

Newick Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 26th October 2021 at the Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road, Newick

Present: Councillors C. Armitage, D. Marchant, A. Sippets, M. Thew, C. Wickens, B. Whitlock, T. Whitlock.

In Attendance: Emma Reece (Clerk)
Sue Berry (Locum Clerk)
2 members of public
Sgt Denham Vokins, Sussex Police

- 1. Apologies for Absence** – apologies had been received from Cllrs. B Hodge and V. Marchant. Apologies from Cllr. K Wrench were received by email after the meeting had started.
- 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** – There were none.
- 3. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – There was no reason to exclude the Press or members of the public from any part of the meeting.
- 4. To agree author and content of monthly Social Media update** – Cllr. Thew agreed to write this
- 5. Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** –

Member of the public 1 (MOP1) made the Parish Council aware of proposals by Gatwick Airport to bring a second runway into use and the impact that subsequent changes to the flight paths would have on Newick. He believed that, if the plans were to be approved, hundreds more aeroplanes each day would fly over Newick and that this may include night flights, making it unbearable for local residents. The Parish Council was urged to look into this matter and to respond to the public consultation which closes on 1st December 2021. MOP1 forwarded a link to the Clerk for circulation to councillors. Following some questions and discussion, a request was made for the matter to appear on the agenda for the next PC meeting.

Member of the public 2 (MOP2) raised two matters which appeared on the agenda for this meeting. The first was a request for permission to erect a banner on The Green to advertise the Christmas Fair and Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's Church (December 11th & 12th) – agenda item 20. The second was to ask for the Parish Council to take over responsibility for a new defibrillator recently purchased by Newick Lawn Tennis Club following medical emergency at the Club. The defibrillator is to be housed in a box on the outside of the club house and would be available for use by all residents, particularly those in the Blind Lane and Church Road area. The Club had arranged for regular inspection of the device but was requesting that the Parish Council should insure and maintain it in the same way as it does for other defibrillators around the village – agenda item 19.

It was agreed, in order to assist MOP2, that agenda items 19 and 20 should be brought forward.

19. To consider request for Newick Parish Council to maintain (but not to inspect) the new defibrillator at Newick Lawn Tennis Club – It was agreed that the Parish Council would maintain the new defibrillator at Newick Lawn Tennis Club.

20. To consider request for permission to have banner on The Green for the Tree Festival in December from Friday 26th November – It was agreed that permission should be given for a banner to be erected on The Green as requested, as long as care was taken not to block the sight lines of motorists approaching the A272 from The Green.

6. Co-option of up to one new councillor (if candidates have put themselves forward) – There were none.

7. Report from Sgt Denham Vokins, Neighbourhood Policing Team – Sgt Vokins advised the Parish Council that there had been an increase in the number of crimes being reported, particularly burglaries from outbuildings and garages in rural areas. He spoke about the ongoing investigation into the removal and destruction of a defibrillator in Newick. He reported that three suspects under the age of 18 were in the process of being interviewed about their involvement in this crime. There was discussion about the possible outcome of this case (community resolution) and that this may not meet the expectations of members of the local community who had been shocked by the incident. Members of the Parish Council gave details of drugs paraphernalia being found in public areas on a regular basis and an attack on a vehicle in Church Road. Sgt Vokins explained that, although it may appear that nothing was being done, this was not the case. The local policing team was reliant on reports from members of the public to build up a picture of what is happening and, even then, it may take more time for a response than might be expected by the public and this could be frustrating. There was discussion about how best to contact the local PCSO as the shift pattern she and her team worked meant that it was sometimes difficult to make immediate contact. Sgt Vokins advised that contact by email would be preferable as an 'out of office' message would appear giving details of when the PCSO would next be on duty. He stressed that in an emergency one should call 999 and that non-emergency matters could be reported either by phoning 101 or via the Sussex Police website. A request was made for the PCSO to communicate with the public via Newick Talk Facebook page.

It was noted that PCSO Rose Stainer and two of her colleagues would be bringing the Police Engagement van to Newick (King George V Playing Field) on Saturday 13th November between 4.00 and 7.30 p.m. for members of the public to visit and discuss or report any issues.

Sgt. Vokins left the meeting at 7.57 p.m.

It was agreed that, in order to assist MOP2, who was also a member of the Outdoor Gym Equipment Working Group, agenda item 16 would be brought forward.

16. Environment & Recreation

16.1 Skateboard Ramp Project – a report from the meeting of the working group held 30th September 2021 had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. It was reported that a member of the Village Hall Management Committee had been helpful in sharing their experience of making a successful bid for CIL funding from Lewes District Council, and that a useful meeting with the owner of Ketches had taken place regarding the proposals to replace the Skate Ramp on Manwaring Robertson field.

The Working Group was in contact with suppliers of Skate Ramp equipment and intended to visit a facility installed at Cuckfield as this may be similar to what was required at Newick.

16.2 Outdoor Gym Equipment – It was reported that a meeting had taken place with a supplier of Outdoor Gym Equipment and that quotations were being sought. Members of the Working Group were in the process of visiting other sites to gather ideas and the Clerk agreed to contact the Deputy Clerk of Seaford Town Council who may be of some assistance. **Action Clerk**

MOP2 left the meeting at 8.10 p.m.

16.3 Pavilion Development – There was nothing to report other than the fact that one signature was still required to complete the lease agreement.

16.4 Ongoing reports of anti-social behaviour and vandalism of Pavilion defibrillator

This matter had already been discussed earlier in the meeting when Sgt. Vokins was present (agenda item 7).

16.5 To discuss the pavement on The Green and agree what action to take – It was noted that many of the concrete slabs forming the pavement on south side of The Green had been damaged by large vehicles, but that East Sussex Highways did not consider that the damage was serious enough to make any repairs. Further research was required into alternative paving surfaces which would be more suitable in a conservation area and the costs involved.

16.6 Update from Newick Rootz – It was reported that Newick Rootz had resumed its monthly work days and had recently carried out some work at Newick Common, however it would not be holding as many meetings as in the past.

8. Report from Lewes District Councillor Roy Burman – Cllr. Burman had sent his apologies that he was unable to attend. There was no report.

9. Report from County Councillor Matthew Milligan – Cllr. Milligan had sent his apologies that he was unable to attend. There was no report.

10. Report from Member of Parliament Maria Caulfield – Maria Caulfield MP had sent her apologies that she was unable to attend. Her written report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted.

11. Approval of draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 28th September 2021 – These were considered and approved, subject to the correction of a typing error in paragraph 5.

12. Planning

12.1 Approval of draft minutes of the Planning Committee meeting 12th October 2021 – These were approved, subject to the correction of two typing errors in paragraph 3.

12.2 Applications;

<p>LW/21/0489</p>	<p>The Gables Goldbridge Road Demolition of existing garage/workshop and erection of 2 storey garage/ancillary accommodation.</p> <p>It was agreed to object to this planning application as the plans provided clearly show that the proposed garage replacement building would, in fact, be a new two storey dwelling with a pitched roof in the garden of the main dwelling. The reasons for objection are that the proposals are contrary to 1) Lewes Local Plan policy DM1 which seeks to restrict development outside the planning boundary, and 2) Newick Neighbourhood Plan policy H01.6 which states that the construction of additional homes in the gardens of Newick’s existing homes will not be supported.</p>
<p>LW/21/0773</p>	<p>14 West Point Demolition of single-storey extension and erection of two-storey side Extension</p> <p>It was agreed to make no comment on this planning application, other than to highlight the narrow access to the site which may cause difficulties with deliveries of materials etc. and to ask the Planning Authority to specify conditions with regards to permitted hours of work and access for large vehicles to prevent any unnecessary disturbance to neighbours. It was also unclear as to whether or not the increase floor space exceeded 100 sqm which would make it liable for a CIL contribution.</p>

Member of the public 1 left the meeting at 20.26

12.3 Approvals/Refusals etc. It was noted that the following application had been approved by Lewes District Council: -

Reference Number: LW/19/0563 Toad Hall, Lane End Common, North Chailey, East Sussex, BN8 4JH,	15/10/2021	Approved	Newick
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12.4 Tree Works Applications - There were none, however, it was noted that the large oak tree which stands at the junction of Oldaker and Powell Roads had recently had a tomograph inspection and that there were no works required to this tree at the present time.

12.5 Update on Woods Fruit Farm appeal – there was nothing to report.

In addition to the above items, Cllr Cathy Wickens reported that she had been contacted by Tondra Thom of Parker Dann planning consultants regarding the land to the rear of 45 Allington Road. Tondra was seeking a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss proposals for this site, however, as it was the policy of the Parish Council not to engage in discussions with property developers this request had been refused.

It was suggested that the Parish Council should reconsider its policy not to engage with developers and that this should appear as an item for discussion at a future meeting.

13. Clerk's Report – To note report from Clerks including correspondence received in October 2021.

This included:-

- 101 posters – updated posters to be provided by PCSO Rose Stainer
- Newick Colts
- Pavilion Lease
- Clerk annual leave
- Outdoor Gym Equipment – see also agenda item 16.2
- Defibrillator at the pavilion – see also agenda item 7
- Tennis Club defib – see also agenda item 19
- Village Hall grass bank – see also agenda item 15.6
- Community Centre hedge – this had been dealt with by the time of the meeting
- The seasonal flagpoles have come down and are now in storage.
- CCTV quotes – see also agenda item 15.5
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The following was also noted;

- Report of problem with sycamore tree in Oldaker Road. Treewise has inspected and recommended that tree should be felled. Locum Clerk to check that this is on PC land.

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

15. Financial Matters:

15.1 To authorise Schedule of Payments for October 2021 and arrangements for approving payments – it was agreed that Cllr. Armitage and Cllr. Sippetts would authorise the payments.

The following payments were authorised;

Time: 10:06

Unity Trust Bank

List of Payments made between 01/10/2021 and 31/10/2021

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
31/10/2021	Telefonica UK Ltd	DD	17.34		Mobile Phone monthly
31/10/2021	East Sussex Pension Fund	462451657	489.35		Pension Contributions
31/10/2021	Treewise Tree Services	948740825	1,068.00		Tree works B from survey
31/10/2021	HM Revenue & Customs	85602267	385.24		HM Revenue & Customs
31/10/2021	Mrs E Reece	85602267	1,442.16		Clerks Salary
31/10/2021	NACCA	290846216	300.00		Parish Office rent Oct/Nov/Dec
31/10/2021	East Sussex ALC Ltd	42329779	48.00		Brian Hodge Planning Course
31/10/2021	Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd	109528573	148.80	Annual licence	Accounting software
31/10/2021	Barcombe Landscapes Ltd	926453186	1,790.40		Barcombe Landscapes Ltd
31/10/2021	Barcombe Landscapes Ltd	1588855	1,584.00		Barcombe Landscapes Ltd
31/10/2021	Newick Sports Pavilion	100481100	38.00		Rootz room hire
31/10/2021	Peter Howes	118908972	231.00		Village Handyman
31/10/2021	Barclays Debit Card	554582186	124.14		Top up
31/10/2021	Nicolas Jones	395772366	360.00		Annual Oak Survey
Total Payments			8,026.43		

It was noted that the following payment had already been made;

Time: 10:23

Barclays Debit Card

List of Payments made between 01/10/2021 and 31/10/2021

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
31/10/2021	Amazon uk	DC	8.82		CCTV sign for defib

15.2 To receive statement of performance against budget as at end September 2021 – This was considered and noted.

15.3 To note quarterly bank reconciliation and VAT return – it was noted that the quarterly bank reconciliation and VAT reclaim had been completed.

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

15.5 To consider quotations received (if received) –

Quotations to upgrade the CCTV system at the Sports Pavilion and recreation ground had been received from PBI and Protect our Place. It was agreed to invite Protect our Place to a future meeting to discuss the Parish Council's requirements. **Action Clerk**

A quotation of £108 including VAT had been received from Treewise for the removal of a tree stump on The Green. It was agreed to accept this quotation.

A quotation of £360 including VAT had been received from Treewise for the dismantling and removal of the sycamore tree in Oldaker Road. It was agreed to accept this quotation subject to confirmation that the tree is on Parish Council controlled land.

15.6 To consider extending the Grounds Maintenance Contract to include the Village Hall Car Park bank at an additional cost of £150 per annum. It was agreed that the Parish Council's grounds maintenance contractors should be instructed to cut back the grass bank to the rear of the Village Hall car park twice a year and to remove the arisings if it could be agreed with the Village Hall Management Committee that they would waive the £100 annual storage fee charged to the Parish Council.

15.7 To note receipt of rent of £100 from Newick Allotment Society for the Cricketfield site – this was noted.

16. Environment & Recreation: Agenda items had been brought forward and considered earlier in the meeting.

17. Committees' and Councillors' Reports:

Newick Village Hall Management Committee (NVHMC) – The following items were reported:-
The Cinema would be starting again in November
Fundraising would be required for the redecoration of the hall
The insurance company had agreed a settlement in respect of a recent break-in
The existing caretakers would be retiring shortly, new caretakers had been engaged and Cllr. B. Whitlock would become the licensee.

18. Consultations: Consultation on Lewes District Council Local Connection Eligibility Test in the self-build and custom housebuilding register – It was agreed that Cllr Wickens would look at this consultation. **Action Cllr. Wickens**

19. To consider request for Newick Parish Council to maintain (but not inspect) the new defibrillator at Newick Lawn Tennis Club – This agenda item had been brought forward to be considered earlier in the meeting.

20. To consider request for permission to have a banner on the Green for the Tree Festival in December from Friday, 26th November 2021 – This agenda item had been brought forward to be considered earlier in the meeting.

21. To discuss Lloyds Chemist on The Green and concerns about service delivery – It was agreed that Cllr. Armitage would monitor and bring to a later meeting if necessary. **Action Cllr Armitage**

22. To consider plans for Queen's platinum jubilee celebrations 2022 – At the time of the meeting, there had been no feedback from local clubs and societies regarding their plans to celebrate HM Queen's platinum jubilee.

23. Items for next agenda

- Climate Change
- Public Consultation – Gatwick second runway and its possible impact on Newick
- Reconsideration of Parish Council's policy regarding engagement with property developers

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

Mrs E Reece, Clerk to the Council
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