

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 11th December 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. G. Clothier (Chairman of this committee), J. Smerdon and J. White

In Attendance: Mrs. S. Berry (Clerk)

An audio recording was made of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Apologies had been received from Cllrs. M. Halsey and 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 members of the public present at the meeting.
4. **Environment Issues:-**

4.1 Consideration of issues identified following inspection of The Green and other PC controlled open spaces – An updated report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The following actions were agreed:-

- Newick Green – Cllr Smerdon to check items highlighted in red (weeds in front of shops and bus shelter and bus shelter window frames) and report back to Clerk. **Action Cllr Smerdon**
- Clerk to write again to proprietor of Premier Stores regarding poor condition of shop frontage. **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 – still outstanding. **Action Clerk**
- Damaged fire hydrant sign to be reported to East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service – still outstanding. **Action Clerk**
- Cllr White to check that broken branch hanging from Chestnut tree on green at top of Marbles Road has been removed. **Action Cllr White**
- Clerk to check that overhanging vegetation has been cleared from small piece of land in Growers End. **Action Clerk**
- Arrange for branches and debris to be removed from open spaces between Vernons Road/The Rough and Powell Road. **Action Clerk**
- It was noted that the wall at the front of the Community Centre car park had been damaged again and that the Clerk was in the process of obtaining quotations for the wall to be repaired.
- It was noted that a request had been received from BT Openreach to lay a cable on PC land at Growers End and that the Clerk was in the process of taking advice as to whether or not a legal agreement would be required.

4.2 Village Survey – It was reported that most of the village survey reports had been completed but that there were still a few outstanding. The Clerk agreed to compile the survey results for analysis and presentation to the Parish Council at the January meeting. **Action Clerk**

4.3 Proposal for Spring Clean – It was agreed that another Village Spring Clean would be organised to coincide with the Keep Britain Tidy Great British Spring Clean (22nd March to 23rd April 2019). The date agreed was Saturday 13th April 2019 and it was agreed to focus once again on the village twittens. The event would be advertised in the Parish Council newsletter.

5. Playing Field Issues

5.1 Consideration of issues identified during inspection of Playing Fields – An updated report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The following actions were agreed:-

- Cllr. Smerdon would 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 Cllr Smerdon**
- Clerk to check whether actions requested to be carried out by Barcombe Landscapes have been completed. **Action Clerk**

5.2 Recent Play Area Inspection Reports – It was noted that there had been no items raised in the latest monthly play area inspection report carried out by Lewes District Council but that the Village Handy Person had reported an increase in graffiti on the skate ramp equipment and picnic bench. It was agreed to monitor this and arrange for the removal of any offensive graffiti.

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

5.4 Complaints about antisocial behaviour at KGVPF – It was noted that there had been reports of antisocial behaviour involving fireworks being thrown in to the Scout Hut on two occasions. The incidents had been reported to the Police and Cllr. Sheppard had contacted the PCSOs to ask for increased patrols on Friday evenings.

5.5 Complaints about dogs off leads and dog fouling on playing fields – It was noted that a complaint had been received about a dog off the lead at KGVPF and that the Clerk had written to the owner about this. A suggestion had been received that additional signage should be supplied, particularly in the area of the skate ramp to make it clear that the 'dogs on leads' rule also applies on the Manwaring Robertson rugby field. It was agreed to investigate the possibility of obtaining adhesive signs to be attached to the new litter/dog waste bins when they have been installed. **Action Clerk**

6. **Village Maintenance** – It was agreed to proceed with the purchase of a wheeled cart which would assist the village handy person when carrying out his duties around the village (cost £389 + VAT). The cart would be stored at the Parish Council shed by agreement with Newick Rootz.

7. **Tree inspections** (Risk Assessment advice) – Copies of an email dated 30/10/18 from Lewes District Council Specialist Advisor (Arboriculture) had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the information should be forwarded to the contractor who carried out tree inspections on behalf of the Parish Council with a request for confirmation as to whether or not the current inspection regime would be sufficient in the light of this new advice. The Clerk was also asked to consult Sussex Association of Local Councils (SALC) to find out whether or not they could offer any advice on this matter. **Action Clerk**

8. **Update on issues raised at previous meeting** – The following was noted in respect of issues raised at the previous meeting:-

- The redundant telephone kiosk in High Street had been removed.
- Cllr. Smerdon would be progressing the adult fitness equipment project with the intention of applying for Community Infrastructure Levy funding.
- The Clerk had been in touch with two other Parish Councils who had purchased and installed Speed Indicator Devices and would circulate the information and advice obtained. **Action Clerk**
- It was noted that the cost of the new litter/dog waste bins would be £90 more than had been agreed because of the additional cost of removing two bins that would not be replaced. It was agreed to proceed.

9. Strengthening Local Relationships (SLR) – It was noted that the SLR meeting planned for 5th December had not taken place for various reasons. It was agreed to request that the next meeting should take place on Wednesday 3rd April 2019.

10. Items for the next agenda – It was agreed that the following items should appear on the agenda for the next meeting to be held 12th March 2019:-

- Update on CIL projects
- Update on replacement litter bins
- Update on tree inspections
- Identify two fingerposts for repair/replacement
- Proposal to set up volunteer group within the village – Cllr. Smerdon

The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

Signed:

Dated:.....

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