

## NEWTON-WITH-CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th July 2024 commencing at 7.15 p.m. at Newton-with-Clifton village hall. Present: Councillor Beverley Duckworth (chairman), Councillors Jennifer C. Benson, John Kitchen, Janette McCormick, Philip Morgan, Stephen Robinson, Benjamin Stephenson, Aimee Tombs, Christopher Whitworth. Borough/County councillor: None, Police: None. Member of the public: Three.

### a) **FORUM.**

#### i) Parishioner matters.

#### a) Planning applications LCC/2022/0007 and 18/0659

a) A parishioner provided information regarding transportation issues, mainly associated with planning application 18/0659, relating to the above applications. With regards to application LCC/2022/0007 information was also provided relating to a nature trail, memorial tree planting, and provision of accessible recreational facilities for persons with disabilities including accommodation.

b) Newton Hall park. A parishioner representative of Friends of Newton community park (FoNCP) referred to ongoing issues and the chairman explained these would be formally considered under the parks and open spaces FoNCP agenda item.

c) Planning application 24/0180. A parishioner provided information regarding the proposed development which will be formally considered as a planning agenda item.

d) Policing matters. – none reported.

### 1. **PROCEDURAL MATTERS.**

#### a) Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Samuel Baugh, and County Councillor Stewart Jones.

#### b) Chairman's communications.

i) Springfields/Westinghouse, Springfields, Salwick, Preston, Lancashire, PR4 0XJ and Suez Recycling & Recovery Lancashire Limited Clifton Marsh Landfill Site, Lytham Road, Clifton, Preston, PR4 0XE. The chairman suggested and members agreed to schedule a Springfields site visit for a date in September.

c) Declarations of interest. The chairman reminded members at the commencement of the meeting that any direct or indirect pecuniary, prejudicial, or other interest should be declared in accordance with the requirements of council's Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct adopted on 9th November 2012 in compliance with The Localism Act 2011. Accordingly the following direct or indirect, pecuniary, prejudicial, or other interest declarations were made; Councillor Jennifer C Benson formally Declared an Interest relating to the Hornbies Foundation/Hornbies Newton Charity agenda item and would not participate in the discussion or any voting thereon. Councillor Beverley Duckworth (chairman) formally Declared an Interest relating to the Friends of Newton Community Park (FoNCP) agenda items and would not participate in the discussion or any voting thereon. Councillor Janette McCormick formally Declared an Interest with regard to any finance related Friends of Newton Community Park (FoNCP) matters and would not participate in the discussion or any voting thereon. Councillor Benjamin Stephenson formally Declared an Interest, relating to Newton-with-Clifton village hall committee agenda items and would not participate in the discussion or any voting thereon. Councillor Aimee Tombs formally Declared an Interest, relating to Friends of Clifton park (FoCP) agenda items and would not participate in the discussion or any voting thereon. Councillor Christopher Whitworth formally Declared an Interest, relating to Newton-with-Clifton village hall committee agenda items and would not participate in the discussion or any voting thereon.

d) Signing of minutes - council meeting, Thursday 30th May 2024. Proposed Seconded and **RESOLVED** chairman signs the minutes as a correct record.

#### e) Matters arising from minutes.

i) Flower and shrub bed display(s) advertising and sponsorship. No update reported.

ii) Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) Newton Hall Park, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales - missing latch on the MUGA gate. No update reported (30/05/24). FoNCP reported Fylde borough council (FBC) understood the MUGA was not included within the play equipment inspection agreement. As a clerk **ACTION** it was agreed to contact FBC regarding its stated position.

iii) Newton Hall Park, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales and William Pickles Park, Clifton Lane, Clifton, brambles encroachment. No update reported.

Matters arising contd...

iv) Newton Hall park - rustic path access from existing path. No update reported.

v) Signage, Newton Hall park and William Pickles park. No update reported.

vi) Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) parking - opposite No. 25 Hill Crescent. The chairman referred to the perceived highway nuisance issue arising from the HGV parking. Clerk explained the matter had been referred to the appropriate government authorities; e.g. driver and vehicles standards agency (DVSA), traffic commissioners. An acknowledgment had been received however, DVSA had advised [DVSA does not routinely give feedback on information received, there may be occasions where feedback cannot, or will not be provided, it may take some time before DVSA are able to provide a response] (30/05/24). No update reported.

vii) Fylde Borough Council (FBC) Planning Committee planning decisions/notifications and parish communications/notifications - consider Planning-District Parish Liaison (DPL) Working Group letter circulated 7th May 2024. Following a suggestion from a Newton ward member, and to avoid any misapprehensions, members affirmed that council support retaining the extant arrangements for district/parish liaison meetings, which has planning as a standing agenda item, and the process of electing, as opposed to appointing, a chairperson and that the DPL chair be advised accordingly.

viii) Other matters. Chairman reported items not on the agenda are included in the action log available to members.

## **2. PARISH COMMUNICATION, SOCIAL MEDIA, GOVERNANCE.**

a) Consider website development, receive report.

i) Facebook and website communications. Newton ward member reported the website had updated with social media policy and it was agreed proposed highway works information should be posted. It was agreed to request a Clifton ward member and borough councillor to forward any proposed Facebook posts to Councillor Benjamin Stephenson and Councillor Aimee Tombs to also enable posts to be included on the respective Facebooks groups for both Clifton and Newton-with-Scales.

b) Hornbies Foundation - Hornbies Newton Charity (HFHNC). A Newton ward member and HFHNC nominative governor/trustee reported the special meeting relating to wind farms projects had been held and that it had been agreed that enquiries relating to a grid connection at Stannah, Cleveleys (former ICI plant at Thornton - now Hillhouse Enterprise Zone (EZ)) should be supported.

## **3. HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION.**

a) Ongoing Lancashire County Council (LCC) matters, including parish highway safety, Newton-with-Clifton.

i) Vehicle parking and waiting restrictions, Bryning Lane, Bluecoat Crescent/Hill Crescent, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales. The chairman reported ongoing issues continue to be monitored (07/03/24). Highway safety concerns were expressed relating to future increased capacity at the school and members agreed to approach county councillor representatives in an attempt to mitigate the perceived problem. (04/04/24). No update reported.

ii) Public footpath NOS.6/7. Referred to LCC as a clerk **ACTION** (13/04/23). Chairman reported a kissing gate had been installed at the School Lane entrance to public footpath NO7 (07/12/23). No update reported.

iii) Moor Hall Lane - potholes. LCC had previously advised on its "Report It" facility the issue does not meet the required measurement levels for highway work at this time. As a previous **ACTION** council had continued to monitor further highway defects. Newton ward member reported highway deterioration and as a clerk **ACTION** (04/04/24) LCC again requested to assess the issue. No update reported.

iv) Bryning Lane, (junction/A583/Blackpool Road, Newton-with-Scales) 30mph unsatisfactory condition of LCC signage post. Report to LCC as a clerk **ACTION** (20/06/22). No update reported.

v) Drainage issue in proximity to "Willow Dene" Moor Hall Lane, Newton-with-Scales PR3 3RY. No substantive update reported, previously referred to proper authorities as an **ACTION** by the clerk (07/09/22). Members had previously referred to contaminated water draining on to the south side of the highway. The untreated effluent in the open environment is associated with a dysfunctional or missing septic tank and it is considered a health and safety risk to pedestrian users of the highway. As a clerk **ACTION** (11/09/23) it was agreed to request Lancashire county council/Environment agency/Fylde borough council to advise which authority had assumed responsibility for monitoring the issue by arranging

Highways contd...inspections and ensuring corrective work is executed and funded by the responsible party, liaising as necessary with the property owners/occupiers. A Newton ward member informed that at a recent District/Parish liaison meeting a LCC engineer had agreed to make enquiries regarding this issue. As a clerk **ACTION** (02/11/23) it was agreed to correspond with the engineer and the county councillor requesting an update. Also, as an **ACTION** (02/11/23) a Clifton ward member agreed to request Fylde borough council chief executive for an update. No update reported.

vi) Drainage system malfunction, inadequate watercourse maintenance, vegetation overgrowth and consequential flooding and ponding at New Hey Lane, Newton-with-Scales PR4 3SA. Newton ward members previously reported some work had been executed. Issue previously reported to proper authorities as an **ACTION** by the clerk (31/10/22), LCC requested to provide updates on 18th February 2023, 28th February 2023 and LCC advised (05/05/23) it continues to liaise with landowner, will revisit site if flooding recurs, on last inspection all gullies were fully operational and matters continue to be monitored by responsible authorities. Newton ward member reported LCC has scheduled drain jetting work in both this locality and Moor Hall Lane (04/04/24). A Newton ward member reported LCC advice explaining a start date had still to be scheduled by LCC. As a clerk **ACTION** agreed to refer matters again to LCC. Newton ward member reported work had not been executed on New Hey Lane. No update reported.

vii) Oak Lane, tree work, Newton-with-Scales. Newton ward member agreed to provide location details relating to tree maintenance. As a clerk **ACTION** it was agreed that in due course enquiries would be made with LCC. A Newton ward member advised that LCC had executed maintenance and that parishioners will also report any ongoing tree issues impacting on telecommunications. No update reported.

viii) Unauthorised encampment and fly tipping - "The Country House", Blackpool Road, Newton-with-Scales PR4 3RJ. As a clerk **ACTION** (11/04/23) reported to proper authorities. No update from members.

ix) "Range of view" (ROV) railings at Vicarage Lane, Newton-with-Scales PR4 3RX. Subsequent to a clerk **ACTION** (17/05/23) Lancashire county council highways had advised (24/05/23) it will schedule repair work. No update reported.

x) Parish highway matters, Bryning Lane/School Lane junction - (particularly affecting traffic turning right from School Lane), Newton-with-Scales - pothole. It had been previously reported in open forum that, notwithstanding a temporary repair, a section of highway continues to deteriorate. It was agreed as a clerk **ACTION** (16/06/23) to again report the highway defect to Lancashire county council highways (LCC). LCC reported (27/06/23) work will be executed. A Newton ward member reported reinstatement work had now been executed although road markings had still to be completed. It was reported (04/04/24) this remains an issue and should again be referred to LCC. No update reported (02/05/24).

xi) Grass verge, junction of A583/Blackpool Road/Lodge Lane. Members referred to the overgrown condition of verge areas that is considered a highway safety issue as it obscures the range of view of vehicle drivers, committed to turning from the village onto the main road, of oncoming east bound traffic (clerk reported 30/05/23). However, LCC had advised (09/06/23) it does not consider sightlines were impeded and is not proposing any action at this time. County Councillor Stewart Jones had previously explained the matter will be taken up again with LCC. No update reported.

xii) A583/Blackpool Road/School Lane, Newton-with-Scales 'NO ENTRY' warnings. Subsequent to a clerk **ACTION** (08/06/23) LCC had arranged for highway road markings to be refreshed. However, members had previously reported drivers of vehicles still disregarding the one-way signage, "No waiting" highway markings, and associated parking restrictions signage. No update provided.

xiii) Blocked gully - opposite 52 School Lane, Newton-with-Scales PR4 3RT. A Newton ward member referred to this issue which had again been reported to LCC (07/09/23) as the gully remains blocked. The issue continues to be monitored however in view of recurring incidents it was agreed that as a clerk **ACTION** the issue should be escalated (02/11/23). No update reported. A Newton ward member reported further issues had again been reported to LCC (07/12/23). No update reported (04/01/24). Chairman advised will enquire if Newton Bluecoat school caretaker could occasionally sweep the accumulated detritus from the gully (30/05/24). Chairman reported school caretaker had agreed to execute occasional sweeping.

xiv) A583/Blackpool Road/Preston Old Road junction at traffic signals. The clerk had previously reported (22/06/23) a parishioner concern relating to vehicle drivers disregarding speed limits i.e. when entering from A583/Blackpool Road on to Preston Old Road, the speed limit is reduced from 50MPH to 20MPH.

Highways contd... LCC (03/07/23) agreed to provide an improved buffer when travelling from Blackpool Road and introduce a section limited to 30mph in-between the current 50mph & 20mph zones. No update reported.

xv) Rural and urban areas highway grass verge maintenance. Members referred to the overgrown condition of verge areas that is considered a highway safety issue. It was agreed to refer these concerns to LCC (06/07/23). County Councillor Stewart Jones had previously explained (06/07/23) the matter will be taken up again with LCC. No update provided (07/09/23). A Newton ward member reported that this issue continues to prevail.

xvi) Acorn Avenue/Oak Lane, Newton-with-Scales highway markings. The chairman referred to this matter previously raised in open forum, as a clerk **ACTION** (31/07/23) and referred to LCC. LCC advised (17/10/23) Acorn Avenue is currently “not part of the adopted highway network”. No update reported.

xvii) Clifton Lane/Lodge Lane, Clifton - overgrown hedgerows, trees, vegetation, verges various sections. The chairman referred to this item previously reported in open forum (07/09/23 and 02/11/23). Complaints had again been received relating to the alleged unsatisfactory condition of hedgerows, trees, vegetation, verges on various sections of the highways As a clerk **ACTION** it was agreed council again request the highways authority to arrange an inspection and corrective work, liaising with the responsible landowners/occupiers if applicable, recharging costs as necessary, and advise when it will be scheduled for execution. LCC advised (4/10/23) with regards to i) Clifton Lane; legal notice had been served, it will execute maintenance and recharge the landowner, ii) Lodge Lane; LCC considering enforcement. Clifton ward member reported (01/02/24) work executed and sight lines were much improved.

xviii) Initial Notification: Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) - School Lane & surrounding areas, Newton-with-Clifton 20th November 2023 to 1st December 2023. Chairman reported (07/12/23) workers were co-operative and efficient in executing the scheduled highway resurfacing. The chairman reported that the work executed was surface dressing/reinstatement of areas of highway, rather than extensive highway resurfacing, and highway markings had still to be replaced. As a clerk **ACTION** (04/01/24) it was agreed to refer the matter to LCC. Chairman reported (01/02/24) LCC had advised [works completed so far have been pre-patching works ahead of further surface dressing work which is due to take place in Summer 2024]. No update reported.

xix) Traffic signal controls, Blackpool Road/A583/Preston Old Road, Clifton junction. A Clifton ward member referred to traffic signals at this junction malfunctioning, primarily affecting traffic emerging from Preston Old Road - possible incorrect calibration/phasing/vehicle actuation issue. It was agreed as a clerk **ACTION** (02/11/23) to again refer the matter to LCC. No update provided.

xx) A583 Blackpool Road footway encroachment, overgrown hedgerows, vegetation, verges westbound carriageway (junction with School Lane, Newton-with-Scales). LCC advised (17/10/23) that following inspection, as there were no highway safety issues identified, no further action is to be taken.

xxi) Parish highway matters, footway survey. The chairman referred to a parishioner complaint raised in open forum (05/10/23) relating to the unsatisfactory condition of footways in the parish - particularly Newton-with-Scales. Members agreed sections of footway that form part of the highway continue to deteriorate. As a clerk **ACTION** (12/10/23) it was agreed to request that LCC arrange to execute a survey of parish footways as there is a perception maintenance is required as a matter of priority in some localities due the present condition of the footway extent of the highway being considered detrimental to highway safety. Ahead of any parish wide survey the following specific Newton-with-Scales areas, identified by members, required as a clerk **ACTION** (12/10/23) to be referred to LCC i) Beech Drive, ii) Bryning Lane (various sections), iii) Grange Lane at junction with Bryning Lane, iv) Hawthorne Avenue, v) Oak Lane, (junction with Acorn Avenue), vi) Oak Lane, (junction with Grange Lane). Temporary road closures of surrounding areas were scheduled on 20th November 2023 to 1st December 2023 to enable carriageway resurfacing works to be executed by LCC highways it was suggested LCC may consider it opportune to address concurrently these footway issues. LCC had advised (18/10/23) i) It inspects all of the adopted roads and footways in the county at least once a year to identify any defects which meet minimum investigatory level for repair i.e. any defect that causes a tripping hazard and which has an up-stand in excess of 25mm. ii) Various inspections arranged in November 2022 and subsequent repair executed. iii) Routine inspections are scheduled in coming weeks. No update reported.

Highways contd...

xxii) Highway safety - Preston Old Road, Clifton (junction with Goldfinch Drive and proximity to bus stops). A Newton ward member reported (05/10/2023) highway safety issues caused by the number and type of vehicles associated with 2NO commercial operations in the locality being parked off-site on the highway. A Clifton ward member expounded on the problem and a fellow Clifton ward member agreed to raise the issue informally with the proprietor of 1NO business. Council agreed a clerk **ACTION** (12/10/23) to correspond with 1NO business. No update reported. Clifton ward members reported highway safety issues (04/04/24) caused by the number and type of vehicles associated with 2NO commercial operations in the locality being parked off-site on the highway. As a clerk **ACTION** it was agreed to raise the issue with the proprietors of 2NO businesses. No update reported (02/05/24). Chairman and Clifton ward members reported ongoing potential highway safety issue on Preston Old Road, particularly at the junction with the Goldfinch Drive on the Lantern Fields development and the bus shelters in the locality and close to garage and motor caravan sales. Generally members consider this is a consequence of the number and type of vehicles being parked associated with the commercial operations of the businesses in the vicinity. The clerk explained recent communications with the business proprietors who did not recognise the issues previously reported by members and emphasised the real issue relates to drivers of vehicles exceeding the speed limit.(04/04/24). Members agreed to provide photographs to be included in a report to Lancashire county council highways/parking enforcement.

xxiii) Planning application 20/0315 - residential development of 37 dwellings comprising 100% affordable housing with associated infrastructure at land adjacent to Nos 8 & 12 Oak Lane, Newton-with-Scales, PR4 3RR - path from Bryning Lane to Parrox Lane. Previously reported to LCC (09/01/23) as a clerk **ACTION**. Issue involves LCC/developer. Chairman had previously reported the bollards had now been removed/vandalised, the matter reported to the police and is to be rectified by Westchurch Homes. The matter had previously been considered closed and no update reported (04/01/24). A Newton ward member reported that sight lines and related visibility had improved subsequent to recent hedgerow maintenance, and that the 1NO bollard was now padlocked (01/02/24). No update reported.

xxiv) Flooding A583/Blackpool Road, Newton-with-Clifton. Members referred to the highway flooding and ponding that is caused by malfunctioning gullies/sewers serving sections of the A583/Blackpool Road. Flooding crosses over two lanes of both eastbound and westbound traffic, a section in the vicinity of Dobbies Garden Centre being cited as an example. Members considered that water draining from a fishing lake to the rear of property Blackpool Road (Vicarage Lane junction) is contributing to ponding issues. In the interest of highway safety it was agreed as a clerk **ACTION** (02/11/23) that LCC is requested to arrange an investigation and corrective jetting/maintenance work as necessary and advise when it may be programmed for execution. Lancashire Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) had advised (24/11/23) the sites that had been referred are diversely located and directly connected to highway drainage issues and not within LLFA policy on flooding investigations which requires specific criteria to be satisfied in order to establish whether a formal investigation is 'necessary or appropriate': i) internal flooding to five or more residential properties in close proximity during one flood event, ii) internal flooding to one or more properties on two or more occasions in the previous 5 years, iii) internal flooding to two or more business/commercial premises during one flood event, or iv) flooding has affected critical infrastructure for a period in excess of 3 hours from the onset of flooding, v) where there are specific health and safety concerns (e.g. environmental health or risk to life), or vi) if there is ambiguity surrounding the source or responsibility related to a flood incident in addition to one of the above. LLFA had suggested pursuing the matter with the local highway management team (LCC). The clerk explained that LCC /LLFA had been advised concurrently. As an **ACTION** (04/01/24) by members it was agreed to collate photographic evidence which could be submitted to LCC requesting the authority execute a risk assessment and associated corrective work. A Newton ward member agreed to prepare an evidential risk assessment of the areas for submitting to LCC. Members again reported complaints relating to highway flooding and ponding apparently caused by malfunctioning gullies/sewers reporting that LCC had previously indicated work was rescheduled for Monday 15th January 2024 and that this work has still to commence. Council considered this protracted issue detrimental to highway safety, accordingly as a clerk **ACTION** it was agreed LCC should again be requested to arrange an inspection, execute maintenance necessary and advise when this work may be programmed for execution.

Highways contd...It was also agreed to request information relating to the criteria used by LCC when managing and determining its highway maintenance priorities e.g. risk assessment and its performance measured against the code of practice for highway maintenance management. Moreover, members determined that perceived issues with the "Love Clean Streets" application, issues are brought to the attention of LCC and the system often indicates a job(s) has been completed and on subsequent physical inspection it is evident work has not been completed (01/02/24). Newton ward member reported continuing issues with "Love Clean Streets" and LCC had not yet satisfactorily addressed issues and related enquiries (04/04/24). Newton ward member reported drainage work is now ongoing. (02/05/24). Chairman reported that arising from recent work the A583/Parrox Lane junction is much improved (30/05/24). In view of a perceived lack of progress it was agreed members should lobby the Lancashire county council parish champion member.

xxv) Drainage, Bryning Lane, Newton-with-Scales. A Newton ward member reported that, subsequent to LCC maintenance, seven (of eight) drainage gullies properly function and LCC is to address the outstanding issue (04/01/24). No update reported.

xxvi) Blocked gullies at Spen Lane, Treales. Newton ward member reported (04/01/24) subsequent to LCC maintenance drainage gullies now properly function. Newton ward member advised LCC is to execute further maintenance to ensure all gullies were fully operational, that excavations left by the roadside would eventually block gullies and so the issue had again been reported to LCC (04/04/24). No update reported

xxvii) Highway markings, Clifton. A Clifton ward member reported that highway markings are either completely missing, or faded to the point of being unclear throughout Clifton, other than Goldfinch Drive. As a clerk **ACTION** (04/01/24) it was agreed to refer the matter to LCC. A Clifton ward member reported the LCC response (11/01/24) [LCC only replace or refresh traffic markings that have faded at 'safety critical' locations, or where enforcement is required (i.e. highway maintenance policy). Safety critical sites include, the renewal of solid centre line marks (no overtaking), junction give way and stop lines, solid edge of carriageway markings, formal pedestrian crossing points and school zig zag markings. There are a significant number of road markings on the residential, and arterial roads of Clifton, however not all of these meet the safety critical criteria. If there are any locations which do meet these criteria their exact location is required with photographic evidence, or a nearby landmark/building, or a what3words reference. LCC would assess the location and decide if the road markings need refreshing. LCC, will continue to monitor the area and will refresh any faded lines which may create a potential safety issue.] No update reported.

xxviii) A583/Blackpool Road (proximity to School Lane junction) Newton-with-Scales. A Clifton ward member reported the overgrown condition of a tree(s) that required maintenance as it is considered a footway obstruction and detrimental to highway safety. As an **ACTION** (04/01/24) chairman and another Newton ward member agreed to arrange an inspection and assess work that is required. No update reported.

xxix) Potholes - A583/Blackpool Road, Clifton. A complaint was received by members relating to the unsatisfactory condition of various sections the eastbound carriageway between traffic signals at "Three Nooks" and the Lea Gate public house (01/02/24). As a clerk **ACTION** (07/02/24) it was agreed to refer the matter to LCC. No update reported.

xxx) Wildlife Warning Signs. Clerk reported a local wildlife support (LWS) group communication. LWS concerned from an animal safety perspective and matter referred to LCC (07/03/24). No update reported.

xxxi) Overgrown ivy hedge, adversely affecting sightline of users of public transport waiting in bus shelter on A583/Blackpool Road (Bryning Lane/ westbound). As a clerk **ACTION** (07/3/24) it was agreed to refer the matter to LCC. No update reported.

xxxii) A583/Blackpool Road speed restrictions. A Newton ward member referred to recent communications and it was agreed that notwithstanding it is acknowledged proposals are at a very early-stage council is keen to be involved from the outset in the consultation process. Accordingly it was agreed council invite a LCC highways representative to a meeting to discuss the proposal.(04/04/24) No update reported.

xxxiii) Meadow Close/Clifton Lane, Clifton. A Clifton ward member reported the unsatisfactory condition of various sections of carriageway. As a clerk **ACTION** it was agreed to refer the matter to LCC (04/04/24). A Clifton ward member reported LCC advice received on 23rd April 2024 i.e. [It will raise an order to repair one defect that meets our minimum investigatory level for repair].

Highways contd...

xxxiv) Bryning Lane, Newton-with-Scales - pothole reinstatement required. A Newton ward member reported an issue and it was agreed as a clerk **ACTION** that when more specific information is provided; what3words reference, a nearby road name, a known landmark, a house number, or a street light number, ideally with a photograph, the matter be referred to LCC (02/05/24). No update reported.

xxxv) Proposed dropped kerb/vehicle access opposite No14 Stanagate. Clifton ward member reported that anecdotal information indicated council will receive a request for permission to execute this work. It was explained all necessary permissions should be obtained from the proper authorities; Lancashire county council highways/Fylde borough council planning/Progress Housing Group (PHG) as landowner (02/05/24). Clifton ward member reported a tree had been felled on the verge frontage maintained by PHG.

xxxvi) Planning applications LCC/2022/0007 and 18/0659 and associated highway issues. Members reported various highway issues relating to the respective developments that had been reported to, and are currently being investigated by LCC. It was agreed LCC be requested to provide an update, and a Clifton ward member agreed to contact a Treales, Roseacre and Wharles member regarding 18/0659 development. It was agreed as a clerk **ACTION** to request an update from LCC relating to ensuring compliance with the construction management/traffic management plans associated with the developments and request information regarding how this will be achieved and subsequently monitored (02/05/24). A Clifton ward member reported that following LCC pre-enforcement action operations had been suspended pending an anticipated planning application. Arising from the open forum discussion it was agreed to delete the item.

xxxvii) Church Lane/Vicarage Lane junction - pothole. - A Newton ward member reported an issue and it was agreed as a clerk **ACTION** that, as required by LCC, when more specific information is provided; what3words reference, a nearby road name, a known landmark, a house number, or a street light number, ideally with a photograph, the matter be referred to LCC (02/05/24). No update reported.

xxxviii) Thames Street, Newton-with-Scales PR4 3RH - pothole (in proximity to "Autumn Fold", adjacent to the rear garden wall of "Dixon's Farm"). The chairman reported the above issue recently been reported to LCC.(02/05/24) No update reported.

xxxix) Flooding, Clifton Lane. A Newton ward member referred to an issue that LCC has apparently been addressing for several months. The matter involved a local farmer who had been requested to take remedial action. The member agreed to provide the clerk with recent LCC communications (02/05/24). No update reported.

xl) Overgrown hedgerows, land at Preston Old Road, Clifton, Preston Lancashire PR4 0ZA. A Clifton ward member reported the above issue perceived to present a health and safety and related highway safety issue as highway signage is obscured. It was reported both LCC and the housing developer are investigating this matter.

xli) Flooding vicinity of Springfields Westinghouse main entrance and crossroads junction Church Lane/Clifton Lane/Deepdale Lane, Station Road, Clifton. A Newton ward member reported this issue and it was agreed as a clerk **ACTION** the matter be referred to LCC (30/05/24). No update reported.

b) New LCC matters.

i) Amenity grass cutting, Stanagate, Clifton. 15-35 Stanagate. Clifton ward member reported that the above area is not being maintained. It was agreed as a clerk **ACTION** the matter be referred to LCC.

c) Street scene matters.

i) Consider amenity improvements in central village area, including eradicating Japanese Knotweed. The chairman reported that currently Japanese Knotweed was now in proliferation. As a clerk **ACTION** it was agreed Community Gateway Association (CGA) should be requested to provide details relating to its contractor's scheduled programme of grounds maintenance to eradicate the knotweed.

ii) Littering in parish. A Newton ward member reported volunteer collections continue to mitigate the problem however likely accumulations screened by hedgerows still require to be removed.

iii) Dog fouling. Members reported an increasing incidence of dog fouling and as a clerk **ACTION** it was agreed to request Fylde borough council dog warden service to address the issue. Moreover it was agreed to request FBC to display different, and more adversarial, warning signage as evidently the standard penalty notices continue to be disregarded. The clerk advised FBC had already been requested to provide dog waste bins and bag dispensers near to the Newton Hall park dog run. Clifton ward member reported public

Streetscene contd... protection order (PSPO) signage on William Pickles park had been removed. It was agreed council should arrange a replacement sign. A Newton ward member suggested that parishioners should report dog fouling incidents on the "Report It" facility on Fylde borough council's website and it was agreed to post a notice on the parish council website expressing members' concerns regarding this issue.

iv) SpID deployment. Newton ward members again reported matters are progressing however the LCC process is perceived as protracted and it could be several months before matters are concluded. Clerk reported a LCC parish champion grant of £600 had been awarded.

v) Street cleansing, Lodge Lane, Clifton - reported in open forum (02/11/23). No update reported.

d) Overgrown hedgerows, Preston Old Road, Clifton, Preston Lancashire PR4 0ZA. A Clifton ward member reported that overgrown hedges of domestic property encroached on to the footway and was detrimental to highway safety. It was acknowledged the footway was narrow at this specific locality and a Clifton ward member agreed to discuss options to resolve the issue with the council's contractor.

e) Christmas seasonal decorations 2024 - consider arrangements. A Newton ward member referred to the circumstances that required council to review its arrangements, including removal of lighting following the 2023/24 festive displays. Following members suggestions it was agreed as a clerk **ACTION** enquiries be made with a local electrician.

f) Unauthorised advertising – street lighting columns. Newton ward member referred to this issue and it was generally agreed the notices could be removed.

#### **4. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.**

a) Planning applications.

**24/0180** Mixed use development comprising: 1) change of use of existing vehicle repair workshop (use class b2) to cafe (use class e(b)) at ground floor and hairdressers/beauty salon (use class e(c)(iii) at first floor; 2) demolition of existing rear storage building and erection of new mot testing station and vehicle repair workshop (use class b2); and 3) enlargement of existing service yard and provision of four additional car parking spaces within vehicle forecourt at "Smithy Garage" Blackleach Lane, Salwick, Clifton Preston PR4 0RY. Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that the planning authority be advised it is recommended the application is granted planning permission.

**24/0354** First floor rear extension to dwelling and single storey side extension to detached garage, No1 School Lane, Newton-with-Scales, Lancashire PR4 3RT. Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that the planning authority be advised it is recommended the application is granted planning permission.

**24/0383** Application to vary condition 1 (approved plans) of planning permission 23/0153 to increase the roof pitch (from 17.5 degrees to 22.5 degrees) and ridge height (from 4.8 metres to 5.4 metres) of all four dwellings at "Pathways" Blackpool Road, Newton-with-Scales, Preston, Lancashire PR4 3RJ. Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** that the planning authority be advised it is recommended the application is refused planning permission - members consider the proposed increased roof pitch and ridge height is unacceptable development which will have a detrimental visual impact in an Area of Separation.

b) Renewable and low carbon energy generation development proposals.

i) Proposed solar farm, Newton-with-Scales, Bluefield renewable developments Ltd, anticipated planning application subsequent to application 22/0204 request for screening opinion pursuant to the town and country planning (environmental impact assessment) regulations 2017 in respect of a 25mw solar farm, battery energy storage scheme and associated development, at land at Newton Grange Farm, Grange Lane, Newton-with-Scales, Preston Lancashire PR4 3RS. No update reported (30/05/24). The chairman referred to recent communications and members agreed it was necessary to be kept informed of Bluefield Renewable Developments Ltd planning proposals and would welcome receiving additional information relating to an imminent planning application. The clerk referenced a previous video link meeting with Bluefield representatives and, prior to a meeting suggested by the developer, it would assist members if Bluefield provided a summary of those aspects of the imminent application that had not previously been considered, for information purposes by members ahead of the formal consultation process, and are salient for consideration prior to the intended full planning application.

ii) Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Limited (Morecambe OWL), a joint venture between Cobra



Planning contd... Instalaciones y Servicios, S.A. and Flotation Energy Ltd developing Morecambe Offshore Windfarm project. Morgan Offshore Wind Limited (Morgan OWL), a joint venture between bp and Energie Baden-Wurttemberg AG (EnBW), developing the Morgan Offshore Wind project. Two joint venture companies are collaborating to connect the wind farms to the electricity transmission network - statutory consultation transmission assets. Chairman reported Morecambe and Morgan OWL had still not provided any further update. The chairman reported attending a meeting with the Lancashire county council director of planning (LCC) together with a Clifton ward member/borough councillor and a Newton Residents Association member. LCC had acknowledged the parish council position, participated in the non-statutory consultation, and will liaise with Fylde borough council (FBC) planning. The chairman referred to Morecambe and Morgan Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets applications and, notwithstanding FBC had not registered to make representations, it was agreed council should register.

iii) Clifton Marsh Solar Development, Screening Report for proposed solar development on 68.7 hectares of agricultural land located at Clifton Marsh Farm, Preston, Lancashire PR4 0XE. No update reported (30/05/24). The chairman referred to recent communications and, prior to a meeting suggested by the developer, members agreed it would assist to have a summary of the points which have not previously been considered by members ahead of the formal consultation process, and require consideration prior to the full planning application. The clerk referred to a Vattenfall representative attending a council meeting earlier in the year and providing information to members relating to the Clifton Marsh project and issues related to battery storage, buildings, consultation, cumulative impact (given an ongoing windfarm project, and the other proposed solar farm, timeframe, transportation issues and wildlife & ecological surveys. Regarding the council developing projects that may be eligible for related community benefit funding (CBF) members suggested infrastructure improvements to highways, recreational equipment, and village hall. Chairman suggested, and it was agreed, other projects may also be eligible for CBF and members' recommendations should be circulated in due course.

c) Fylde Borough Council (FBC) Planning Committee planning decisions/notifications and parish communications/notifications/recommendations. Chairman reported a general FBC performance survey and encouraged participation. It was agreed to publish detail on the website.

## **5. PARKS AND OPEN SPACES.**

a) Grassed open space maintenance contract - consider report from authorised officer/liaison member in respect of the maintenance contract. Councillor Janette McCormick (authorised officer/liaison member in respect of the contract) reported maintenance is ongoing, subject to prevailing weather conditions, in accordance with agreed conditions, schedules and specifications.

b) Horticultural features contract - consider report from authorised officer/liaison member in respect of the maintenance contract. Councillor Janette McCormick (authorised officer/liaison member in respect of the contract) reported maintenance is ongoing, subject to prevailing weather conditions in accordance with agreed conditions, schedules, and specifications.

c) Friends of Newton Community Park (FoNCP) receive report, if any.

i) Report. The chairman referred to FoNCP's report which had previously been circulated to members. A complaint relating to the dog run size was not accepted as valid. Members agreed to assess a FoNCP schedule of completed improvements which require council to be responsible for future maintenance.

a) Giant hogweed Newton Hall park, School Lane, Newton-with-Scales. In view of concern expressed regarding a proliferation of Giant Hogweed it was agreed as a clerk **ACTION** a professional investigation should be executed and that the matter be referred to Fylde borough council parks.

b) Graffiti - castle outpost tower. It was reported that the culpable party had been identified and had apologised. The graffiti had now been removed.

d) Parish tree planting, pruning, replacement etc.

i) Issues arising from Ash dieback disease, including storm damage &c. It was reported a tree on property adjacent Newton Hall park, overhangs the park and merits a safety inspection by the council's contractor.

ii) Updates, if any, from Fylde borough council, Lancashire county council (LCC), local tree surgeons, Woodland Trust, and parish surveys. The clerk reported that information from Lancashire county council (LCC) regarding "Treescapes" i.e. Forestry Commission funded project, delivered by LCC. It involves a working partnership with LCC to help fund and deliver tree planting aspirations. LCC is also administering

Parks contd... the Coronation Living Heritage Fund pot for community orchards in Lancashire. Members agreed to consider potential projects and report suggestions in due course. A member reported a tree/whip, recently planted on William Pickles park, appeared to have failed and died.

e) William Pickles Park, Clifton, development, equipment maintenance and repairs.

i) Friends of Clifton park (FoCP). Clifton ward members provided an update following a meeting between a subset of members, FoCP member and a Fylde borough council (FBC) project manager and a recent FoCP meeting. FBC is to consider the drainage issue on the park. A drainage survey had still to be scheduled and a subset of members will meet again with a subset of FoCP members to try and progress matters.

ii) Damaged play equipment, main climbing frame. It was reported that the climbing frame had still to be removed and agreed as a clerk **ACTION** to request Fylde borough council (FBC) for an update regarding; i) What equipment is considered unfit for purpose by the inspector and is to be removed, ii) Progressing a FBC community parks improvement programme (CPIP), involving Friend of Clifton park, relating to William Pickles park, iii) Drainage issues on the park require investigation, and members preferred option, is for all the equipment to be removed to facilitate an engineering inspection and corrective work. A comprehensive drainage system could then be installed, and new equipment provided, as part of the CPIP. The existing railings would be redeployed possibly providing a dog run area.

f) Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO). Subsequent to a chairman enquiry, clerk affirmed Fylde borough council introduced PSPOs to balance the needs of dog walkers with the rest of the public. PSPO's applicable to parish/town dog control issues are : i) Dog fouling, ii) Dogs in enclosed play areas, iii) Dogs on leads in car parks, iv) Dogs on leads on highways v) Dogs on lead by request.

**6. NEWTON-WITH-CLIFTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT TRUSTEES (NWCVHC).**

i) Playing field adjacent village hall. It was reported that a wooden composting area is to be constructed on site to dispose of grass cuttings when local football club volunteers execute additional cuts.

**7. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS.**

a) Approve invoices for payment.

i) List 1. Proposed, Seconded and **RESOLVED** following invoices be paid:

Woody's Group Ltd	Rustic path, Newton Hall park	£19981.50	
		Vat £3996.30	£23977.80
Divine Signs Ltd.	Public space protection order signage at Newton-with-Clifton village hall	£181.25	
		Vat £36.25	£217.50
Black Box Security Alarm Systems	CCTV monitoring 4NO cameras, secure footage on USB for police viewing.	£207.88	
		Vat £41.57	£249.45
HSBC	Account maintenance & transaction charges 30th April 2024 to 30th May 2024.		£23.00
Paul Gregory T/A Acer Contracts	Grass cutting operations June 2024.	£975.00	
	Horticultural features operations June 2024.	£912.20	
		Vat £377.44	£2264.64
Yu Energy Retail Limited	Christmas trees festive lighting electricity charges 01/06/24-30/06/24.	£11.66	
		Vat £0.58	£12.24
			£26744.63

**8. ANY OTHER MATTERS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY.**

a) Lancashire Association of Local Councils (LALC), Fylde area committee. Newton ward member reported LALC is to circulate business continuity plan to its members.

b) Date of next meeting. It was agreed meetings of the council's standing finance and planning committees be scheduled for Thursday 1st August 2024, and the next council meeting be held on Thursday 5th September 2024 commencing at 7:15 p.m. at Newton-with-Clifton village hall. There being no further business the chairman declared the Meeting closed at 21:50 hrs.

Chairman