

Newick Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 28th February 2017 in the Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road, Newick.

Present: Councillors M. Halsey, B. Horsfall, G. Jones, I. Nesbitt, J. Sheppard, J. Smerdon (Chairman), J.White and K. Wrench.

In Attendance: Mrs S. Berry (Clerk)
Lewes District and East Sussex County Councillor, Jim Sheppard
Five members of the public

An audio recording was made of the meeting

1. **Apologies for Absence:-** Apologies had been received from Cllr. Guy Clothier.
2. **Disclosure by Members of personal interest in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct:** - Cllr. Jones disclosed a personal interest in agenda item 11.4 (Allotments).
3. **Questions or statements by Members of the Public** – There were no questions or statements by members of the public.
4. **Lewes District/East Sussex County Councillor Jim Sheppard's report on matters affecting Newick** – Cllr. Jim Sheppard reported on the following items:-
 - Lewes District Council had set its budget resulting in a Council Tax increase of 1.4%. The budget was £650,000 less than the previous year with savings having been made possible by sharing services with Eastbourne Borough Council.
 - Lewes District Council would be introducing a Green Waste Collection service.
 - Lewes District Council would be holding an event to recognise 'Unsung Heroes'. Cllr. Sheppard asked for any nominations to be given to him by the end of the week.
 - The earth mounds that had been placed on the Reedens Meadow (SANG) site would be distributed around the site to form bunds. The purpose of the bunds would be to prevent access to the site by unwanted vehicles.
 - East Sussex County Council would be making funds available for additional drainage work and pavement repairs. £250,000 had been made available for match funding highway projects.
 - DLA Delivery's application for permission to appeal to the Supreme Court had been refused.
 - Baroness Cumberlege's appeal against the Secretary of State's decision to allow the Mitchelswood Farm planning application had been accepted but it could be six months before the appeal was heard.
5. **Maria Caulfield MP** – A written report from Maria Caulfield MP had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. Cllr. Smerdon referred to an email from Maria Caulfield which had been forwarded to her and which stated that new legislation to be introduced would ensure that Neighbourhood Plans would be respected in the future.
6. **Approval of draft minutes of Parish Council meeting held 31st January 2017** – It was agreed by those who had been present that the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 31st January 2017 could be signed as a true record.
7. **Clerk's Report** – A report from the Clerk which included Clerk's working arrangements, and training organised for the coming month had been circulated prior to the meeting along with the list of correspondence received since the last meeting. It was noted that the five new councillors had all submitted their Register of Members' Interests forms which had been sent to Lewes District Council for publication on the website. It was also noted that the two remaining councillor vacancies had been advertised for co-option at the Parish Council meeting on 28th March 2017.
8. **Report by Clerk on any action taken under Delegated Powers in consultation with Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman** – It was reported that the Chairman and Vice Chairman had attended a meeting with a Lewes District Council officer and Cllr. Jim Sheppard to discuss the proposals for amendments to the S.106 agreement for the Newick Hill development site (LW/14/0924). The resulting proposed design for the play

area was shown at the meeting. It was noted that the amendments were yet to be approved by Lewes District Council Planning Committee.

9. Planning:

9.1 Approval of minutes of Planning Committee meeting held 14th February 2017 – It was agreed by those who had been present that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held 14th February 2017 could be signed as a true record.

9.2 Planning Applications –

Newick LW/17/0132 Case Officer: Mrs Alyson Smith	Sheffield Park Industrial Estate East Grinstead Road North Chailey Planning Application - Lay excavated soil on top of railway track for Epic Real Estate Ltd. Consideration was given to saved policy RE6 from the 2003 Lewes District Local Plan which identified the old railway track as having the potential for recreational use and the potential impact on trees growing nearby. It was agreed to make no comment on this application subject to any recommendations from the Lewes District Council Tree Officer.
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9.3 Approvals/Refusals etc. – The following Appeal decision from the Planning Inspectorate was noted:-
Appeal Ref: APP/P1425/W/16/3158328 – 26 Western Road (Appeal allowed and planning permission granted for erection of a 5 bedroom detached house and new vehicular access and double garage for retained house at 26 Western Road).

9.4 Tree works applications – There were no tree works applications for consideration.
It was noted that the following tree works application had been approved by Lewes District Council:-
TW/17/0014/TPO – 1 Harmers Hill 3 x Leyland cypress (T16 and T19 of the Order) - remove Sycamore (T14 of the Order) - Fell and remove. Various trees (T12 to T24 of the Order inclusive – crown lift to 5.5m over the highway – exempt works, do not require permission.

9.5 Newick Neighbourhood Plan –
It was noted that DLA Delivery's Judicial Review appeal had not been successful and that a subsequent application for permission to appeal to the Supreme Court had been refused.

Letters received from Mr Smith and Mr Wilson had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that responses should be sent to confirm that a new Neighbourhood Plan Committee had been formed and that the Lewes District Council Neighbourhood Plan Officer had been invited to speak at the next committee meeting. Also to confirm that the committee hoped to be able to work alongside former councillors to do whatever was necessary to strengthen the Neighbourhood Plan.

Emails received from Mrs Goddard which raised a number of points had also been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that a response should be sent to Mrs Goddard thanking her for raising these issues and confirming that consideration would be given as how they should be addressed and that contact would be made with Lewes District Council to try to gain assurances about the numbers of new dwellings that would be built in Newick and about protecting the planning boundary.

An email had been received from Newick Village Society and circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the Village Society should be thanked for their communication and advised that the points raised would be taken into consideration by the Neighbourhood Plan Committee.

9.6 Newick Hill Development – A newsletter from Thakeham Homes regarding the progress of the Newick Hill development had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted.

10. Financial Matters:

10.1 To approve schedule of payments for February 2017 – It was agreed that the schedule of payments for February 2017 should be approved and that Cllrs. Smerdon and Sheppard would sign the cheques

Payee	Item	Invoice Amount	Cheque Number
S.E. Berry	Clerk's Salary	£713.48	Standing Order

Post Office Ltd	Tax and NI from Clerk & PC	£270.83	201250
East Sussex Pension Fund	Pension Contributions from Clerk & PC	£264.73	201251
D. Sankey Ltd	Routine Mole Treatment	£100.80	201252
Lewes District Council	Play Area Inspection	£18.00	201253
Barcombe Landscapes	Grounds maintenance	£3,497.89	201254
South East Water	Water supply to Sports Pavilion	£200.66	201255
S.E. Berry	Reimbursement for items purchased by Clerk on behalf of Parish Council	£142.36	201256
Newick Bowls Club	Grant awarded 31/01/17	£250.00	201257
Newick Amateur Dramatic Society	Grant awarded 31/01/17	£2,205.00	201258
NACCA	Hire of Community Centre induction training Hire of Community Centre side room	£318.00	201259
S. Orwin	Village Maintenance	£210.00	201260
SSALC	Spring Conference £96.00 Councillor Briefing £330.00	£426.00	201261
Acorn Technology Services	Website administrator Nov 2016 to April 2017	£120.00	201262
Total		£8,737.75	

Income in February 2017

Food Fair	Stallholders	£230.00
Total		£230.00

10.2 To note statement of performance against budget as at end January 2017 – The statement of performance against budget had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted.

10.3 Parish Council Bank Accounts – The Clerk confirmed that the mandate changes to Parish Council bank accounts with Co-operative Bank, Barclays Bank and Cambridge & Counties Bank agreed in December 2016 had been completed.

11. Committees' and Councillors' Reports

11.1 Environment & Recreation Committee – It was agreed by those who had been present that the minutes of the Environment & Recreation Committee could be signed as a true record.

It was agreed to proceed with the proposed Twitten Tidy Up on Saturday 1st April, morning session between 10.00 and 12.00 and afternoon session between 14.00 and 16.00.

Cllr. Sheppard confirmed that she had written an article for the newsletter on parking on verges and pavements and that she had visited the resident of Amberley to discuss the boundary hedge between his garden and the recreation ground.

Costs for the supply, installation and regular emptying of an additional dog waste bin at the Church Road entrance to the recreation ground had been obtained from Lewes District Council. It was agreed to proceed with the installation of a double bin for dog waste and litter at a cost of £456.00 + VAT. It was agreed that an article should be placed in the newsletter to highlight the cost of providing and emptying dog waste bins.

11.2 Newick Village Hall Management Committee (NVHMC) – Cllr. Smerdon reported that the NVHMC AGM would be held on 8th March 2017.

11.3 Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr. Jean Sheppard gave details of incidents reported to her in her role as Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator. She advised that there had been an increase in thefts of Land Rover vehicles from the area.

11.4 Allotments – Three quotations had been obtained for the clearance and preparation of the Cornwell's Bank Allotment site. It was agreed to proceed with the lowest priced quotation (D.R Pattenden) subject to confirmation that the contractor held appropriate public liability insurance and could carry out the work within the required timescale.

It was reported that planning permission might not be required for car parking on the allotment site as it may be classed as permitted development. Cllr. Smerdon would be following this up.

It was noted that Lewes District Council (Property & Facilities Shared Service) had confirmed that they were looking in to the renewal of the management agreement for the Cricketfield allotment site. The Clerk agreed to follow this up.

11.5 Update on Newick Post Office – Cllr. Jean Sheppard reported that there had been no progress with the people who had expressed an interest in taking on the Post Office and that the Postmaster had advised her that he was intending to retire soon.

11.6 Food Fair 17th June 2017 – It was reported that plans for the Food Fair were progressing well and that several bookings had been received. The committee had asked for a road closure application to be made but the work involved in managing a road closure would be onerous. The Clerk agreed to communicate to the committee what would be involved.

11.7 Sports Pavilion Management Committee – Notes of the Sports Pavilion Management Committee meeting held 7th February 2017 had been circulated in advance and were noted. It was reported that the sub group that was looking into the possible upgrade of the Pavilion had asked the Parish Council for a 99 year lease which would enable them to attract funding for the upgrade project. Cllr Smerdon reported that Fields in Trust and possibly the Charity Commission would need to be consulted on this. The sub group had also asked the Parish Council to release funds from the Sports Pavilion reserve to enable them to pay the initial costs of engaging an architect. It was noted that Cllr. Smerdon had requested further information and had proposed a meeting with the sub group.

12. Annual Parish Meeting 19th April 2017 – It was reported that Lewes District Council Planning Officers had been invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to speak about the Lewes Local Plan and Newick's Neighbourhood Plan but that confirmation of this had not yet been received. It was agreed that Maria Caulfield MP should also be invited to attend and speak about new Neighbourhood Planning legislation. Cllr. Smerdon confirmed that she would draft a report giving details of the Parish Council's activities over the last year. It was agreed that a budget of £200 should be allowed for the purchase of refreshments.

13. Request for permission to erect marquee on King George V Playing Field – A verbal request had been received from the Newick & Chailey Support Group, St Peter & St James Hospice, for permission to erect a number of large gazebos near to the Sports Pavilion on the afternoon of Friday 16th June when they would be holding a 'Mad Hatter's Tea Party' event. It was agreed that permission should be given subject to the Support Group providing evidence of its public liability insurance and event risk assessment.

14. Items for Spring edition of Parish Council newsletter – It was agreed that the following items should be included in the Parish Council newsletter which would be due for delivery at the end of March:-

- Request for residents not to park on verges or pavements
- An update on Neighbourhood Plan issues
- Details of the cost of providing and emptying dog waste and litter bins and a request for residents to use them
- Food Fair
- Update on Cornwells Bank Allotments
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Co-option of new councillors
- Separate flyer with agenda for Annual Parish Meeting

15. Items for the next agenda – The following items to be included on the next agenda:-
Final arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting, Twitten Tidying Day, and update on Pavilion Upgrade project.

The meeting closed at 8.42 p.m.

Signed:.....
Chairman

Date:.....