



Around the Green

NPC Accounts for 2008 / 2009

The following accounts have been agreed by Newton Parish Council and the internal auditor, Bill Charity. The accounts are currently being reviewed by the external auditor, BDO Stoy Hayward. If you require any further information on the accounts please contact the Clerk.

Receipts & Payments Account for the year ending 31st March 2009

Receipts

Precept	£7,300.00	
Grants	£562.50	
Recycling	£387.78	
Bank Interest	£219.39	
		£8,469.67

Payments

Clerks Salary & Admin	£3,691.39	
Grants	£690.00	
Subscriptions	£59.00	
Street Lighting	£161.62	
Insurance	£568.19	
Inspection	£183.00	
Maintenance	£382.71	
Village Hall	£1,000.00	
Projects	£130.00	
VAT Paid	£7.00	
		£6,872.91

Excess of Receipts over Payments		£1,596.76
Add Balance Brought Forward		£12,159.40
Balance Carried Forward		£13,756.16

Newton Parish Council

The Parish Council holds its meetings on Wednesdays in Newton Village Hall starting at 7.30pm on the following dates:

8th July 2009

9th September 2009

11th November 2009

13th January 2010

10th March 2010

12th May 2010

The Public and Press are invited to attend with the Public Forum being held at the start of each meeting. All Newton residents are encouraged to attend.

For further information on Newton Parish Council please look at the Parish Council page on www.newton.suffolk.gov.uk

Newton Parish Council appointments for 2009 / 10

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, the councillors made the following appointments:

Chairman	Colin Poole
Vice Chairman	Roy Gardner
Internal Auditor	Bill Charity
<u>Representatives</u>	
Newton Green Trust	Alan Vince & Roy Gardner
Village Hall Management Committee	Rita Schwenk
Alston & Plampin Charity	Alan Vince, John Taylor & Harry Buckledee
Suffolk Association of Local Councils	Dave Crimmin.

Annual Report 2008 / 2009

Newton Parish Council Chairman Colin Poole, gave the following Annual Report to parishioners at the Annual Parish Assembly on the 15th April 2009.

As Chairman I am pleased to give you the Parish Council report for the period April 2008 to March 2009. Newton Parish Council met 10 times in the last year. At the first meeting the Councillors very generously elected me as Chairman, following Alan Vince's decision to retire to the back benches. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his sterling leadership during his year as Chairman, and all the other work that he does for our village.

Amongst the many matters upon which our Parish Council is a consultee, we considered 14 planning applications and 4 appeals to the Planning Inspectorate. Of the 2 planning applications where Babergh District Council and we disagreed, one application was subsequently approved following a change to the plans and in the second, the permission for a mobile home to be sited on a property was restricted to 3 years. We were particularly pleased with the support shown by BDC's Development Committee and Suffolk County Council's Development Control Committee in again standing firm and getting the second planning application for the quarry at Chilton rejected. Both Peter Holbrook and Selwyn Pryor supported our cause brilliantly and I offer both of them our sincere thanks for their efforts. But I must not leave it there! The effort of so many residents was outstanding - with letters of objection, signs springing up, another protest convoy and your attendance at the Babergh and Suffolk meetings. Your support has been crucial in getting both applications rejected.

NPC attended the examination of SCC's new minerals plan in March and we are hopeful that the inspector will throw out the plan that still includes the Chilton site as part of the minerals reserves. We may have to wait until September to hear the inspector's decision and we suspect that Brett are awaiting the outcome before deciding on their next course of action. We were hoping by now to know the outcome of the unitary local government review of Suffolk by the Boundary Committee, but legal challenges to the process has led to two delays in the publication of the final recommendation. Of the 2 options on the table, NPC supports the One Suffolk solution but it is anyone's guess whether the recommendation will in fact be final!

We spoke this time last year about our case for SCC to consider a pedestrian crossing in the village. We have seen some initial plans from SCC and we would like your input on these at the end of the meeting as there will be lighting considerations if a scheme is put forward. Any scheme for Newton will be reviewed with other similar requirements in Suffolk and will of course be subject to SCC's budget availability. Newton has joined forces with Chilton, Acton, Great and Little Waldingfield parish councils in establishing a Speedwatch scheme in the area. We already have 10 volunteers from Newton who have stepped forward to be trained in the use of the equipment and the role they will be undertaking and it is hoped to start the scheme in the summer - we have been chasing the Police to find out why there appears to be a delay in getting the ball rolling. Selwyn Pryor's Locality Budget has provided for Newton's share of the set-up costs and we are extremely grateful for his support of Newton once again.

Annual Report 2008 / 2009 continued

Thanks to all of the young and older residents who have given their views on the playground and other issues that they consider important to the village. We shall now review their feedback in order to prioritise our projects over the coming year. We adopted the Parish Plan created by Newton's residents at the start of 2006 and have implemented your high priority requirements. Over the coming months we shall be revisiting this in order that a new plan is created by 2010. We would like to hear from any resident who would like to take part in this process.

We lobbied hard for a more robust Police response to the disgraceful crime wave which hit our village last autumn, when we had more crimes committed in two months than the whole of the previous year. It was particularly regrettable that it was decided to place a known antisocial family in a quiet and trusting village, in order to stop a crime wave elsewhere. I hope that Peter Holbrook will help us spread the message that we have had more than our fair share of social experiments and do not expect to have such people visited on us again.

We are pleased that our new PCSO Siobhan Hemmett has now finished her training and we hope that she will be a permanent feature of community policing in the village. Through the tenacity of our Clerk, we seem to have averted the immediate removal of the village's phone box by BT and even got it working. However, any future decision on whether it is kept or removed will be based primarily on usage so I do hope that we make sure that all residents are aware that it is now working – or to let the Clerk know when it is not. We continue to evolve the format of the Parish Council Newsletter and the Newton website and we hope that these still form a good communication channel between the council and yourselves. We are now offering a larger text version of Around the Green and should you want a copy please contact the Clerk. We must also thank the Newton Newsletter and Box River News for continuing to publish the minutes from our meetings and the Parish Council events calendar.

There are a number of people who I would like to thank: Shirley Taylor and Liza Devlin for the work they do in preparing Christmas parcels. Harry Buckledee for maintaining the War Memorial – and I am pleased to report that the Parish Council has resolved to fund the cost of the remembrance poppy wreath on behalf of the people of Newton, for future years. Mike Townrow for taking on Harry Buckledee's role as Newton's Tree Warden, and Harry who quietly carried out this post for more than 20 years. Tony Langley for the tremendous job he has done in making the playground area so neat and tidy. Sue Presland for her work as Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. The Village Hall Committee for keeping the refurbishment programme on track - we can all see what a wonderful job they have made in the refurbishment of the hall itself. Those residents who make sure that the village is cleared of litter, not just those who turned out for the Spring Clean a couple of weeks back, but also those who are picking up litter all year round. The parish councillors for their support during the year. Dave Crimmin, our enthusiastic and hard working clerk, who has brought such a degree of professionalism to the role and was the driving force behind our fight against the quarry. All of the people, many of whom are speaking tonight or sitting here listening, who all contribute so much in so many different ways to make this place a Village, such as the Fete Committee, the Village Newsletter, not just Dawn Bridge but also those people who staple, fold and distribute it, Janet and Alan Weavers for events like Burns Night which really bring the whole village together and all the people who give willingly and freely of their time to make Newton a lovely place to live.

SCC Minerals Plan approved by Government Inspector

Newton Parish Council has received the report from Government Inspector Elizabeth Hill which approves Suffolk County Council's plans to retain Chilton as a potential site for quarrying, despite two planning applications from Brett Aggregates being rejected in the past.

In a press release NPC Chairman, Colin Poole, explained "We are frankly shocked that despite evidence from all quarters, including aggregates companies themselves, that material from this site isn't worth risking the lives of people in getting at it, this inspector decided to keep the site in the strategic plan, despite accepting that the county had enough reserves without it."

"Elizabeth Hill has also decided that the fact that the council's sustainability appraisal of potential quarries didn't include measuring their carbon footprint wasn't a problem. How can Suffolk lay claim to being the greenest county if the council doesn't need to measure the carbon footprint of their proposals to put thousands of additional lorries onto Suffolk roads? The Hill Report is giving a green light to every council in England not to bother with the basic test of sustainability in a Sustainability Appraisal. It's a farce."

"Plans for a quarry at Chilton were rejected twice by the County Councillors on the basis of road safety – given the stretch of road is in the top ten most dangerous roads in Suffolk, that decision reflected concerns from hundreds of protestors. However, Elizabeth Hill still accepted the argument put forward by planners that the A134 was perfectly adequate for 30 tonne lorries to use, despite being in places less than 6m (20ft) wide, over-ruling Police concerns for road safety."

Speculating as to whether new planning applications may now be made to quarry at the Chilton site, Colin Poole commented "Any applicant is going to have to consider the uphill battle they are going to face in obtaining planning permission for this site. We certainly are not going to roll over. The strategy document may still include Chilton, but there are plenty of other sites that aggregates companies will prefer to quarry – existing sites with major extensions. Any company which decides to test us over Chilton will have a hell of a fight on its hands."

Around the Green

- Is published by Newton Parish Council for the residents of Newton
- If you would like a copy of *Around the Green* in a larger text please contact the Clerk.
- A copy of this edition can be found at www.newton.suffolk.gov.uk

Safer Neighbourhood Team

Newton is policed by the West Babergh Safer Neighbourhood Team and our PCSO is 3193 Siobhan Hemmett. You can contact the team via telephone on 01473 613500 or email

siobhan.hemmett@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

barerghwest.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

The Safer Neighbourhood Team's website also contains some useful information and links for problem reporting:

www.onesuffolk.co.uk/safersuffolk/westbarergh

Remember that in the case of an emergency ring 999.

Newton Parish Council

Colin Poole	(Chairman)	376448
Roy Gardner	(Vice Chair)	312346
Gary Flowers		374561
Peter Haylock		374574
Rita Schwenk		210838
Alan Vince		373963
Rebecca Wade		372868
Clerk Dave Crimmin		375085

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