dualling.</li> </ul>   |  |
| <p><b>13.</b></p> | <p><b>Requests for next agenda:</b> None.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>14.</b></p> | <p><b>Urgent Items:</b> None.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>15.</b></p> | <p><b>Dates of Next Meetings:</b> 24/8/22 JH, 28/9/22, SVH, 26/10/2022 JH</p>   |  |

**Meeting finished: 20:41**