

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 12th March 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. G. Clothier (Chairman of this committee), J. Sheppard, 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 Cllr. M. Halsey.
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 was circulated at the meeting. The following actions were agreed:-

- Clerk to get quotes for rubbing down & treating wooden frames at bus shelter on The Green and the notice board on The Green . **Action Clerk**
- Clerk to contact Conservation Officer at Lewes DC regarding poor condition of shop frontage (Premier Stores). **Action Clerk**
- Paper survey to be put on seats at Annual Parish Meeting to canvas opinions as to whether or not wooden posts on The Green should remain or be removed. **Action Clerk**
- Clerk to obtain quotations for repainting of metal rails on wall surrounding Community Centre car park. **Action Clerk**
- Clerk to contact East Sussex Highways regarding overhanging vegetation near to electricity sub-station in Powell Road. **Action Clerk**

4.2 Village Spring Clean – After discussion it was agreed that the Village Spring Clean planned for Saturday 13th April should concentrate on litter picking, raking debris from open spaces and cleaning street signs. The event would be advertised in the Parish Magazine (**Action Cllr. Smerdon**), PC newsletter, newick.net website and Newick Talk Facebook page (**Action Clerk**). The Clerk was asked to check with Lewes DC as to whether or not permission would be given for existing faded street signs to be repainted rather than replaced with more modern style signs. **Action Clerk**

4.3 Dog fouling on northern side of The Green – The Clerk reported that she had received a complaint from a resident living on the northern side of The Green that there was a problem with dog fouling in this area. It was agreed that letters would be distributed to residents living in this part of The Green asking them to report any incidents of dog fouling that they witness. **Action Clerk**

5. **Playing Field Issues**

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

- There were some minor cracks in the wetpour surface at the play area, however, it was agreed that no remedial action would be taken until the annual play area inspection report had been received.
- Clerk to check when new litter/dog waste bins would be installed. **Action Clerk**

- Clerk to arrange for rotting fence post near to recreation ground car park to be replaced. **Action Clerk**
- Clerk to check with Street family as to when they might be able to replace their memorial bench. **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.

5.3 Graffiti on skate ramp and youth shelter – It was noted that the Village Handy Person had made further reports of graffiti (which he considered to be offensive) on the green youth shelter. The committee did not consider that the graffiti was offensive and agreed that no action should be taken until after the school Easter holidays when a contractor should be engaged to clear the shelter and skate ramp of graffiti. **Action Clerk**

6. **Follow up from Village Survey** – There was nothing to report.

7. **Village Maintenance** – It was noted that the Village Handy Person had given notice that he wished to resign his position. It was agreed that the Clerk would advertise the vacancy on the newick.net website and on PC notice boards. **Action Clerk**

8. **Outdoor Gym Equipment** – Cllr. Smerdon reported that she had obtained three quotations for the supply and installation of five pieces of gym equipment at King George V Playing Field. Quotations ranged between £7,000 and £8,000 + VAT. Following discussion over the location of the equipment it was agreed that Cllr. Smerdon would check with the Cricket and Football Clubs to ensure that any proposed location would not interfere with their playing areas or create a hazard for players. **Action Cllr. Smerdon.** Next steps would be to check with Fields in Trust that they would have no objection and present a report to the next Parish Council meeting. It was hoped that the project could be funded from a combination of the PC CIL pot and the play activity earmarked reserve.

9. **Fingerpost Maintenance** – Cllr. Smerdon had taken photographs of various highway fingerposts that were in need of attention. It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain quotations for the repair/replacement of the following fingerposts:-

- Fingerpost 9 (opposite junction of A272 with Allington Road). It was suggested that the finger pointing to Allington Road should be replaced with one pointing to Newick Primary School and King George V Playing Field (subject to agreement by ESCC).
- Fingerpost 7 (Junction of Cornwells Bank and Tilehurst Lane)
- Fingerpost 5 (Junction of Church Road and Cornwells Bank)

Action Clerk

10. **Surveys and feasibility studies** – Cllr Smerdon reported that she had been in touch with Ian Johnson at East Sussex Highways to check on the process for commissioning the various surveys and feasibility studies that the Parish Council had agreed on. The Clerk was asked to contact Penelope Bentley at ESCC in order to progress the Speed Monitoring on Western Road (cost would be £400). **Action Clerk** The process for commissioning a feasibility study into layby parking in Oldaker Road was still unclear and further research was required into how it could be demonstrated that there was a need for this. It was noted that research into the provision of a Speed Indicator Device (SID) was ongoing and that Ian Johnson had advised that such a device would need to be licensed.

11. **Strengthening Local Relationships (SLR)** – It was noted that the next SLR meeting would take place on Wednesday 27th March 2019. Items for the agenda to include a request for a further explanation of the feasibility study process, information on how to apply for a licence for a SID, issues noted during village survey e.g. deteriorating pavements and road surfaces, any planned highway works.

12. Items for the next agenda – There were no items proposed to be included in the next agenda.

The meeting closed at 8.28 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