



**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 9th May 2024 at 6:00pm
in the Village Hall, Guntons Road, Newborough, PE6 7RT .**

Held under the Chairmanship of Cllr Mark Ormston of Newborough and Borough Fen

Parish Council

Clerk: - Mrs Irene Healiss

clerk@newboroughandboroughfen-pc.gov.uk

Present:

Cllr Ormston, Cllr John Fox, Cllr Judy Fox, Cllr Rowell, Cllr Coleman, Cllr Cawley, Cllr Cave, Cllr Angrave, Mrs Marianne Lawton (Newborough Cricket Club and Coronation Field), Mrs Brenda Vassey (bowls club), Mrs Deborah Gunns (Newborough pre-school), Mrs Cawley (St Bartholomew's Church), Mrs Wendy Sayer (Good Neighbours), Mrs Margaret Cave (Village Hall Trustees), Ward Cllr Allen, and the Clerk Mrs Irene Healiss.

Seven (7) members of the public.

1. Apologies

Received from Mr John Wright (Neighbourhood Watch), Derek Skingle (Good Neighbourhood Scheme), Mrs Ann Williamson (WI), Cllr Rylan Ray.

2. Minutes of meeting held on the 18 May 2023

It was proposed by Cllr Ormston, seconded by Cllr Cawley and **resolved** that the minutes are a true record. The minutes were signed by Cllr Ormston.

3. Parish Council Report by the Chairman (Appendix 1)

4. Responsible Financial Officer Report 2022-3 (Appendix 2)

5. To receive reports from Local Organisations:

- Newborough Parish Council allotment report (Appendix 3)
- Bowls Club (Appendix 4)
- Good Neighbourhood Scheme (Trustee Report) (Appendix 5)
- Newborough playgroup
- Women's Institute (WI) (Appendix 6)
- Neighbourhood Watch (Appendix 7)
- Newborough Village Hall trustees (Appendix 8)
- Newborough Cricket Club/Coronation Field Trustees (Appendix 9)

6. To receive update from the local Ward Councillors.

(Appendix 10)

7. Village matters and public forum - discuss the general affairs of the Parish and to pass any resolutions thereon.

St Bartholomew's Church also offered a report (Appendix 12)

Concern was raised regarding the closure of The Bull pub. The PC will query potential closure with the brewery.



The meeting closed at 6:49pm

Signed
The Chairman

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Please see the below appendices for all Reports.

Appendix 1

Newborough and Borough Fen Parish Council

**Chair's Annual
Report 2023/24**

Newborough and Borough Fen Parish Council has had another busy year. There were community successes such as a Vivacity Activity Fun Day, a Christmas tree light switch-on event and the beginnings of the Neighbourhood Plan (although I am keen to add this is not a Parish Council-led initiative).

Within the Parish Council itself, there have been some personnel changes and we are due for another election in the coming weeks. Personnel turnover is not uncommon with Parish Councils. However, I wish to take the opportunity to note the resignation of the previous Chair, Bryan Cole. I wish to thank Bryan for his service and wish him all the best for the future.

Following the annual meeting, the Parish Council will be completing the annual task of electing a new Chair and other key roles. I am hopeful the new Chair and the Parish Council will undergo a period of stability moving forward. I feel this will help in achieving its long-term ambitions.

The Parish Council has strengthened certain areas of governance and efficiencies in the last 12 months, including the adoption of some new policies, moving bank accounts and a new accounting system.

I wish to end this year's report with a few thank yous. Firstly, thank you to all of Newborough and Borough Fens past, present and future Parish Councillors, it is a voluntary role and all your efforts are very much appreciated. Secondly, our Clerk, Irene is invaluable to our Parish Council and on behalf of us all, I wish to thank her for all her hard work. Lastly, I



wish to thank the residents of Newborough and Borough Fen. I have been fortunate enough to attend Parish Council meetings in other areas in recent months and Newborough and Borough Fen enjoy the most consistent public turnout and engaged public participation. The Parish Council is fortunate to have a caring and engaged community.
Thank you

Mark Ormston
Chair of Newborough and Borough Fen Parish Council

Appendix 2

Newborough and Borough Fen Parish Council

Annual 2023-2024 report from the Responsible Financial Officer

(Please note all figures have been rounded up to the nearest £.)

The financial year 2023-24 saw the Council receive £66,747 in income which was made up mostly of precept and grants received. With reserves and careful management of an annual spend of £57,767 the Parish Council were able to carry forward £78,566 as of 31st March 2024.

This amount allows the Council to maintain reserves for 6 months continuance of services as well as for ear marked projects.

This was made up as of 31st March 2024: -

- £43,256.14 in a newly opened CCLA investment account as ear marked reserves and a further
- £35,310.32 as general reserves in the Unity Trust bank accounts.

The Council currently hold £299,623 in fixed assets.

Newborough and Borough Fen Parish Council continues to remain financially stable moving forward, with earmarked reserves being accounted for future projects, including: -

- training
- legal fees
- doctors' income reserve
- playpark maintenance
- Elections
- Tree work (at the church)
- skate ramp project
- white gates
- A new village sign
- church pathway remedial work



The Parish Council held another successful family fun day over the summer, with plans already in place for another this August.

The Parish Council secured funding of £880 to provide a free children's teacup ride and Coronation party in celebration of King Charles which was enjoyed by all who attended. The first of many annual Christmas light switch on's took place in December, which saw the Mayor of Peterborough cutting the village ribbon for the event.

Funding for the skate ramp is ongoing and the Parish Council hope to complete this project soon. Revised plans were submitted and approved last year for a more user friendly, smaller ramp.

A Neighbourhood Plan is also underway, with an active steering group driving the process forward for the community.

The Village Tribune is now regularly distributed around Newborough and Borough Fen, keeping residents updated with Parish Council news.

The Council also delivered a successful defibrillator training session at the start of the year, and its popularity will hopefully offer a further session later in the year.

The accounts are now managed through a software programme called Rialtas, along with the allotments and cemetery management, offering continuity and further accuracy as per the council's risk management policy.

An ongoing reconciliation of funds is offered by the RFO to the Council regularly to assist with decision-making processes, with quarterly and year end budgets prepared and offered for review.

Appendix 3

Allotment Report 2023-2024

The council currently rent 70 plots as allotment gardens and an additional 4 plots to local farmers, through land leased from the church commissioners for agricultural purposes. There are currently 6 plots available for tenancy at the allotments on Peterborough Road. The fields at Werrington Bridge Rd and Peterborough Rd have all been productively rented for a further year.

The allotments are checked as part of its monthly risk management process, and further to the restructure the year before last, billing has been successful. There are currently 5 outstanding payments, which may be queried for vacancies.

A new tenant farmer has recently taken on an agricultural field on Peterborough Road, and hopefully will be a productive venture.

The prospect of self-managed allotments through an organised allotment association is still ongoing.

Rental costs of the plots have not risen in a few years.

Of income received, £1374 is generated from the agricultural plots to farmers which is offered as alternative use of the land until allotment demand were to increase.

In the last financial year, the allotments generated:

1 st April 2023- 31 st March 2024	
Income	£2722.33
Expenditure	£2667.30
= profit of £55.03	



Appendix 4

NEWBOROUGH AND BOROUGH FEN INDOOR CARPET BOWLS CLUB

Our current membership is 16.

This year has seen the number of able-bodied members decrease.

The majority of our players are now over 70 years of age, and we are now down to 2 fit players to get the bowls carpets out.

We have already advertised in the Village Tribune and in various other locations. We have increased the size of our advert in the forthcoming issue of the Village Tribune to see if we can get more interest.

Hopefully the Bowls Club will be able to continue in the future if we are successful in interesting new members.

Appendix 5



Report for Newborough Parish Council May 2024

Name of Parish Council	Newborough & Borough Fen Parish Council
Commencement date of Associate Membership	1 st April 2021
Nominated Trustee	Derek Skingle
Lead Volunteer	Wendy Sayer
Annual Membership Fee	£0
Area Population	824 Households
Number of current Registered Volunteers	16

Good Neighbours – Rural Peterborough, was set up as a charity in October 2020, with the objective of relieving the needs of the poor, sick, elderly, and disabled residents of the rural areas of Peterborough. Our primary aim is to keep people well and safe in their own home for longer.

The Charity is now operational in 15 Parish Council areas in the rural areas of Peterborough.



The Charity objectives focus upon reducing social isolation and loneliness and improving health and wellbeing to support continued independence. Our main activities include:

1. Organisations Development. GNRP is a young organisation and work is ongoing to
 - publicise and promote the Charity's activities across the rural communities of Peterborough.
 - evaluate need and monitor impact of activities.
 - develop efficient communication with parish councils, volunteers, community members and partner organisations via our website and social media.
 - Provide administrative support for the wider Peterborough parish council network by hosting quarterly meetings and Working Group meetings.
2. Recruitment, training and support for community volunteers.
3. Support activities provided by community volunteers to residents include befriending; supported leisure activities, such walking or access to Warm Hubs; sitting service for housebound residents, transport to medical appointments; short term/ one off household support such as basic DIY and shopping.
4. Developing Partnerships to improve support provision. This includes working with statutory and voluntary sector organisations such as GP Practices and their social prescribers, NHS, Adult Social Services as well as British Red Cross, Dementia Care Services, Age UK and Carers and includes:
5.
 - i) Signposting and referrals to ensure the most appropriate service provides support and avoids duplication.

We are hoping to achieve a well-known and respected organisation providing a quality service to those in need. Our achievements will relate to 4 key objectives:

1. Develop a sustainable organisation with a wide range of associate members

Increased understanding of the needs of people in rural Peterborough,

Increased awareness of GNRP within the rural parishes of Peterborough and understanding of the benefits of our support and achievements leading to an increase in the number of associate members. Parish councils feel well supported through administrative support provided and the new working group developing local priorities.



Implementation of a new business plan and fundraising strategy with successful applications for further funding for the next 3 years made.

2. increased number and range of volunteers.

Volunteering opportunities will have been promoted across parishes. Number of volunteers and skills available increased.

Volunteers feel well trained and supported and are positively engaged with a good retention rate achieved.

3. Relieve the needs of the poor, sick, elderly or disabled residents of rural parishes

Appropriate activities meeting the needs and wishes of local parish residents will have been offered and provided where needed.

Clients will feel less lonely and less socially isolated and will show improvements in health and wellbeing.

4. Improved partnerships with statutory, voluntary and community services.

Meetings and events attended developing a wider range of partnership opportunities. Increased number of referrals received from partner organisations as well as an increase in the number of referrals made from GNRP to local services.

To date, the charity has supported a total of:

- **1372** referrals, increasing year on year, over 80 of which are from the Newborough community
- With 24 active clients within Newborough

Additionally, volunteers give their valuable time to support the monthly Friendship Teas at the Village Hall.



Appendix 6



September 2023 saw Newborough Pre-School celebrate 55 years of being open, serving the local and wider community with high quality care and early years education.

We continue to work hard in difficult financial times to ensure the children's needs are met and that they transition to primary school with the best start possible.

The effects of the additional funding and now beginning to filter through and we are seeing more families accessing our services enabling them to return to work.

As a setting we continually work hard to raise funds for new equipment and resources for the children to enjoy. These can be found on our FaceBook Page and our Website.

We are currently providing a new initiative called REAL, which is Raising Early Achievement in Literacy, this is in partnership with Peterborough City Council childcare team, National Children's Bureau and the University of Sheffield and is playing a very important part in the development of early writing, books, environmental print, and oral language.



We look forward to welcoming new families to our setting.

Debbie Gunns

Pre-School Manager.

Appendix 7

WI REPORT

On Thursday 21st March 2024 after 82 years and 10 months Newborough & Borough Fen Womens Institute held its last meeting.

Over the past years we had tried to increase our membership but to no avail. So it was with sadness that it was agreed our group was no longer viable.

Appendix 8

Newborough & Borough Fen Neighbourhood Watch

The Neighbourhood Watch continues in our areas whilst we are still in the process of some reorganisation.

We are still recruiting new co-ordinators and anyone interested in becoming involved in any way will be welcomed and contact can be made to myself or any of the other Co-ordinators.

Since the lifting of Covid restrictions, we have not had very many issues raised but if it becomes necessary for whatever reason we will be looking at expanding our numbers in order to be able to offer greater assistance where needed.

A Speaker has been arranged to come to the Village Friendship Tea in June which we hope will be helpful to those present and we would be able to arrange similar talks if we receive requests.

We do have a Group on Facebook where information is posted on local and other issues of likely interest and concern and to follow go to Facebook and select the Newborough UK Neighbourhood Group.



If anyone does have any issues that they feel we should be made aware of at present or that may need some action please do contact one of us as soon as possible so that we can then put the necessary action into place.

John Wright

Our present Co-ordinators are:

Bryan Cole

Judy Jakes

Kevin Richards (Treasurer)

Danielle Rosemary

Derek Skingle

Amanda Wadley-Jones

John Wright

May 2023

DRAFT



Appendix 9

Newborough and Borough Fen Parish Council AGM

Thursday 8th May 2024

The Trustees of the Village Hall are pleased to report yet another successful and busy year. The Hall is extremely well used, and it is often difficult to meet the demand. As I reported last year there are a variety of events happening at the Hall every week, and regular bookings every weekend, along with parties for all ages, Christenings, Baby showers, a Valuation Day for silver and gold plus many more events.

Just before Christmas 2023, a new access door was made into the Foresters Room, ready to provide an entrance when the building work on the Community Hub was commenced. The Trustees had already lifted the slabs and block paving, removed the signage and defibrillator as well as various other work, to reduce the costs. Just this week some of the slabs and blocks have been brought back to the Hall to complete the groundwork. When the Community Hub is finally finished, there will possibly be slabs, block paving, tiles etc. for sale. Please keep an eye on our website.

On Monday 8th January, the builders arrived to begin the work. The Trustees have kept a close eye on the work, assisted by the children from Pre School, to make sure everything is done to our satisfaction and kept to budget. It is hoped the Hub will be completed at the end of May.

The access door to the Foresters Room, has also enabled me to eventually persuade the Post Office to visit the village on a Thursday morning between 10.00 and 1.00 p.m. This has only taken around 8 years, so persistence does finally pay off. Fingers crossed the Post Office is used by the residents of the Village, so it continues to come to the Village and possibly even adds another day.

We have an informative regularly used website, which is updated with all village events. If any organisations wish to have any items included, please send via email to newboroughvillagehall@outlook.com. The Trustees are also happy for village organisations and Hall users to display information about their group on the Notice Board.

Just as a final note, as you are all should be aware, an amendment was requested to change the specification of our sealed and signed agreement regarding the S106 funds, which the Trustees were unable to accept. I have, just recently received, confirmation that this problem has now been addressed and there is now considerable extra funding available for the Village. Hopefully these funds will be quickly accessed by the Parish Council and the Skate Ramp Project commenced as this will help to reunite our divided Village.

Thank you
Margaret Cave



Appendix 10

Coronation Playing Field

Back in August the playing fields committee along with assistance from local farmers renovated the outfield to bring it up to higher cricket league standards. This is essential if the cricket club wants to gain promotion in the coming years. We wish to thank Farmers, Harris, Harris, Goodale and Goodliffe amongst others for the excellent job of ploughing, levelling and seeding the field. Thanks to mother nature we had a spell of warm wet weather with certainly kickstarted the grass growing.

We wish to thank the local community for adhering to the signs and staying off the field whilst the grass grew and got established.

The playing fields committee would like to thank the Parish Council again for choosing the field as the venue for the Family Fun Day in August in association with Vivacity. We hope this will be a successful event, like last year, for the families of the village.

As always, the pavilion is open for hire, subject to availability. Please contact myself, Marieanne for further information.

Newborough Cricket Club

The cricket club goes from strength to strength. Our Saturday Men's 1's and 2's are in the South Lincs and Border Championship and Division 2 respectively. We have a great mix of youth and experience across both teams with several our juniors coming through the ranks to play weekend cricket for the 1st and 2nd teams. We have also seen a number of new players join our men's teams, with an overseas player from Australia joining our 1st XI as a wicket keeper/Batsman and a West Indian pace bowler joining our 2nds

On Sunday's our 1st XI are playing in Rutland league 1, again with several our junior members playing a big part in the games.

2024 sees the continuing success of our junior section, with teams at U15, U13, U11 and U9 entered into the local leagues for the upcoming season. These teams have matches throughout the week and training on Friday nights.

We will again be hosting 'All Stars' cricket at the cub for children aged 4-8 years old. This is an initial introduction to cricket teaching the children basic bat and ball skills, including bowling, batting, and catching.

We will be having our annual band night on Saturday 13th July where we will play host to Carpark Rendezvous who will be entertaining us in the evening.

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Our Charity night in aid of Libby's Journey-Bohring Opitz Syndrome will be hosted on the 17th August.

We always welcome new members to our club from age 4 to 104, please get in touch if you would like to join, alternatively lots of information is posted across our social media pages.

And on a final note, the pavilion and bar are open every day we have a home match or junior training and with the pub being closed we are the only licenced premises in the village. All are welcome to come along and use the bar facilities.

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Appendix 11

Annual Ward Councillors report to Newborough Parish Council

Thursday 9th May 2024

We have made Regular attendances throughout the year at Parish Council meetings – always endeavouring to ensure there would one of us present, and as often as possible 2 or 3 of us.

We have kept residents in the Village and the rural areas up to date with our InTouch newsletter issuing 3 issues: Autumn, winter and spring.

During the course of the year we arranged 2 meetings with Highways Officers to discuss the traffic situation on Thorney Road, and the potential challenges posed by the Norwood development. This was attended by Parish Chair Cllr Cole along with village resident Chris Taylor who accompanied him. City Council officers are aware of the concerns of Newborough residents and looking to ensure the proposed road layout discourages the use of Newborough Road & Guntons Road as a rat run. I'm sure Cllr Cole reported back to the Parish but in short Highways officers are confident the partial stopping off of Newborough Road at the junction with A47 together with other measures will achieve that end. There is also of course the ongoing development of Paston reserve which inevitably will generate additional traffic movements – but Highways officers again are confident that the road layout they are proposing will see traffic either exiting the development via Manor Drive or through Norwood development to the duelled A16.

At the request of the Parish we have asked officers to put in place **deer warning** signs along Guntons Road as there have been incidences of young deer running across the highway. This is in hand and I received an update yesterday that installation is imminent.

Saturday 23rd March – We organised and participated in the **Annual Great British Spring Clean Village Litter Pick** – this year was the 8th year, which again had a good attendance, and included Parish Cllr Kevin Angrave bringing his trailer along for the collection of fly tipped items dumped on the surrounding lanes, verges gateways and ditches.

Obviously the unrelenting fly tipping is of great concern, not only in Newborough but at other locations in the Ward. I have been in regular contact with council officers requesting more robust action. The fact is Aragon are very

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good with collecting the dumped items, but we need to stop the perpetrators with more effective preventative solutions, higher fines and even vehicle seizures.

We used a large proportion of our Community Leadership Fund to acquire two covert cameras for sole use in the ward. Unfortunately one was discovered and compromised, but we have been assured by officers the other has been productive with prosecutions pending.

At my recent meetings with both the Chief Executive and the responsible council officers I put forward valid suggestions that if implemented would see results. There is a review taking place, I am hopeful we might see a change of emphasis going forward. The fact is what we experience around the rural locations is usually the outcome of organised criminal behaviour and it needs to be dealt with as a crime, not just an untidy inconvenience.

There was some concern regarding overflowing Dog do bins. I have asked officers to ensure a more frequent collection rota, or better still installation of the larger multi-purpose 120 litre black bins at the appropriate locations.

Cllr Simons stood down for the May elections due to personal commitments and a house move out of the area. We will miss Nigel; he was a hardworking team player and reliable colleague who has been very committed to the ward during his tenure.

I of course congratulate Mark (Cllr Ormston) on his election and look forward to working with him to the betterment of Newborough and of course the whole ward of Eye Thorney & Newborough.

So not hanging about, Cllr Ray and I met with Mark this lunchtime to discuss how we will formulate our working relationship. Working together is certainly the shared mission of Rylan and myself; and having spoken to Mark today, I believe we are like minded in that respect.

Cllr Steve Allen

(On behalf of Cllr Ray)

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Appendix 12 Report offered by St Bartholomew's Church

Hello, for those of you that do not know me, my name is Shirley Cawley and I am one of the Churchwardens at St. Bartholomew Church here in the village.

I am presenting our annual report for last year 2023.

The year began on a positive note - we had a successful Advent and Christmas - our services had been well attended and our fundraising events had been well supported.

Then came the news that our vicar - the Revd. Colin Hurst - who had been with us for 16 years, was to retire.

Colin had been vicar to the three parishes of Eye, Newborough and Thorney - that were joined as a Benefice during his time here.

We were then in what is referred to as a vacancy - and the process to find a replacement can be very drawn out.

During the year we produced a - PROFILE - a job description for a new vicar - a joined document of the three parishes - which the higher Archie in the dioses are required to approve.

This will then go on to see the position for a new Vicar advertised and on the appointment of a new vicar. We are now at that stage.

In the meantime the CHURCHWARDENS took on most of the responsibilities for the day to day running of the Church.

Along with members of the Church Parochial Council - and other church volunteers - which we are very grateful to.

We also had the support of other villagers - FRIENDS OF NEWBOROUGH CHURCH - who very kindly gave their time to take on day-to-day maintenance and help with other events in the church year.

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All these people including the CHURCHWARDENS are volunteers and not paid - so we were very grateful for their time and energy.

We continued to have a weekly Sunday service lead by a retired Vicar or a Lay Reader which the Churchwardens are responsible for finding!!

We were and still are a completely self-funding CHURCH and responsible for ALL the day to day running costs of the church - which we raised from weekly collections during the services and donations at our fund raising events.

You may also wish to know that we are also expected each year to give a donation to the Diocese known as the PARISH SHARE. During 2023 we failed to give the full amount expected - but we do our best.

We continued to hold our fundraising events which include a monthly COFFEE SHOP in church. A SUMMER FETE. Two GRAND RAFFLES and stalls at the Village hall Events.

Along with weekly services and services for the different occasions in the church year including EASTER, HARVEST and CHRISTMAS.

We were also still open for CHRISTENINGS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS when required.

A final big THANK YOU to all who so willingly gave their time to our CHURCH during 2023.

REPORT WRITTEN BY S.C. 09/05/2024 for PARISH COUNCIL .