

Long Newnton Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual General Council meeting held on 11th January 2024

THIS MEETING WAS HELD in Holy Trinity Church

Members

Di Thomas Julian Beach,
In attendance; Andrea Warrington- (Clerk)

Apologies

Gaye Mitchell, Michael Norton, Clare Parfitt, John Coulthard Tim Alban-Jones

1-2024	1	Apologies for Absence, Gaye Mitchell, Michael Norton, Clare Parfitt, John Coulthard Tim Alban-Jones	
1-2024	2	Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda	None
1-2024	3	To approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held 5 th October 2023 All in favour	
1-2024	4	Public Questions: None	
1-2024	5	Reports from any meetings attended - None	
1-2024	6	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>Melcourt appeal result: Congratulations to Di Thomas Chair and the Parish Council for their excellent work opposing the Melcourt expansion planning. This was such a great victory for the village. The village turnout at both the planning meeting and the appeal was really good and everyone who spoke did so with passion and honesty and it was evident that the village felt very strongly about the increasing number of lorry movements through the village and the damage and destruction done by these lorries. At the appeal our Chair was really well prepared and fought our case with great efficiency. A collection was organised from residents to thank Di Thomas and this was presented to her at a celebratory meeting in the church in December. The amount raised was considerable and Di was overcome with emotion for the very kind gesture from the residents. A plant was given to Nikki Ind for her part in supporting us during this planning issue. Fortunately, Melcourt appeared ill-prepared and disorganised at the planning appeal. Not sure where we go from here but PC will continue to monitor and should be proud of their achievement with this outcome.</p> <p>Tree report: Written report to follow. Adrian Sparrowhawk is happy to maintain the area around the tree stump and new tree.</p> <p>Nursery Barn Trees on pavement: Residents are happy to remove trees and PC has offered help in replacing if required on the inside on their property. Julian to chase this please.</p> <p>Defibrillator: Letter to be sent to village residents. Clerk is also looking into whether the battery or pads require replacement. It has never been serviced.</p>	
1-2024	7	Speed camera update: Have at last received a response from Kat at Glos Community speedwatch. We require an extension to the pole for the camera as it is too low. (Needs to be 2.4 Metres). We need the signs and Di is to email Kat to chase.	
1-2024	8	Highways:	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding: Gloucester Highways have done some digging of the soakaways but more is to be done. See separate report from Michael Norton Active parishioner. See Attached. Di is to talk to Jamie Trotter from Estcourt clearing the ditches. • Long Newnton Sewerage report See attached document, a discussion took place to be continued at next meeting. See attached report from M Norton • White posts for wild flower verge in Church Lane. Julian will speak to Alan Robinson who will put posts in in due course. 																																											
1-2024	9	<p>Clerks report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julian will be moving abroad with his new job shortly so will step down as Councillor and remain as an active Parishioner Clerk is to approach Henry Files who expressed an interest in being a Councillor at the Melcourt celebration. He has young children and will be a great asset to the PC • All the Waitrose money has been used to replace the plants in the new trough and we still have a little compost left over and daffodils are planted in pots ready to be placed in trough once showing through. • This years Precept has been kept the same but because of a slight increase in our band D equivalent, as we have chosen to keep the precept the same, there is a negative percentage decrease. This is correct and will not be an issue. 																																											
1-2024	10	Finance																																											
1-2024	11	To approve payments (if any)																																											
1-2024	12	<p>To receive most recent Income and Expenditure Figures</p> <p>Income</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Item</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>19.10.23</td> <td>Precepts CDC</td> <td>1350.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Various</td> <td>Resident Donations on line</td> <td>560.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>1910.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Expenditure</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Item</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>8.12.23</td> <td>Printer ink</td> <td>95.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8.12.23</td> <td>Web Site update/training</td> <td>80.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14.12.23</td> <td>John Lewis Vouchers Collection D Thomas – A J Warrington</td> <td>525.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>02.01.24</td> <td>Clerk 1/4ly Payment</td> <td>78.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Peter Fenton re wine/beer Melcourt Cele</td> <td>47.48</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Andrea re Food for Melcourt Celebration</td> <td>35.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>861.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Item	Amount	19.10.23	Precepts CDC	1350.92	Various	Resident Donations on line	560.00		TOTAL	1910.92				Date	Item	Amount	8.12.23	Printer ink	95.99	8.12.23	Web Site update/training	80.00	14.12.23	John Lewis Vouchers Collection D Thomas – A J Warrington	525.00	02.01.24	Clerk 1/4ly Payment	78.00		Peter Fenton re wine/beer Melcourt Cele	47.48		Andrea re Food for Melcourt Celebration	35.00		TOTAL	861.47				
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1-2024	13	Bank Balance as at date of meeting Current £10,009.52 Reserves £4690.06																																											
	14	<p>Budget discussion Draft budget presented to Councillors and agreed in principle See attached</p>																																											

1-2024	15	Councillor not Chair to reconcile accounts Finance Balance B/Fwd at 5 th October Meeting 8960.07 Income 1910.92 Expenditure <u>861.47</u> Total 10009.52 <u>Bank Balance</u> <u>11.1.24</u> Completed by Julian Beach	
1-2024	16	Planning –See attached	
	17	Correspondence received; It was agreed that we will try to arrange a Beacon and pub night for the Glos D Day on 6 th June 2024 Discuss next meeting	
1-2024		Any other Business Cotswold National landscape vacancy – Decided not to vote as both standing candidates looked equal Danger of standing timber; John Coulthard to report next meeting. Aircraft Noise All councillors had received an email regarding aircraft noise from Bristol Airport new routes Gaye Mitchell advised the meeting that she intends to resign as Councillor with effect from Dec 2024 we will discuss replacement over the coming months.	
		DATE OF NEXT MEETING Thursday 2024 TBC	
		<i>Andrea Warrington Clerk/RFO Long Newnton Parish Council</i>	

LONG NEWNTON PLANNING FROM –5th October 2023 – 11 January 2024

Advanced warning received from Tom Gaffney re new application for stables in pump lane (email received with plans) sent to all Councillors.

- Definitive Map Modification Order 2023, Additional Restricted Byway at the Old Railway Line, Parishes of Tetbury and Long Newnton (our ref. 573/11/222(1))
Street Record Herd Lane Tetbury Gloucestershire
Ref. No: 23/03921/PPROW | Validated: Wed 13 Dec 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

- Erection of a single storey extension and associated porch

Little Larkhill Cottage Long Newnton Tetbury Gloucestershire GL8 8RU

Ref. No: 23/02835/FUL | Validated: Thu 21 Sep 2023 | Status: Decided

- Compliance with condition 13 (Drainage) of permission 21/03629/FUL - Demolition of farmhouse (western dwelling); the demolition of the modern elements and the erection of an extension to the older part of the existing cottage (eastern dwelling); conversion of Cart Barn to be used for home offices and other ancillary rooms;

renovation of Stables and erection of replacement dwelling; demolition and relocation of Agricultural building; the installation of a ground sited solar array; and associated works including drainage engineering

Boldridge Farm Crudwell Lane Long Newton Tetbury Gloucestershire GL8 8RT

Ref. No: 23/02802/COMPLY | Validated: Mon 11 Sep 2023 | Status: Decided

- Erection of garage and other associated works

Spire View Long Newton Tetbury Gloucestershire GL8 8RH

Ref. No: 23/02049/FUL | Validated: Fri 04 Aug 2023 | Status: Decided

- Melcourt Appeal ; Declined.

A Long Newton Village Potential Sewerage Main Drainage

In the 1960s and 70s, there were many so called "first time rural sewerage" projects being implemented by Rural District Councils with central government help. The rationale was that villages that were larger than a small hamlet or individual houses should be on main drainage system to reduce groundwater pollution from septic tanks, or unintended overflows from cess pits.

In 1974 these projects were continued by the Regional Water Authorities when the sewerage functions of UDCs and RDCs was passed to the newly formed RWAs.

Villages such as Long Newton were typical of those that got new systems. They would either involve connection to existing wastewater treatment plants in nearby towns, or get their own plants. Responsibility in either case for O&M would be with the Water Authority and household charged via their water bill.

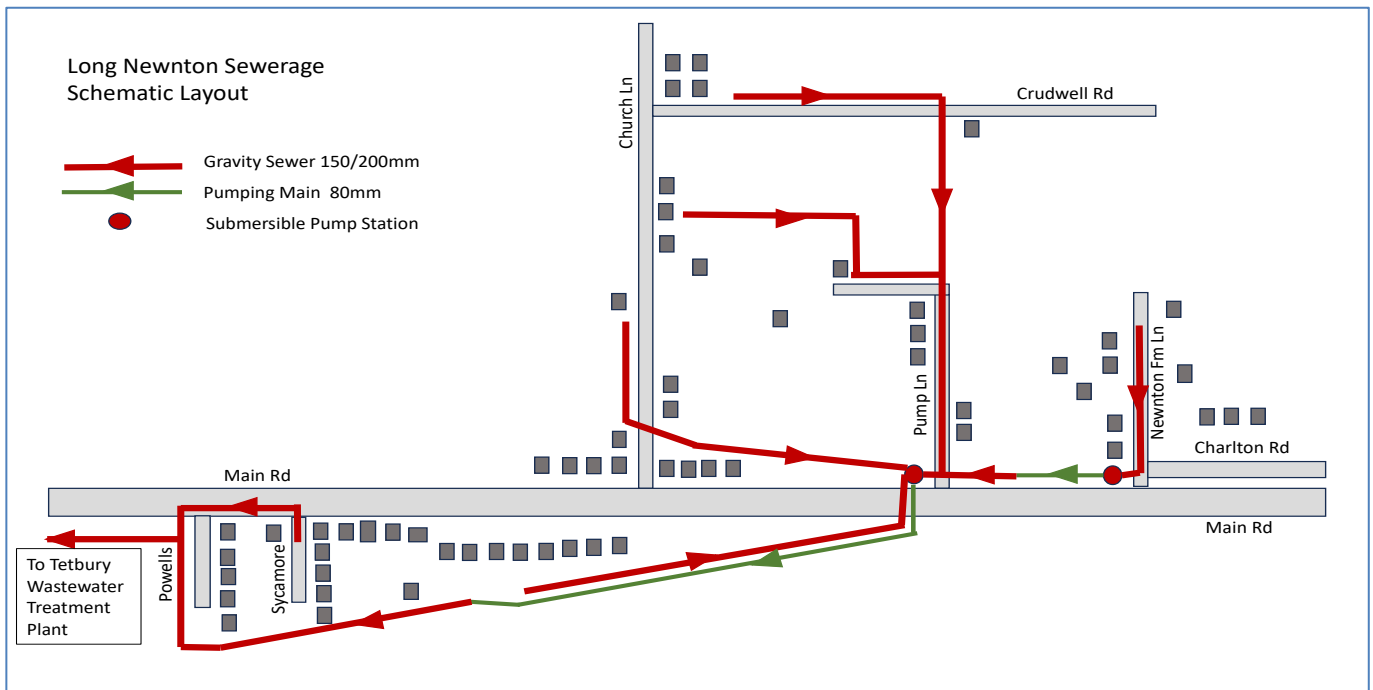
I don't know why Long Newton didn't get its own system at that time. Now it is more difficult because the Water Company can decide if it makes financial sense to build a new system, taking into account the investment, O&M costs, and income from charges to householders. Nevertheless, there remains a strong environmental case for villages of the size of Long Newton to be on main drainage.

In assessing if this is the case, the water company has to determine whether a duty exists to provide public sewerage under Section 101A of the Water Industry Act 1991. A duty under the Act only applies if two or more existing premises are found to cause adverse effects and the provision of a public sewer is the most appropriate solution. The local Parish or District Council's Environmental Health Department can also make an application on behalf of the whole community.

I have devised a potential system for Long Newton as on the layout below. It would send our sewage to Tetbury wastewater treatment plant which is owned by Wessex Water. They would charge households around £300 per year (assuming 2.5 people per house), billed on the basis of water volume supplied by Bristol Water.

This would be a saving for most if not all households. For example, a single house with a septic tank has a charge of £300 to £400 for annual emptying, plus depreciation on the tank rebuild cost (they don't last forever....). Those of us that have package treatment plants pay rather more.

A key issue is whether Wessex would consider it worthwhile. The cost of the scheme could be in excess of £1 million (ball park - I haven't looked in detail). Wessex would need to look at a 30 year period of income plus any grants that might be available. This probably doesn't stack up but I could at least start a conversation with Wessex if we feel it is



worth some effort available.

Michael Norton 10th January 2024

Long Newton Village Flooding and Drainage Challenges

We have been in dialogue since last year with Richard Gray of GCC about the problems we have with surface water flooding in the village.

This started with the report which Di sent to GCC (see the illustration below).

Richard Gray met with me on 16th November and his report back to us is as follows:

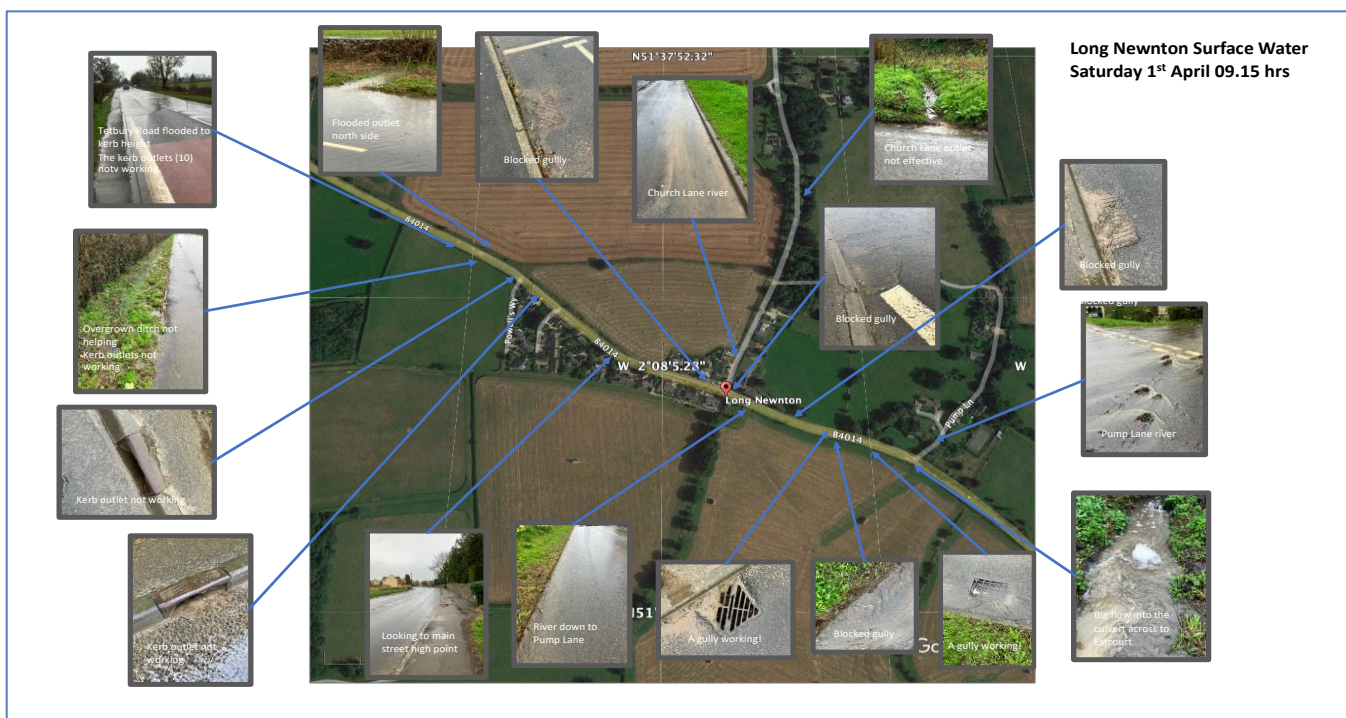
Thank you for meeting with me and my colleague Gill Portlock the other day to explain the drainage issues within Long Newton I do appreciate your local knowledge. Broadly there are three areas of concern which I will list below and add comments on proposed actions by GCC.

Church Lane – *Whilst I appreciate your suggestion to form a swale or linear soakaway within the verge, I do not think this would be viable given the number of trees and their extensive root system. My concerns would be the damage and longevity by severing these roots when undertaking the excavation. I think there would be some benefit in extending the shallow “grips” and cutting a few more between the trees. This will be added to my list for works 24/25.*

Pump Lane/ B4014 junction – *expose the blocked/cover open grid in the verge opposite pump Lane. I have noted your concerns about the condition of pump lane, and I will arrange for a safety inspection. Please be advised that our intervention levels for a pothole in the carriageway are it has to be greater than 300mm deeper than 40mm and have sharp edges.*

Church Lane junction with B4014- *I can add this system onto my jetting list, this will also include gully emptying. I have already committed my drainage budget for this year, so these jetting works are likely to be in the new financial year.*

B4014 standing water- *Thank you for showing me where the standing water is and the location where the vehicle aqua planed and crashed, unfortunate as it is all users of the network have a responsibility to drive appropriately for the conditions and be aware of any potential hazards. It was clear from our site visit that the roadside drainage discharges into the ditch. As we discussed in the majority of cases the maintenance responsibility of roadside ditches lies with the adjoining riparian landowners. In this instance I understand that it is Escourt Estate who are the adjoining owners, and I will make contact with them to remind them of this responsibility. Once the ditch is cleared, I can get the kerb offlets jetted and cleared of debris.*



Since the report I prepared on the rainfall event of 1st April 2023, we have seen several more similar incidents and it seems clear to me that climate change is having the impacts that are expected of higher rainfall intensity. We will continue to see flooding in the village unless measures are taken improve the performance of the surface water infrastructure. Though we can take a view that road users should be responsible for their own actions, we should also be aware that pedestrians are at risk from flash floods and that houses in Pump Lane are at increasing risk of flooding.

Apart from more intense rainfall, the other main problem is that the surface water systems that we have don't operate very well. This is in part due to lack of funding in GCC (blocked gullies, blocked pipe systems, and ineffective "grips" on Church Lane), but also due to lack of maintenance of the ditches on the B4014 to Tetbury, which is said to be the responsibility of Estcourt Estate.

For the moment and until at least April 2024, GCC can do little due to budget constraints.

Pump Lane is now in a very poor state of repair and there are now potholes which exceed the GCC limits of 300mm x 40 mm deep before action can be taken. The whole lane now needs to be resurfaced. This will not in itself limit the flooding risk to the properties in Pump Lane, which is there because the culvert which runs along the east side of the lane does not have sufficient capacity to carry the peak flow which enters it from a large catchment area which extends northwards well beyond Crudwell Lane. The ideal solution would be to construct an additional culvert in the lane at the same time as resurfacing. Sounds logical but I suppose the legal position as to who would be responsible for the cost is complex, given that the water comes from land drainage.....

Michael Norton 10th January 2024

Insert Image Here For Logo

Budget 2024-2025

Forecasted Final Position 2024-2025

Code	Title	2024-25	Apr - Mar	----- Forecast -----												2023/24	
General & Miscellaneous	Budget	Actual	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	TOTAL	Variance	
	Printer ink	150.00								95.99					95.99	54.01	
	Paper	5.00													0.00	5.00	
	Clerk Payments	312.00	78.00			78.00			78.00			78.00			312.00	0.00	
	Councillor Training	100.00													0.00	100.00	
	Melcourt Fund ?	1,000.00													0.00	1,000.00	
	Incidentals ?	700.00													0.00	700.00	
	Defib battery/Pads renew 2026	200.00													0.00	200.00	
	SUB TOTAL	2,467.00	0.00	78.00	0.00	0.00	78.00	0.00	0.00	78.00	95.99	0.00	78.00	0.00	407.99	2,059.01	
Annual Payments	Budget	Actual	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	TOTAL	Variance	
	Insurance	220.00													0.00	220.00	
	Web Site Fee	250.00													0.00	250.00	
	Web site training	150.00													0.00	150.00	
	Meeting Church costs x 4 meetin	200.00		50.00			50.00			50.00			50.00		200.00	0.00	
															0.00	0.00	
	SUB TOTAL	820.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	200.00	620.00	
Subscriptions & Donations	Budget	Actual	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	TOTAL	Variance	
	GAPTC	60.00													0.00	60.00	
	Citizens Advice														0.00	0.00	
	Willts Air Ambulance														0.00	0.00	
															0.00	0.00	
	SUB TOTAL	60.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00	
Village improvements & upkeep	Budget	Actual	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	TOTAL	Variance	
	Speed camera letters	2,000.00													0.00	2,000.00	
	Gardening/plants	300.00													0.00	300.00	
	Village upkeep	600.00													0.00	600.00	
	Tree maintenance	500.00													0.00	500.00	
	Sparrowhawk Stump trough/Bult	250.00													0.00	250.00	
	SUB TOTAL	3,650.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,650.00	
Earmarked Reserves	Budget	Actual	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	TOTAL	Variance	
	Wildflowers	2,000.00													0.00	2,000.00	
															0.00	0.00	
															0.00	0.00	
	SUB TOTAL	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	
	TOTAL	8,937.00	0.00	78.00	50.00	0.00	78.00	50.00	0.00	78.00	145.99	0.00	78.00	50.00	0.00	607.99	8,329.01

