

NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 8th July 2026 at Newton Village Hall

Present: Councillors Rita Schwenk (Chairman), Russell Bower, Louise Evers, Rebecca Major, Jany's Sherwood and Phil Taylor.

Attending: Lee Parker (Babergh District Councillor), Dave Crimmin (Clerk) and 1 resident.

26/121 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Presland (holiday) sent his apologies as did Philip Faircloth-Mutton (Suffolk County Councillor).

26/122 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation

No interests were declared and no request for dispensation was received.

26/123 Minutes of Meeting held on 10th June 2026

The councillors approved the meeting minutes and resolved that the chairman should sign them as a correct record.

26/124 Public Participation

The councillors read Philip Faircloth-Mutton's submitted report which covered the Walking Infrastructure project, LGR and SCC's Adult Care services. The councillors were grateful for the time that Philip has been able to allocate to the Walking Infrastructure project. Lee Parker updated councillors on the Local Plan Scoping survey, heating oil help to residents, Sudbury bus station improvements and Phase 4 of the Chilton Woods development being approved.

26/125 Emails circulated

Following a review of the emails circulated, which included the resignation of the Clerk, it was agreed to hold the August meeting to review the plans for the recruitment process to replace Dave Crimmin from the start of January 2027.

26/126 Clerk's Report (Appendix A)

Following a review of the Clerk's report there were no further actions requested of the Clerk.

26/127 Planning

- a. The councillors reviewed **Planning Application DC/26/02320 Otium, Joes Road** - Erection of a 2 bay cartlodge and resolved to support the application.
- b. The councillors reviewed **Planning Application DC/26/02261 Browns Barn, Boxford Lane** - Installation of Solar Panels to north and east roof ranges (retention of) and resolved to support the application.
- c. The council has received no further planning application since the agenda was posted, requiring a response before the next meeting.
- d. The councillors reviewed the status of previous applications, appeals and enforcement referrals (Appendix B).

26/128 Saracens Head

With the moratorium period ending on the 1st July 2026, the agent has confirmed that there is no further update on the sale of the Saracens Head.

26/129 Finance

- a. The councillors authorised all payments made and due for authorisation, as itemised in the RFO Report (Appendix C) and for the payment to Sudbury Town Council of £135.54 in relation to community warden costs for Q1. They also noted the income received since the last meeting, the bank reconciliation and the actual vs. budget for receipts and payments.
- b. The councillors authorised the changes to the bank mandate to include Cllr Major.

Signed _____

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NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 8th July 2026 at Newton Village Hall

26/130 Local Plan Scoping survey

The councillors reviewed the questions raised in Babergh's consultation and responded to several of these from a Newton perspective.

26/131 Walking Infrastructure Project

The councillors reviewed the legal advice obtained from counsel on the processes required for the proposed works on the Green. With several issues to be considered, it was resolved to share the information on a confidential basis with the Newton Green Trust for their consideration, and the councillors to review at their next meeting.

26/132 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Evers updated councillors on the analysis of the results of the Housing Survey and for the plans to present these to the village on Saturday 25th July 2026 starting at 10am in the Village Hall.

26/133 Parish Survey and PIIP

The councillors reviewed the analysis of responses received from the Parish Survey (Appendix D). They then resolved that the Parish Infrastructure Investment Plan (PIIP – Appendix E) should be adopted for 2026.

26/134 Walk of the Parish

Cllr Schwenk updated councillors that a tree had fallen across the footpath in Green Lane. It is not blocking the footpath and Peter Schwenk will cut it up once the weather is cooler.

26/135 Village Hall and Trust updates

Cllr Evers updated councillors that the Trust is receiving an increased grant for the ponds refurbishment and discussions are taking place with the Village Hall regarding access to the pond by Pond Cottage. There was no Village Hall report.

26/136 Questions to the Chair

No issues raised.

26/137 Next meetings

NPC's next Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 12th August 2026 in the Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Signed _____

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NEWTON PARISH COUNCILMinutes of Meeting held on 8th July 2026 at Newton Village Hall**Appendix A Clerk's Report**

Minute	Action	Complete ✓
26/055	New signage has not be ordered to date.	
26/096 b	Cllr Major still to be added to the Unity Trust mandate.	
26/108	Minutes sent to BRN and updated on website.	✓
26/112 b	Informed agent of Manders application when NPC first discussed the 86 dwellings indicative target set by Babergh.	✓
26/114 a	Suppliers paid.	✓
26/115	Updated Newton Green Trust on Suffolk Highways considerations on land use.	✓
	Clerk's Actions & Delegated Power	
	Purchase of three defibrillator batteries.	
	Clerk Hours	
	1st April to 28th June 2026 - Paid 156 / Worked 166 / Holiday taken 0 hours.	

Appendix B Planning Status

BDC Ref	Application	NPC Ref	NPC Response	BDC Response
DC/26/01603	Perrywood Garden Centre, Newton Road - Change of use of existing store building to retail sales at existing garden centre site, with replacement of roller shutter door with glazed auto door.	26/094a	Support	Permission 09/06/2026

Appendix C RFO Report**Payments made since last meeting**

Purchase Card	Krystal – Website hosting	£ 8.40
Purchase Card	Microsoft – Office 365	£ 10.21
Purchase Card	1p Mobil – Monthly charge	£ 10.00
Purchase Card	Monthly fee May	£ 3.00
Unity Trust	Service Charge June	£ 7.00
CHT	3 batteries for defibrillators	£482.40

Income received since last meeting

Unity Trust	Interest on Savings Account	£332.78
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NEWTON PARISH COUNCILMinutes of Meeting held on 8th July 2026 at Newton Village Hall

A	Bank Reconciliation at 30/06/2026		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2026		56,664.75
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2026 - 30/06/2026		38,221.67
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2026 - 30/06/2026		94,886.42
			8,710.59
A	Cash in Hand 30/06/2026 (per Cash Book)		86,175.83
B	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 30/06/2026	0.00	
	Unity Trust Bank - Current Account 30/06/2026	4,041.18	
	Unity Trust Bank - Savings Account 30/06/2026	82,134.65	
	Lloyds Corporate Purchasing Card 30/06/2026	0.00	
			86,175.83
	Less unrepresented payments		
			86,175.83
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		86,175.83
	A = B Checks out OK		

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Series Page 486
NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL
 Minutes of Meeting held on 8th July 2026 at Newton Village Hall

Newton Parish Council
Summary of Receipts and Payments
Summary - Cost Centres Only

Cost Centre	Receipts			Payments			Net Position +/- Under/over spend
	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	
Administration			0.00 (N/A)	4,287.00	532.89	3,754.11 (87%)	3,754.11
Annual Subscription			0.00 (N/A)	585.00	302.35	282.65 (48%)	282.65
Asset Management			0.00 (N/A)	4,360.00	3,297.37	1,062.63 (24%)	1,062.63
CIL		20,188.60	20,188.60 (20188€)			0.00 (N/A)	20,188.60
Clerk Salary			0.00 (N/A)	15,722.68	3,518.90	12,203.78 (77%)	12,203.78
Digital			0.00 (N/A)	1,019.00	46.53	972.47 (95%)	972.47
Donations			0.00 (N/A)	800.00	250.00	550.00 (68%)	550.00
Grants	213.00		-213.00 (-100%)			0.00 (N/A)	-213.00
Neighbourhood Plan Review			0.00 (N/A)		48.15	-48.15 (-4815%)	-48.15
Open Spaces			0.00 (N/A)	4,800.00		4,800.00 (100%)	4,800.00
Other Income	535.00	332.78	-202.22 (-37%)			0.00 (N/A)	-202.22
Other Payments			0.00 (N/A)			0.00 (N/A)	0.00
Precept	30,381.54	15,190.77	-15,190.77 (-50%)			0.00 (N/A)	-15,190.77
Projects & Events			0.00 (N/A)			0.00 (N/A)	0.00
Recycling	330.00	986.00	656.00 (198%)			0.00 (N/A)	656.00
NET TOTAL	31,459.54	36,698.15	5,238.61 (16%)	31,573.68	7,996.19	23,577.49 (74%)	28,816.10

Total for ALL Cost Centres	36,698.15	7,996.19
V.A.T.	1,523.52	714.40
GROSS TOTAL	38,221.67	8,710.59

Committed Spending						
Meeting Date	Minute	Supplier	Cost Net	VAT	Total	Budget
12/11/25	25/191	LUC	£9,608.81	£1,921.76	£11,530.57	CIL
11/02/26	26/032	Suffolk Highways	£20,000.00	£0.00	£20,000.00	CIL
			£29,608.81	£1,921.76	£31,530.57	

Payments for your authorisation

	Net	VAT	Gross	Budget
Village Hall	£120.00	£0.00	£120.00	Hall Hire Q1
DF Crimmin	£503.22	£0.00	£503.22	Expenses 1/3/26 to 30/6/26

Signed _____

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NEWTON PARISH COUNCILMinutes of Meeting held on 8th July 2026 at Newton Village Hall**Appendix D Parish Survey**

The survey conducted alongside the Housing Survey in June 2026, had a total of 60 responses which is very much down on the surveys conducted over the past 3 years:

- Parish Survey 2023 79
- Parish Survey 2024 75
- Pedestrian crossing 2025 90.

The analysis of the priorities allocated by residents is as follows:

Rank	Project Name	Priority			Weighted Total
		1	2	3	
1	Traffic Calming	39	7	4	135
2	Circular Footpaths	11	25	12	95
3	Diversity of Species	3	15	23	62
4	VH Car Park	3	12	10	25
Note: Four blank surveys were returned.					

Other projects raised by residents were as follows:

Survey ID	Area	Comment / Other Priorities
P45	Amenities	Bus to Perrywoods
P17	Amenities	Keep Saracens
P39	Amenities	More village amenities to reflect increased number of dwellings
P37	Amenities	Newsletter just for Newton
P45	Amenities	Saracens as pub
P21	Amenities	Skate Park in recreation ground for adults / children
P01, P17, P45	Amenities	Village Shop
P27	Calming	20 mph speed limit throughout village
P32, E03, P50	Calming	SID's at both ends of village
E03	Calming	White gates at start of 30 mph zone
E03	Infrastructure	Extend 30 mph to Valley Road
P21	Infrastructure	Paths / surfaces for children to cycle on safely.
P34	Infrastructure	Pavements on both sides of A134
P02	Infrastructure	Re-surface Mill Lane
E04	Infrastructure	Resurface road in Links View
P26	Road Safety	Ban parking on pavements and enforcement of parking distance from junctions.
P44	Road Safety	Pedestrian Crossing to Village Hall
E08	Road Safety	Pedestrian crossing near pub
P49	Road Safety	Pedestrian crossings on A134 to Village Hall
E04	Road Safety	Replace gullies along A134 to inlet gullies
P48	Road Safety	Resurfacing and passing bays in Rectory Road
E06	Trust	Resurface the lane at Corner Green
P36	Village	Cleaning up after dogs.
P04	Village	Keep Newton as a village
P17, P18	Village Hall	Village Hall kitchen refurbishment
P16	Village Hall	Village Hall toilets and kitchen refurbishment.

Signed _____

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NEWTON PARISH COUNCILMinutes of Meeting held on 8th July 2026 at Newton Village Hall**Appendix E PIIP**

Newton Parish Council - Parish Infrastructure Investment Plan (PIIP) July 2026					
Project Name	Priority	Support Reference	Feasibility	Funding sources	Estimated completion
Walking Infrastructure Project including Pedestrian crossing on A134	1	NNP	Funding for scheme in place. Now with Suffolk Highways to implement.	CIL Funding, SCC Transport, SCC Active Travel, Newton Green Trust & NPC CIL.	12 to 18 months
Traffic calming measures through Newton.	1	NNP	Review options with SCC Highways	CIL Funding, NPC CIL, Locality Budget	1 - 3 years
Develop more circular footpaths within parish boundary.	3	NNP	Discuss with landowners	NPC CIL	Ongoing
Maintain and protect the diversity of species across local green space.	4	NNP		NPC CIL	Ongoing
New car park for Village Hall	5	VHMC		CIL Funding	1 - 2 years

End of Appendices

Signed _____

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