

Newick Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 30th June 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)
Mr Ken Wrench (attended to be considered for Co-option)

An audio and visual recording was made of the meeting

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm

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. D Marchant declared an interest in the planning application ongoing in Vernons Road/The Rough if it was discussed in the Planning section
3. **Exclusion of the Press and Public** – None
4. **Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – None
5. **Co-option of up to two new councillors (if candidates have put themselves forward)** – This item was moved onto later in the meeting
6. **Report from Lewes District Councillor Roy Burman** – Cllr. Burman was not present
7. **Approval of draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 26th May 2020** – these were approved without amendment
8. **Planning:**
 - 8.1 Consideration of Planning Applications: there were none but Cllr. Wickens reported that the application on Vernon's Road/The Rough will be considered by LDC and a representation will be sent on behalf of Newick Parish Council via email to District Councillors on the Planning Committee and Cllr. Wickens will join the meeting virtually
 - 8.2 Approvals/Refusals etc.

It was noted that the following applications had been **approved** by Lewes District Council;

LW/20/0028 Rotherfield Farmhouse Lane End Common - Listed Building Consent Application for Retrospective application for the retention of new felt, graded battens and replacement tiles

LW/20/0125 and LW/20/0164 Springfield The Green- Planning Application for demolition of outbuilding and erection of extension to the east elevation

LW/20/0266 44 Oldaker Road - Planning application for a Single Storey rear extension together with associated internal and external alternations

It was noted that the following applications have been **refused** by Lewes District Council;

LW/20/0138 Sharpsbridge Farm, Sharpsbridge Lane – Planning Application for existing house and erection of new dwelling with associated car parking

- 8.3 Tree Works Applications - there were none
8.4 Update on Mitchelswood Farm Inquiry – Cllr. Wickens delivered an update on the Inquiry

A member of the public (Ken Wrench) joined the meeting at 19.10

- 8.5 Update on 55 Allington Road – Cllr. Wickens delivered an update on this application
8.6 To agree the revised Terms of Reference for the Planning Committee – A draft version of the revised Terms of Reference was circulated prior to the meeting and this was approved
8.7 To agree rota for Planning Resource for July, August and September – Cllr. Armitage agreed to cover July and it was agreed to add the August and September cover to the next agenda

Item 5 Co-option of up to two new councillors (if candidates have put themselves forward) – Mr Wrench put himself forward as a Councillor. Cllr. Thew proposed his co-option, Cllr. Wickens seconded and the Councillors voted unanimously to Co-opt Mr Wrench. Mr Wrench had been sent a Declaration of Acceptance of Office prior to the meeting and confirmed he had signed it and would complete a Register of Interest form and send a hard copy of both to the Clerk.

9. Clerk’s Report – To note report from Clerk including correspondence received in June 2020.

The following items were reported;

- Sports clubs correspondence
- Reedens Meadows
- Autumn Newsletter
- KGVPF use
- Newick.net website
- Use of the Green
- Mantell Close
- Flagpoles
- KGVPF gate

The Clerk also reported additional rubbish at the Playing Fields, Newick Common being formally adopted as a Local Wildlife Site. The large amount of policies outstanding for review (21) was also reported and it was agreed that the Clerk would email them out before July’s meeting for review.

10. Report by Clerk on any action taken under Delegated Powers in consultation with Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman. There were none

11. Financial Matters:

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

List of Payments made between 01/06/2020 and 30/06/2020

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
30/06/2020	AIR AMBULANCE	257548035	250.00		GRANT
30/06/2020	Barclays Debit Card	TOP UP	61.88		JUNE TOP UP
30/06/2020	Telefonica UK Ltd	DD	16.63		MOBILE PHONE RENTAL
30/06/2020	Newick Village Hall	333915587	320.00		GRANT
30/06/2020	Newick Church	447162699	400.00	Grants	Shimmy and Lunch Club
30/06/2020	D. Sankey Ltd	711367660	100.80		MOLE TRAPPING
30/06/2020	Lewes District Council	583552366	18.00		Monthly play inspections
30/06/2020	Lewes District Council	862196637	108.58		Bin emptying x4
30/06/2020	East Sussex Pension Fund	103430345	460.35		Pension Payments June
30/06/2020	HM Revenue & Customs	415641732	331.84		Tax & NI
30/06/2020	Mrs E Reece	917166056	1,349.14		Clerk's Salary
30/06/2020	Stephen Comber	971682056	240.00	Community Centre	Fence and bench repair
30/06/2020	J Bailey (Rootz)	195531183	84.95		Garden Trolley Rootz
30/06/2020	Peter Howes	264042088	472.50		Handyman June
30/06/2020	Peter Howes	6180516	9.06		Expenses - gate hinge

Total Payments 4,223.73

A payment for £288 to Treewise was a late submission and was approved and will also be authorised.

The following payments have already been made and were reported to the Council

List of Payments made between 01/06/2020 and 30/06/2020

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
30/06/2020	FABRICLAND	DC	45.85	FELT NOTICEBOARDS	FABRICLAND
30/06/2020	ROYAL MAIL	DC	1.64		POSTAGE AUDIT
30/06/2020	ZOOM VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS	DC	14.39		VIRTUAL MEETINGS SOFTWARE

Total Payments 61.88

11.2 To receive statement of performance against budget as at end May 2020 – This was received and there were no queries

11.3 To consider grant applications received (S. 137 LGA 1972) – There were none

11.4 To consider quotes (if received) for full tree inspection for 2020, fingerpost repair/replacement and replacement sign for Playground

A Tree Inspection quote from Nicolas Jones was considered and it was voted unanimously agreed to accept the quote.

The quote from Sussex Signs was considered and it was unanimously agreed to accept the quote. No quotes were received for fingerposts so this item would be added to the next meeting agenda.

12. Environment & Recreation;

12.1 To consider emails received from Newick Cricket Club, Newick Football Club and Newick Stoolball Club and reducing KGVPF income/outgoings deficit. Cllr. Thew discussed the background in the rent increase and the outgoings for the Playing Fields. The mole trapping program cost was discussed and it was agreed to suspend D Sankey's contract. It was unanimously agreed to waive rents for this

current year and to charge the planned increase (£350 Cricket Club, £300 Football Club, £100 Stoolball) for next season.

- 12.2** Skate park and bike track – Cllr. Deacon. Cllr. Deacon spoke about the skate ramp's future and whether the Sports Pavilion Redevelopment (SPR) would need to come first. Cllr. Thew stated that she felt that all the facilities would be reviewed as part of the SPR. Cllr. Thew said that she had noted it was well used in the village especially during the lockdown period. Cllr. Deacon raised concerns about its remaining life and whether it would wear out prior to the SPR. Cllr. Deacon agreed to investigate repairs and tarmacking the area. Cllr. Deacon then discussed a group of youths who built a bike park at a local farm without permission. The landowner is not averse to the idea of the Parish Council leasing a plot for a bike track to be created in the woods in Goldsbridge Farm. Cllr. Thew stated concerns about the location in the event of an accident and whether a skate park could be included. Cllr. Armitage asked how many children are currently using it, Cllr. Deacon stated that it was three children. Cllr. Deacon raised concerns about whether more children using it would cause an issue. Cllr. Wickens suggested that it could be a separate Youth Project in conjunction with, but separate to the Parish Council. It was agreed that Cllr. Deacon would go forward and research further.
- 12.3** To agree annual inspection of assets – Cllr. Thew discussed the process and templates. Cllr. Armitage and Deacon agreed to survey the estate and Green. Cllrs. Hodge, Thew and Wickens agreed to survey the Playing Fields using the templates that have been circulated.
- 12.4** To consider adding a metal net to the basketball hoop at KGVPF – Cllr. Deacon – The price of a chain is £8.99 and Cllr. Deacon agreed to install for free. It was unanimously agreed to install the chain.
- 12.5** To consider request for Ecology Survey on pond next to skate ramp – Cllr. Armitage and V Marchant stated their concerns about Great Crested Newts. Cllr. Wickens stated that in a previous survey no newts were found. It was agreed not to accept the invite for the survey. Cllr. V Marchant agreed to draft an email.
- 12.6** VHMC update including reschedule of renovation works – Cllr. B and T Whitlock stated that September would be the earliest for some hire use but potentially even later in the year for normal use. A cautious approach is being taken for the safety of users. Cllr. D Marchant raised concerns about the improvement work not being done during this time. Cllr. Thew asked about using alternative spaces for the Country Market e.g. marquees.
- 12.7** To discuss the timing of erecting the seasonal flag poles and agree which flags will be flown in line with the NPC flag policy – It was unanimously agreed to keep the policy unchanged and that the Clerk would order the replacement flags with express delivery and ask Matt Coppard to erect the poles.

13. Report from Cllr. Armitage on virtual LDALC AGM held on 9th June 2020 – Cllr. Armitage discussed the virtual meeting he attended and the concerns about LDC planning department. Cllr. Armitage agreed in the LDALC meeting that he would send a letter with concerns about the service. Cllr. Armitage put himself forward to be on the user services group and was elected.

14. Report from Cllr. T Whitlock regarding website accessibility – A document was circulated prior to the meeting regarding the current website and whether it agreed with the new website accessibility legislation changes. Cllr. T Whitlock gave examples of where small improvements could be made e.g. picture description for audio readers. Cllr. T Whitlock suggested that he liaise with the web developer for the newick.net website directly to discuss the issues and changes required – this was unanimously agreed. The Clerk agreed to send the password and link to see if this can be done in house.

15. To consider letter from Mr Keith Chapman and the issue of speeding on A272 – Cllr. Armitage agreed to draft a reply.

16. To discuss continued approach to COVID-19 outbreak and reopening of play area – Cllr. Hodge raised the issue of users of the play area following government guidelines. It was agreed the Clerk is to chase LDC risk assessment. Cllr. Thew stated she was looking forward to the playpark reopening but providing it was done safely and at the users own risk. Cllr. Wickens asked about the Allington Place and it was agreed for the Clerk to discuss the opening with them. It was agreed to put a post on Newick Talk stating that NPC is aiming to reopen the play area on the 4th July subject to LDC sending their risk assessment. When the LDC risk assessment has been received it was agreed to circulate to Cllrs. Armitage and Thew initially before sending to whole of Council.

17. Items for next agenda

- **Website Accessibility**
- **Fingerpost quotes**

- **Bike track/skate ramp**
- **Policies due for review**
- **Planning rota for August and September**

The meeting closed at 8.42pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

Mrs E Reece, Clerk to the Council
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