

# Newton Green Trust

## Minutes 16th Sept. 2015

**Present:** Russ Bower  
Paul Devlin  
Fred French  
Michael Oliver  
Lee Parker  
Colin Poole

**In Attendance:** Roy Gardner, Clerk

**1. Apologies:** None

**2. Election of Chairman:** Mr Bower was elected Chairman. Proposed, Mr Poole seconded, Mr Parker.

### **3. Matters Arising**

The following matters from the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015 were considered:

10ii. Trustee Declarations: These are currently with documents held by Mr Devlin and need to be signed at the next meeting.

ACTION: New Trustees

10iii. Newton Trust History: Mr Poole confirmed that the Parish Council Clerk had agreed to put this on the Newton website. The meeting approved that the Trust deed and history forwarded to the new trustees could be sent to the Parish Clerk for uploading.

ACTION: Mr Poole

### **4. Finance**

a) Current balances: Current Acc. £925. CCLA £21,149.72

b) The following payments were approved:

i) Village Hall hire for last 3 meetings £75.

ii) Poppy Appeal Donation £100

c) Receipt of a £25 licence payment from Mr Byam was noted with thanks.

d) It was noted that a £250 license payment was expected from the owners of the Saracens Head public house for use of the pond car park. However, this had not been requested yet. The meeting agreed not to chase payment until after the license issues had been resolved.

### **5. Little Green Track**

The meeting noted that the company asked to quote for works on the track at Little Green had failed to turn up for meetings. Mr Oliver has found another contractor offering the same works at an estimated cost of £10-£12 per sq. m. A third company also expressed interest for when they were next working in the area. Quotes to be gathered from both these alternatives.

ACTION: Mr Oliver

The meeting noted that approaches to highways authorities have not been productive.

### **6. Licences**

As agreed at the previous meeting, Mr Devlin has sought legal advice in regard to resolving this issue. Trustees had provided background information requested by the solicitor. It was agreed to meet with the solicitor on October 14th at 7.30pm.

ACTION: All Trustees to note date and time of meeting

## **7. Work Programme**

Mr Poole asked whether the Trust had a written record of the Trust's assets (goal posts, gates, trees, ponds, etc.) so that a planned maintenance programme could be set out and the likely expenditure involved over the next five years calculated. The Clerk advised that such a list did not exist but that previous Chairman Mr John Taylor would be a good source of this information. It was agreed to invite him to the next meeting.  
(confirmed for 9<sup>th</sup> Dec at 7.30pm)

Work such as a tree survey and works on the pond would require receipt of professional advice. Mr Parker agreed to contact the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Babergh Council rangers. Mr Poole agreed to draft an asset/insurance register for completion on 9<sup>th</sup> December.  
ACTION: Mr Parker & Mr Poole

## **8. Meetings in Public.**

Mr Poole asked whether meetings could be held in public. Following some discussion it was decided that the public would be admitted to Trust meetings except for any confidential matters such as personnel or contractual issues.

It was agreed to advertise the date of the next meeting in the Newsletter and ask if the agenda can be put on the noticeboards.

ACTION: Mr Bower

## **9. Representative to the Village Hall.**

Mr Gardner advised that the Village Hall Management Committee constitution allowed for a representative of the Newton Green Trust to attend. In previous years this had been fulfilled as Mr Gardner and Mr Vince sat on both bodies. Now there was no such overlap the Management Committee had requested the Trust consider nominating a representative. Following discussion, it was agreed that no nomination would be made at this time.

## **10. Any Other Business**

- a) Mr French raised the following matters from Newton Green Golf Club.
  - i) Carol List retires on 11th December.
  - ii) Following Health and safety concerns NGGC wish to erect nine signs warning of danger about a golf course. Mr French showed the meeting one of the signs. The Trustees confirmed they were happy with the proposals.
  - iii) Permission was asked for one tree each to the left and right of the first tee to be trimmed back to give better sight lines for vehicles (left) and walkers (right). The Trustees approved this work.
  - iv) In order to encourage golfers on the 17th tee to aim more away from the road, permission was asked for the first tree on the left to be trimmed back. The Trustees approved this work.
- b) Mr Bower advised that the Parish Council had received a complaint about vehicles parked in the entrance track onto the playing field blocking pedestrian access past them. It was agreed to ask the complainant to note the license plate for cross-checking with NGGC records. If the owners were known to the club they would be spoken to. It was noted that the pedestrian gate latch was missing.
- c) The Clerk informed the Council of a proposal from a contractor in regard to the Head Pond. The Trustees had already agreed to seek advice from the Suffolk Wildlife Trust.
- d) Mr Poole proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Gardner for his long service to the Trust as a member, Chairman and Clerk. All Trustees agreed and thanked Mr Gardner.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

All meetings to take place at 7.30pm in the village hall.

Oct 14th – Private meeting with solicitor on legal matters

Dec 7th – Trust meeting open to the public