

NEWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment and Recreation Committee of Newick Parish Council held at the Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road, Newick on Tuesday 9th May 2017 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. G. Clothier, M. Halsey, J. Smerdon and J. White

In Attendance: Mrs. S. Berry (Clerk)
Two members of the public (for part of the meeting only)

An audio recording was made of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Apologies had been received from Cllr. J. Sheppard.
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** – No disclosures were made.
3. **Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – There were no questions or statements by members of the public.

Cllr. Clothier joined the meeting at 7.01 p.m.

4. **Environment Issues:-**

- 4.1 Updated inspection report – An updated version of the inspection report had been circulated prior to the meeting and the following items were noted:-

Cllr. Sheppard had obtained quotations for toughened glass to be fitted to the bus shelter on The Green. It was agreed that the Clerk would check that the quotations were still valid and arrange for this work to be carried out. **Action Clerk**

It was confirmed that the pharmacy window frames had been repaired and painted during recent upgrade work.

It was noted that match funding for the replacement of two fingerposts had been received from East Sussex County Council and that the contractor had confirmed that the replacement fingerposts were in the process of being made.

The quotation for the replacement of the oak post supporting the Newick sign on The Green had been accepted and the Clerk had been in contact with the contractor who had confirmed that the old post would be removed within the next week. The contractor had expressed some concern over the logistics for putting the new post in position and it was agreed that either Cllr. Halsey or Cllr. White would meet the contractor on site to discuss this. **Action Cllrs. Halsey or White**

One member of the public left the meeting at 7.05 p.m.

NHS Property Services had yet to be approached to arrange for drains in the Community Centre car park to be cleared. **Action Clerk**

- 4.2 Additional repair/maintenance issues identified since last meeting – It was noted that the wall to the Community Centre car park had been knocked down only a few days after it had been repaired. There was discussion on the best way to avoid this happening again. It was agreed that Cllr. Clothier would inspect the site and make proposals for planting and/or landscaping which would deter drivers from passing too close to the wall and hopefully prevent further damage. **Action Cllr. Clothier**

- 4.3 Follow up from issues raised at SLR meeting with East Sussex Highways (12/04/17) – It was noted that ESCC Highways had confirmed that the bollard beside the pedestrian crossing on The Green had been replaced in the same location as previously and that they had asked for details of how many reports had been received of vehicles driving between the bollard and the crossing lights to access the car park. It was agreed to monitor this and pass on any further reports to ESCC.
- 4.4 Inspection of The Green following departure of Circus – It was noted that there was no obvious damage to The Green following the departure of the Circus, however, Cllr. Clothier agreed to carry out a more detailed inspection and advise the Clerk of any problems. **Action Cllr. Clothier**
- 4.5 Arrangements for annual inspection of The Green and other PC owned open spaces – It was agreed that members of the committee would arrange to inspect The Green and other Council owned open spaces on a weekend date during June. Date to be agreed outside the meeting. **Action Clerk, Cllr. Smerdon & Cllr. Clothier**
- 4.6 Sign outside Lloyds Pharmacy – The Clerk reported that, following complaints received from two residents of The Green, she had written to the manager of Lloyds pharmacy with a copy of the Council's policy regarding advertising boards on The Green. There had been no response, but Cllr. White reported that the sign had been removed and was currently being stored at the rear of the building.
- 4.7 Community Centre Car Park Wall – This matter had been discussed earlier in the meeting under agenda item 4.2 above.

5. Playing Field Issues

- 5.1 Review of Conditions of Hire for Playing Fields and recommendations for hire fees 2017/18 – Copies of the Conditions of Hire for Playing Fields had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed to recommend that the Parish Council approves this document subject to Clubs being asked to confirm whether or not they have a policy for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. It was agreed to recommend that the annual hire fees should remain the same i.e. Football and Cricket Clubs £230, Stoolball Club £87 and fee to be waived for Rugby Club in lieu of mowing and maintenance of the rugby field.
- 5.2 Annual Play Area Inspection Reports – Copies of the latest monthly Play Area and Skate Park inspection reports had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that issues had been raised in connection with the wetpour surface in the play area and the wooden side panel at the skate ramp. The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Lindsey Baker about the wooden side panel to the skate ramp and a quotation for repair/replacement was awaited. The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with HAGS SMP about a section of the wetpour surface which had been laid at the time of the equipment upgrade in 2015 and that HAGS would be dealing with this. The Clerk had also approached three companies to ask for quotations for improving the wetpour surface around the roundabout, but only one (Playsafe Playgrounds Ltd) had actually produced a quotation. Copies of the quotation had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was agreed to recommend to the Council that this quotation should be accepted.

One member of the public left the meeting at 7.40 p.m.

- 5.3 Updated inspection report – An updated version of the inspection report had been circulated prior to the meeting and the following issues were noted:-

The picnic bench had not yet been removed. **Action Clerk**

Chestnut paling fencing in the copse near to the multigoal equipment had not yet been removed. It was agreed that committee members would look again at this and report on exactly what work was required. **Action Committee**

5.4 Arrangements for annual inspection of Playing Fields – It was agreed that the Clerk along with Cllrs. Smerdon and White would carry out the annual inspection of the playing fields during June, the date to be agreed outside the meeting.

5.5 Request from Newick Cricket Club for advertising sign to be permanently displayed on score box – It was reported that Newick Cricket Club had asked permission to permanently display an advertising banner for their sponsors, Thakeham Homes, on the score box. It had been confirmed that permission from Fields in Trust would not be required, however, a response was still awaited from Lewes District Council as to whether or not planning permission would be required. No details of what the sign would look like had been supplied, but the maximum size of the proposed sign was said to be 3m x 0.4m. It was agreed that there was insufficient information on which to base a recommendation and the Clerk was asked to obtain the size and design of the proposed banner.

Action Clerk

5.6 Update on replacement of Cricket Nets – It was reported that the insurance details and method statement had been received for the contractor who would be replacing the cricket nets and that work was expected to begin soon.

5.7 Update on installation of new dog waste bin – It was noted that the new dual purpose dog waste and litter bin had been installed at the Church Road entrance to King George V Playing Field. The invoice for supply and installation had not yet been received.

6. Items for the next agenda – It was agreed that reports on the inspections due to be carried out in June would be on the agenda for the next committee meeting. It was noted that the Cricket Club had contacted Cllr White to ask for the bottom of the hedges along the northern boundary of King George V Playing Field to be cut back to allow lost cricket balls to be retrieved more easily and agreed that this would be raised at a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.02 p.m.

Signed:

Dated:.....