

Newick Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 26th May 2020. This meeting was held virtually using Zoom software.

Present: Councillors C. Armitage, B. Deacon, B.Hodge, D. Marchant, V. Marchant, M. Thew, B. Whitlock, T. Whitlock and C. Wickens

In Attendance: Mrs E. Reece (Clerk)
Mrs S. Berry (member of the public/locum Clerk)
Cllr. Roy Burman (District Councillor)

An audio and visual recording was made of the meeting

The meeting commenced at 7.03pm

1. **Apologies for Absence** – None received
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. Wickens declared an interest in 16 Allington Road and the Rootz application for funding for equipment. Cllr. Armitage declared an interest in item 17.4
3. **Exclusion of the Press and Public** – None
4. **Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – None
5. **Report from Lewes District Councillor Roy Burman** – Mr Burman reported that District Council has not been meeting and the activities that the District Council has been undertaking during the pandemic (Cllr Deacon joined at 7.05pm) Mr Burman also discussed the land at The Rough/Vernons Road and that the developer may consider a scheme acceptable to the neighbouring properties.
6. **Approval of draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 28th April 2020** – These were approved
7. **Planning:** Cllr. Wickens reported issues with LDC in terms of getting things put on the planning portal. (Cllrs. B and T Whitlock joined at 7.10pm) Cllr. Wickens confirmed that John Lucas has resigned from the Planning Committee.

7.1 Consideration of Planning Applications: -

LW/20/0028	Rotherfield Farmhouse Lane End Common Retrospective application for the retention of new felt, graded battens and replacement tiles It was unanimously agreed to make no comment
LW/20/0124	Land Adjacent To The Rough And Vernons Road Reserved matters application for the approval of appearance, scale, access, The Council noted that the developer is aware that local neighbours support a plan which is an alternative to the one being considered in this meeting. Cllr. D Marchant joined 7.13pm Whilst the Council acknowledge that some minor material changes have been it was unanimously agreed to object on the basis of; - The council can see no significant changes to the plans - The clear guidance from the planning officer for the last application has not been followed - Concerns regarding loss of light and privacy for neighbours - No measurements that could be understood on the submitted plans

	<p>- The scale, bulk, footprint, and siting, gives rise to overlooking with loss of privacy and loss of light, to the detriment of the neighbouring residents.</p> <p>The Council previously requested this application goes to planning committee and this was confirmed by Leigh Palmer. The Council want to see the officers report and make representations.</p> <p>Cllr. D Marchant did not vote</p>
LW/20/0125 LW/20/0164	<p>Springfield The Green Demolition of outbuilding and erection of extension to the east elevation It was agreed to make no comment</p>
LW/20/0160	<p>1 Harmers Hill Erection of veranda to replace entrance porch extension, pitched roofs to existing flat roofed areas, replacement pitched roof to existing single-storey building incorporating raising the ridge, front bay window extension, two new roof lights and rear covered external area It was agreed to make no comment</p>
LW/20/0162	<p>29 Oldaker Road Proposed conversion of existing garage including new roof It was unanimously agreed to make no comment</p>
LW/20/0238	<p>44 Church Road Replacement of front porch including new lobby It was agreed to make no comment</p>
LW/20/0240	<p>16 Allington Road Insertion of rear dormer and loft conversion It was agreed to make no comment</p>
LW/20/0266	<p>44 Oldaker Road Single Storey rear extension together with associated internal and external alterations It was agreed to make no comment</p>
LW/20/0272	<p>Double Barns Farm Newick Park Road Change of use to a pair of semi-detached dwelling (class C3) including building works It was agreed to make no comment</p>
LW/20/0292	<p>Oak House Narrow Road Construction of a disabled access ramp and a small porch extension to the Front It was agreed to make no comment</p>
LW/20/0298	<p>Woods Fruit Farm Goldbridge Road Demolition of Oakside and erection of 69 dwellings, with associated access, parking, landscaping and infrastructure works</p> <p>It was agreed to object to this application on the following grounds;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The application contravenes the recently adopted version of the Lewes Local Plan - Despite the application stating that it has addressed the reasons for refusal, it has not. - Given the history of this case the Council asks that the application is considered at District Planning Committee. - Although part of the site is allocated under policy H04 of Newick's Neighbourhood Plan, the proposal includes further land to the east which is not allocated either in the Newick Neighbourhood Plan or the Lewes District Local Plan Part 2. If this land were to be used for development, it would be outside the development boundary and contrary to Newick Neighbourhood Plan policy H01.4 and Lewes District policy DM10 of the LLP 2. - Newick Neighbourhood Plan and Lewes District Local Plan have allowed for 100 new homes in Newick and sites have been allocated for this number of additional homes following lengthy preparation and consultation with residents. There is no good reason why Newick should have to accept an additional 30 homes on this site over and above what has been planned for, particularly in view of the fact that the adjacent site to the west (H03 in Newick Neighbourhood Plan) is earmarked for the development of up to 30 new homes. - If this development is allowed to proceed regardless of the planning and consultation referred to in the previous paragraph, it would create a precedent for other sites around the village that are not currently allocated for development and in which developers are known to have an interest to come forward, potentially resulting in uncontrolled expansion of the village. - The parking provision is inadequate for the number of homes and contrary to Newick Neighbourhood Plan policy H01.5.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The density of housing on the western side of the site is considered to be too high. - It was agreed that Cllr Hodge would draft the refusal letter .
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7.2 Approvals/Refusals etc – None

7.3 Tree Works Applications – None for comment

7.4 Update on on Mitchelswood Farm Inquiry – Cllr. Wickens discussed the five questions that have come back from the Inspectorate and asked for all Councillors to have a look at it and consider their input. Cllr. T Whitlock spoke regarding self-build legislation.

7.5 55 Allington Road appeal to agree representation – Cllr. Wickens discussed a draft document that had been circulated before the meeting. It was agreed to send the letter – Clerk to Action

Cllr. Roy Burman left the meeting at 7.38pm

8. Clerk’s Report – To note report from Clerk including correspondence received in May 2020. – This included;

- John Lucas registration from the Planning Committee
- Bank Interest - Reduction in Cambridge and Counties reduced to 1.25% by 0.25% approx £100 reduction in income. Barclays interest is reducing to 0.01% so will be £17.76 reduction in income
- Youth gathering day before VE day
- Clerk cancelling annual leave
- Sports club rent amounts
- External Audit
- Mitchelswood farm fencing
- Reedens Meadow –reports of issues with barbed wire, the gate not being secure (due to the pathway eroding) and one of the dog waste bins overflowing – these have been referred to Thakeham.

Additional items reported to the Council included;

- A request from the owner of The Royal Oak for use of the Green which will be considered at the next meeting

9. Report by Clerk on any action taken under Delegated Powers in consultation with Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman. – None other than already reported above

10. Appointment of Committees, Working Groups, Representatives to External Organisations, and responsibility for dealing with consultations – It was agreed to keep everyone in the same positions

11. Review of the Terms of Reference for Committees – These were agreed except a minor inclusion in the Planning Committee Terms of Reference. Cllr. Wickens will draft the inclusion for consideration at the next meeting.

12. Confirmation of appointment of Internal Auditor for 2020/2021 – It was agreed to continue with Peter Frost with a view to changing the following year.

13. Approval of the dates and times of Meetings of the full Council, the Annual Parish Meeting, and Committee Meetings for 2020/21 – A proposed list of dates was circulated before the meeting and the dates were agreed. It was noted that Committee Meetings were suspended at present.

14. Review and adoption of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations – Cllr. Wickens queried voting rights for non-Councillors and it was agreed to send over to the Clerk. Otherwise these were agreed.

15. Review of press and media policy - Agreed

16. Review of agency arrangements (including highway verge cutting on behalf of ESCC) – Agreed

17. Financial Matters:

17.1 To authorise Schedule of Payments for May 2020 and arrangements for approving payments
It was agreed Cllrs. Armitage and Thew would authorise the following payments;

Unity Trust Bank

List of Payments made between 01/05/2020 and 31/05/2020

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
31/05/2020	Barclays Debit Card	Top up	209.18		Top up May
31/05/2020	Lewes District Council	37493524	18.00		Monthly Play Inspection
31/05/2020	D. Sankey Ltd	331042748	100.80		Mole Trapping Program
31/05/2020	HM Revenue & Customs	394368606	331.84		Tax & NI
31/05/2020	Mrs E Reece	220140917	1,349.19		Clerk Salary
31/05/2020	Telefonica UK Ltd	DD	16.63		Mobile Phone
31/05/2020	East Sussex Pension Fund	784036948	460.35		Pension Contributions
31/05/2020	Peter Frost	55444879	211.25		Internal Audit
31/05/2020	Peter Howes	109100948	378.00		Village Handyman May
Total Payments			3,075.24		

The following payments have already been made by debit card;

Barclays Debit Card

List of Payments made between 01/05/2020 and 31/05/2020

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
31/05/2020	Microsoft	DC	79.99		365 annual subscripton
31/05/2020	Zoom Communications	DC	14.39		Monthly Zoom Pro
Total Payments			94.38		

- 17.2** To receive statement of performance against budget as at end May 2020 – This was received without comment.
- 17.3** To consider grant applications received (S. 137 LGA 1972) including Newick Village Hall, Air Ambulance, Good Neighbours, Shimmy & Shake, Lunch Club
 Newick Village Hall – The Clerk gave some background on the application with regards to the Hall being discussed as a potential planning inquiry venue. 7 voted for, 1 voted against so the application is successful.
 Good Neighbour Scheme – Cllr. Armitage questioned whether there was space for further support organisations. Cllr. Hodge challenged if this scheme been overtaken by events. A vote was taken and it was voted unanimously against.
 Air Ambulance Scheme – Cllr. Armitage discussed the application. 7 Councillors voted for the grant application, one voted against, so the application is successful.
 Lunch Club – Cllr. Deacon spoke regarding the application regarding the self-financing of the scheme. 6 voted for this application, 2 against and therefore the application is successful.
 Shimmy and Shake – Cllr. V Marchant commented regarding whether the scheme could operate this year. Cllr. Deacon questioned if it could continue. 7 Councillors voted for and 1 against so the application is successful.
- 17.4** To consider Newick Rootz application for funding for equipment – 6 voted for so the application is successful.
- 17.5** To receive report from Internal Auditor – The report was noted with no issues.
- 17.6** To review the effectiveness of the system of internal audit – a document draft had been circulated and was agreed
- 17.7** Contingent Liability – members to advise Clerk of any contingent liability of which they are aware – none were declared

- 17.8 To consider and approve the Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 (Section 1 Annual Return) – This was considered and approved
- 17.9 To consider and approve Accounting Statements 2019/20 (Section 2 of Annual Return) - This was considered and approved
- 17.10 To ensure that the Governance and Accounting Statements, once approved, have been signed and dated by the Chairman – Clerk to send a hard copy to the Chairman in the absence of face to face Council meetings
- 17.11 Review of subscriptions to other bodies – Draft document circulated, and subscriptions reviewed. It was agreed not to renew the Mapping software but to keep all others.
- 17.12 To confirm invoicing of sports club rents for coming year (as per 2020/21 budget) Cllr. Thew discussed whether they will be playing this season. It was agreed to invoice as normal and discuss any feedback.

18. Environment & Recreation;

- 18.1 Fingerpost repair/replacement – Cllr Thew discussed a list of posts that have been circulated. It was agreed to get quotes for;
 - o Post number 3 refurbishment
 - o Post number 6 replacement
- 18.2 To consider request from Cricket Club re artificial turf in net area – A plan and risk assessment was circulated and discussed. Cllr. Hodge stated concerns about whether they complied with the ECB guidelines. Cllr. Deacon shared experience from Basketball England. Cllr. Armitage stated concerns about whether other people using it will be able to comply with the requirements. Cllr. Deacon suggested taking the nets out of use if not able to comply. Cllr. V Marchant suggested ECB rules are laminated and displayed. A vote was taken 7 voted for and 2 against.
- 18.3 Update on Newick Allotment Society – Cllr. Thew shared that the allotments are now open and that the owners of Cornwells bank site have been invited to join as members.

19. To discuss continued approach to COVID-19 outbreak – Cllr. Armitage spoke about awaiting next round of lockdown announcements.

20. Items for next agenda

- Co-option
- Use of Green
- Skate Park BD
- Mel Thew – Fingerpost
- Terms of reference Planning Committee

The meeting closed at 8.32 pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

Mrs E Reece, Clerk to the Council
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