

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF WOLD NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MAY 2021**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Lockwood (The Chairman), Councillor Dr Meeson, Councillor West, Councillor Barnes, Councillor Robinson and Councillor Botterill. Parishioners Ian Robinson, Shirley Sutton, Will Thompson and Clare Garrick were also present.

**ITEM 1 – Apologies and Declarations of Interest.**

No apologies or declarations of interest.

Minutes of the AGM held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 were signed by the Chairman.

**ITEM 2 – Reports:-**

**Chairman’s Report.**

The Chairman had prepared a written report for presentation at the meeting and which he read through. The report is attached to these minutes.

**Warden of the Green Report.**

Councillor Robinson had prepared a report for presentation at the meeting and which he read through. The report is attached to these minutes.

**Treasurers Report.**

Councillor Dr Meeson presented a statement of accounts for review by the Councillors. A copy of which is attached.

**ITEM 3 – Election of officers.**

**Chairman** – Councillor Lockwood declared that he was happy to be considered for re-election.

*Decision:-* It was unanimously decided that Councillor Lockwood would be re-elected as the Chairman – Proposed by Councillor West and seconded by Councillor Dr Meeson – all were in favour

**Vice-Chairman** – Councillor Dr Meeson was happy to be re-elected to this appointment.

*Decision:-* It was unanimously decided that Councillor Dr Meeson would be re-elected as the Vice -Chairman – Proposed by The Chairman and seconded by Councillor Botterill – all were in favour.

**Treasurer** – Councillor Dr Meeson was happy to be re-elected to this appointment.

*Decision:-* It was unanimously decided that Councillor Dr Meeson would be re-elected as the Treasurer – Proposed by Councillor West and seconded by Councillor Barnes – all were in favour.

**Warden of the Green** – Councillor Robinson was nominated for this appointment.

*Decision:-* It was unanimously decided that Councillor Robinson would be re-elected as the Warden of the Green – Proposed by The Chairman and seconded by Councillor West – all were in favour.

**Internal Auditor** – Mrs Shirley Sutton has agreed to continue with her duties as the Internal Auditor.

**ITEM 4 – Any other business.**

No comments.

**ITEM 5 – Dext of next meeting.**

The next Parish Council AGM be convened at a date to be agreed for May 2022.

The Parish Council Annual General Meeting closed at 7:50pm.

Nicola Stephenson, Parish Clerk,  
24<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Chairman.....

Date.....

## Chairman's Report

It is 2 years since my last report and quite a lot has happened for our small Parish Council, and I feel a lot to be proud of in trying to improve our Parish.

Firstly the roads in the Parish have certainly improved with Rainsburgh Lane to the South of the village being completed all the way up to Thwing last year. Then this year the East/West roads from the county boundary to Burton Fleming being done. We will have to continue pressing for Front and Back Street and also the road to Fordon. It does concern me that we are the Parish Council of Wold Newton and Fordon but very little, if anything, gets done in Fordon.

Secondly, I feel we have made the green more secure and also smartened it up a lot with the new railings. Will Gray has done well keeping the grass well cut but has another testing time with the green this year.

Thirdly, the old pit field has been taken back in hand by the Parish Council to make in to a village Community Area. Over the last 2 winters some Parishioners have helped with the planting of a lot of saplings on the land. We now have to concentrate on trying to get the trees and hedging plants to grow. All the saplings and tree shelters were obtained from the Woodland Grants Trust and we are very grateful to them for this.

Fourthly, 2 new bins were added to the North and South entry points to the village. ERYC were very quick in enabling us to put these bins in and to service them for us.

So it is nice this year to have had some positive news from the efforts we all put in, as most of the time we struggle to get things done. I feel with Jonathan Owen and Jane Evison we do have 2 very proactive Councillors who we can consult with and help us a lot.

Over the last 2 years we have all been hit by the Covid Pandemic and meetings have been on Zoom, which I feel is quite limiting, as I prefer to meet face to face. The reason why I mention this is we are about to lose our fantastic landlady from The Anvil Arms and she has approached the Parish Council to see if there is any chance of a Community buy out for the pub. I am sure we all agree it is a 'must' to try and keep the village pub, and as soon as we can we do need to organise a special meeting to find out what interest there is from the Parishioners. The pandemic has also brought out the best and worse of social media over the last year, when a Facebook page was introduced to try and help the Community, which it did – but also led to a negative campaign towards the Parish Council regarding a bench on the green. I am not going to comment on the social media as it is not something I want to be involved in.

I thought the efforts people made in decorating the bus shelter and using it as a book exchange etc were great for the period we have just been through.

As I always say I feel we are all very privileged to live in such a peaceful, beautiful part of the world and I am very grateful to be able to put something back in to our Parish. Over the last 2 years as well I am very thankful to all my fellow Councillors for the efforts they put in. I would like to thank Iain for the fantastic Christmas lights this year which he was determined to get on – and what a show he made with the assistance of Gil. I would also like to thank Iain for the grass cutting he does – especially at the pit field and Gil for the odd jobs around the village – I think in retirement he has become the village handyman. Chris also has to be mentioned for his generosity in giving materials when they are required and his ability to always know someone who can do jobs such as wiring up the defibrillator etc. Again Marion is an essential member for her running of the Treasury and reading of a lot of correspondence thoroughly so she is always aware of anything to save us money. Angie always has a gauge on the village community and can be relied upon to let us know what is worrying Parishioners and problems that are arising, as well as contributing towards the running of the Facebook page etc. Sadly this year we are losing Sarah from the Parish Council, she has been on for probably more years than she can remember, but she will undoubtedly leave a huge gap to fill. She has been a massive contributor to our village life – whether it be getting a group together for tree planting, performing in a village pantomime or helping to organise a millennium party for the village she is always there. I hope she will continue to help run the Community Centre, where she will always have our support, but I would like to say a massive thank you to her for all the efforts she has made over the years – thank you Sarah.

I would like to thank Nicola, our Clerk. She keeps everything ticking along smoothly and manages to keep me organised and in order – hers is the most vital job and she does it so well with a smile and a happy demeanour through the most testing of times for her. I am so grateful and pleased that you have kept going Nicola – thank you.

Finally, I would like to say we are a small community and we do need to be tolerant of each other. We need to accept we all have different interests, ways of doing things, beliefs and expectations from our community but we have to remain positive to what we have, a fantastic village. My personal view is that through this pandemic, we have got away quite lightly as there is plenty of open space all around for us to enjoy and life has not been limited too much. So lets be positive and enjoy our village.

Thank you for listening.

## Wold Newton Parish Council Treasurer's Report 2020/21

### Bank Balances @ 31st March 2020

Current Account	£5499.42	
Deposit Account	£2963.42	
Less Unpresented Cheques		£0.00
Plus Unbanked Cash		£0.00
<b>Net Balances</b>	<b>£8462.84</b>	

### Cash Book

Opening Balance	£8922.20
Receipts*	£8664.21
Payments*	£9123.57
Closing Balance	£8462.84

### Expenditure Summary

Street Lighting	£3,467
Clerk Salary	£1,392
Insurance	£258
Grounds Maintenance	£700
One Off Items	£3,235
Miscellaneous	£72
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>£9,124</b>

### Notes

Expenditure includes grant to Parochial Parish Council towards roof alarm and includes payment for extension of fencing round green.

Receipts include VAT refund of £1458 and grant towards VE day celebrations of £500.

## WARDEN OF THE GREEN REPORT MAY 2021

I submit the annual report for Warden of the Green.

We had a dry start to the year 2020 during which time the green received increased use due to the lock down.

Grass cutting by Will Gray was carried out to a good level.

New railings - facilitated by Chris West have made great improvements & enhance the whole area.

Telephone box – has been stripped of old paint & fresh coat applied all overseen by Chris.

Lifebelt stand – the old structure has been removed & new one fabricated by Brian Metcalfe, my grateful thanks to him for his assistance.

Plants/planters – once again Sarah did a fabulous job, not only around the pond but throughout the village, making our village a very pretty place to live. Unfortunately, this year no funds are available, as all fundraising efforts were curtailed due to lockdown, so this year Sarah will be asking via village facebook site, for volunteers to adopt a planter. This will entail planting at your own cost, maintaining & watering throughout the summer. Or another option is to donate money towards the cost of compost plants etc. She has plants for sale at her home, which she has raised herself the proceeds going to the village plant fund.

Benches – Mark kindly removed, stored & resited the benches to which I give him my thanks.

Xmas lights – In December 2020 there was a new arrangement for the village pond area lights. For a change the string lights were wound around the railings from the Anvil to the Post office, which was much easier than climbing the tree!.. The comments received were very favourable & very positive. There was also a projected image in the tree which was very festive & added another dimension. My thanks to Ian Botterill who kindly donated a string of lights & the projector.

Summary – At the present time the water table remains very high & the ground around the pond – is boggy – to say the least & not helped by the number of geese, goslings & ducks which daily churn up the area. Hopefully as the season warms up this area may dry out & so once again the pond will become the beauty spot we all enjoy.

Finally, my grateful thanks to all my fellow councillors who have in their own way helped with the maintenance of our village green.