

## 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 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

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

**In Attendance:** Mrs. S. Berry (Clerk)

An audio recording was made of the meeting.

1. **Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for this committee** – It was agreed that Cllr. Clothier would continue as the Chairman for this committee and that Cllr. White would continue as the Vice Chairman.
2. **Apologies for Absence** – There had been no apologies for absence
3. **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.
4. **Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – There were no members of the public present at the meeting.
5. **Environment Issues:-**

5.1 Consideration of issues identified following inspection of The Green and other PC controlled open spaces – A report compiled by Cllrs. Smerdon & Sheppard following their inspection of The Green and other PC owned open spaces had been circulated prior to the meeting. The following actions were agreed:-

- Newick Green – Damaged ranch fence and post to be repaired, brick path to be hand weeded, overhanging vegetation near to 19 The Green to be cut back and Perspex windows to be removed from bus shelter. The Clerk was asked to write to the owner of SVS Stores about the poor condition of the frontage. **Action Clerk**
- Clerk to obtain quotations for replacing wooden posts on The Green with posts all of the same dimensions and also for removing wooden posts on and making good. **Action Clerk**
- Clerk to obtain quotations for replacing damaged paving slabs near to Memorial with either new paving slabs or brick paving. This would entail consultation with East Sussex Highways. **Action Clerk**
- Loose tile on notice board to be fixed and woodwork sanded down and treated. Village handy person to be asked to do this work as additional to standard hours.
- Leaf and branch debris to be removed from under large oak tree on the Green.
- Damaged fire hydrant sign to be reported to East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service. **Action Clerk**
- Sand bag and flower pot to be removed from grass verge beside 44 Oldaker Road. Clerk to contact residents. **Action Clerk**
- Remove broken branch hanging from Chestnut tree on green at top of Marbles Road. Clerk to check whether tree has TPO. **Action Clerk**
- Remind grounds maintenance contractors that overhanging vegetation should be cleared from small piece of land in Growers End. **Action Clerk**

5.2 Modification of Village Survey – A draft simplified survey form was circulated at the meeting and it was agreed to propose that the Parish Council should carry out the survey during November.

### 6. **Playing Field Issues**

6.1 Consideration of issues identified during inspection of Playing Fields – A report compiled by Cllrs. Clothier and White following their inspection of King George V

Playing Field (KGVPF) and Manwaring Robertson Field (MR) had been circulated prior to the meeting. The following actions were agreed:-

- Broken board on side of skate ramp centre piece to be replaced.
- Owners of Ketches to be informed that latch to five bar gate at corner of MR is broken
- Arrange for brambles to be removed from rear of play area
- Tree near to multigoal to be cut back as it is encroaching on equipment.
- Continue to monitor concrete surface in front of multigoal.
- Continue to monitor picnic bench for any deterioration. Clerk confirmed that one section of seating has been missing for some time.
- Replace wooden pedestrian gate at Church Road entrance to KGVPF
- Remind village handy person to check for litter behind pavilion building
- Contact Cricket Club to ask them to remove metal frame of old practice nets and re-secure nets to frame. **Action Clerk**
- Contact Cricket Club to ask whether green wheelie bins which have appeared at KGVPF are anything to do with them. **Action Clerk**
- Contact Cricket Club to advise them to reimburse the Parish Council for the cost of the purchase and planting of a tree to replace the hawthorn that was removed when new practice nets were installed. **Action Clerk**
- Arrange for green wheelie bins to be removed as there is no agreement in place for these bins to be emptied.
- Obtain quotation from Lewes DC for replacing three litter bins and one dog waste bin with three dual purpose bins. **Action Clerk**
- Arrange for Barcombe Landscapes to strim nettles around edge of playing field car park and to strim grass areas around pavilion buildings. It was noted that this would be additional to agreed work schedule. **Action Clerk**
- Obtain quote for planting a mixed native hedge alongside wooden fence at playing field car park and negotiate with residents of neighbouring property about reimbursing the cost of this work. **Action Clerk**
- Ask village handy person to prioritise the maintenance of wooden benches, particularly those near to the cricket net facility.

6.2 Recent Play Area Inspection Reports – Issues raised in the most recent play area inspection report had mainly been dealt with under item 6.1 above. The Clerk reported that she had been in touch with a contractor regarding the wetpour surface which need repair and hoped to have a quotation available shortly.

6.3 Skate Park Working Group – There had been no meeting and there was nothing to report.

6.4 Complaints about litter at KGVPF – Copies of an email dated 7<sup>th</sup> August 2018 regarding litter at KGVPF had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. It was agreed that an article highlighting the problem would be put in the forthcoming newsletter and that the Clerk would obtain quotations for the replacement of existing litter bins with more robust bins. **Action Clerk**

7. **Weed Control** – Following correspondence received from various sources regarding weed control at KGVPF it was agreed that the Council's grounds maintenance contractors and those working on the cricket square should be asked to give at least a week's notice of their intention to carry out weed spraying. This would enable the Council to display notices to inform the public. It was also proposed that an article should appear in the Spring newsletter

8. **Grounds maintenance** – Copies of the current agreed schedule of work for the Council's grounds maintenance contractors had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk was asked to negotiate with Barcombe Landscapes about additional work (strimming of grass areas around the pavilion, scout hut and storage sheds). It was noted that the removal of brambles in the play area was already included in the schedule. The Clerk was asked to find out whether or not the 'deep slit' work at KGVPF would be carried out during the winter months as per the schedule. **Action Clerk**

The Village Handy Person schedule of work had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the wording should be amended to highlight the fact that there should be no weed spraying in the children's play area. It was agreed to recommend that the Village Handy Person hours should be increased to allow an additional two hours per week to allow time for work other than the routine inspection and litter picking.

**9. Overhanging Vegetation** – Copies of the procedure agreed with East Sussex County Council Highways regarding overhanging vegetation had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that this should continue with no change. The Clerk was asked to ensure that the details of what constitutes 'overhanging vegetation' was available on the website and to place an item in the forthcoming newsletter. **Action Clerk**

**10. Future Projects** – It was agreed to propose that the Parish Council should progress the following projects for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding:-

- Provision of outdoor gym equipment at KGVPF (on S.123 list)
- Provision of mobile Speed Indicator Device (SID). The Clerk was asked to contact Rotherfield Parish Council to find out more about this. **Action Clerk**

Items for the 2019/20 budget included increased hours for the village handy person, provision for additional grounds maintenance work, fingerpost repair/replacement and replacement litter bins if not already dealt with during the current year.

**11. Redundant telephone kiosk in High Street** – Cllr. White had circulated details of the BT Adopt a Kiosk scheme and it was reported that the Clerk had sent an enquiry to BT to check whether the redundant kiosk in High Street could be included in this scheme and whether or not the electricity supply could be reconnected. If the response was positive a decision would need to be made about how the kiosk could be best utilised.

**12. Items for the next agenda** – It was agreed that the following items should appear on the agenda for the next meeting to be held 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018:-

- Update on telephone kiosk
- Update on CIL projects
- Update on replacement litter bins

The meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Signed: .....

Dated:.....

Clerk - Mrs S.E. Berry  
18 Newlands Park Way, Newick, Lewes, East Sussex BN8 4PG  
Tel: 01825 722135 email [newickpc@newick.net](mailto:newickpc@newick.net)