PARISH of NEWDIGATE

Minutes of the **MEETING** of the **PARISH COUNCIL**
of the above named Parish
held at **NEWDIGATE VILLAGE HALL** on
Monday the 11th day of March, 2019

Present: Mr Bill Kear (in the chair), Mr Neil Austin, , Mr Bob Bettesworth, Mr William Harmsworth , Mrs Sarah MacDonald, Mr Peter Perdue, Mr Nick Procter, Mr Richard Tyson-Davies.

1 Apologies for Absence

County Councillor Helyn Clack, Councillor Mary Huggins

2 Declarations of Interest

None

3 Community Police Report

Mr Neil Austin informed the meeting that no events had been recorded for Newdigate but the Police Alerts had warned there had been a number of reports of distraction pickpocketing in Waitrose Dorking.

4 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 11th February, 2019

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th February, 2019 were proposed by Mr Bill Kear, seconded by Mr Peter Perdue, agreed by the council present and signed by the Chairman.

5 Matters Arising

5.1 Village Notice Boards – update

Members commented that prices of manufactured sign boards seemed high and that they felt a suitable carpenter could be located in the community to construct the required signs. Mr Nick Procter volunteered to pursue the matter.

5.2 Village Sign -update

Mr Bill Kear confirmed he had collected the new sign and it was an excellent piece of work. Mr Phill Crutcher would now investigate removal of the old post and installtion of a new post and support.

5.3 Clerk Recruitment

Mr Bill Kear informed the meeting that candidates were selected with SSALC support to ensure correct process was carried out. He was pleased to confirm that Mrs Lesley Bignall was selected as the successful candidate and she has accepted the job offer.
Mr Bill Kear proposed, Mr Peter Perdue seconded, that the council endorse the appointment and the council present agreed.

5.4 Litter Pick

Mr Bob Bettesworth confirmed the 23rd and 24th March as the dates for the litter pick. The Clerk advised that requests had been sent to both Spring Watch and Mole Valley for support but replies had not yet been received.

6 Correspondence

6.1 Horse Hill Planning Application & Earthquake Events

The Clerk advised the meeting that this item was included as a result of a specific request from a resident and correspondence from other regarding the recent earthquakes.

The Clerk informed the meeting that Newdigate PC are not a consultee on the planning application as the location is two parishes away – in Salfords & SIdlow. That did not preclude Newdigate PC from submitting a comment to the planning application. Numerous objections have been submitted by adjacent councils and organisations as well as residents.

The Clerk also advised that available information demonstrates there are conflicting reports between scientists on cause and effect of the earthquakes. Newdigate PC are not qualified to assess the position. The MP for the area of the site is Crispin Blunt and he has submitted a request to the appropriate agencies for an independent investigation into the correlation between drilling and earthquakes as per the note 6.1.2 on the agenda.

Mr Richard Tyson-Davies commented that even though Newdigate is not a consultee in the planning process there were concerns from the residents that needed to be considered. Mr Neil Austin commented that he had received various reports from residents indicting concerns about the earthquakes and their impact.

Mr William Harmsworth indicated his concern on the possible connection between the activity at Horse Hill and the earthquakes and the need for independent investigation of the events.

Mr Neil Austin and Mr William Harmsworth agreed to prepare a draft letter for Surrey County Council and appropriate bodies objecting to the Horse Hill planning application and asking for an independent investigation into the earthquake cause and effect.

6.2 Wealden Road, Horsham Incinerator Appeal

The Clerk advised that the application for the Incinerator was refused in late 2018 and the applicant has appealed that refusal. Newdigate PC originally commented on concern on HGV routings and their potential impact on Newdigate roads. It has been determined that the routes are established and avoid Newdigate. Mr Bill Kear proposed, Mr Phill Crutcher seconded, that further comment from Newdigate reflect the original concerns on HGV routings.

6.3 Parishes In Bloom

Mr Bill Kear proposed, Mr William Harmsworth seconded, that the Parish Council engage in this event if possible and Mr William Harmsworth would pursue contact and the council present agreed.

7 **Finance**

7.1 Payments, receipts and balances:

Balances

Current Account at 15th February, 2019	£	100.00
Reserve Account at 15th February, 2019	£	20,433.43
Total	**£**	**20,533.43**

Payments

Ovenden Signs Inv 4169 (Balance)	£	700.00
SSALC Inv 12852	£	420.00
Clerk Salary Q4 to 31 March 2018	£	1002.30
Clerk Homeworking Allowance		
Pro rata for period 1 Jan-31 Mar 2019	£	25.00
2020Consultancy Adam Bunce Inv 01	£	1200.00
Total	**£**	**3347.30**

Mr Bill Kear proposed, Mr Phill Crutcher seconded that the payments above be approved and the council present agreed.

8 Planning & Highways

8.1 Applications & Decisions to 8th February, 2019

MO/2019/0231/PLAH
The Knowle, Henfold Lane, Newdigate
The Clerk was requested to investigate possible impact of the proposed roof windows on neighbouring properties.
There was No Comment on the remaining applications .

8.2 Rights of Way Sub-Committee proposal to Ibstock.

Mr Richard Tyson-Davies proposed, Mr Neil Austin seconded the letter as submitted in Item 8.2 be sent to Ibstock on behalf of the council.

8.3 Bridleways 290 & 225 Enforcement Action

Mr Nick Procter advised that Surrey Footpaths had now marked out the appropriate route and fencing lines and work is due to commence in April. Other works that do not comply with Surrey Footpaths design would not be accepted.

8.4 Speed Watch

This item is deferred to post election

8.5 Newdigate 2030 & Future Mole Valley

The Clerk advised that a response from Capel on joint action was awaited.
Mr William Harmsworth advised that at the recent Rural Business Summit which he had attended (together with Mr Neil Austin & Mr Peter Perdue) information was presented on community trust schemes being a route to produce housing developments supporting local affordable housing demand. Brockham was demonstrated as such a scheme. Mr William Harmsworth would investigate further and report back.

8.6 Assets of Community Value

Mr William Harmsworth advised this was still work in progress. He commented that oneimportant aspect was to investigate how to ensure the pub remained successful.

8.7 Traffic Calming Project

This item is deferred to post election

9 Public Comments & Questions

Mr Peter Mitchell commented that the apparent low level on the Richter scale of the earthquakes was deceptive particularly in our area with houses built on clay and with a number of significantly older homes.

The meeting finished at 2055

Please note the next meeting :
The next meeting is the Annual Parish Meeting on 8th April, 2019 8:00pm in Newdigate Village Hall. This will be followed by the April Full Council Meeting.