

## Newick Parish Council

**Minutes** of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at the Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road, Newick

**Present:** Councillors C. Armitage, B.Hodge, D. Marchant, V.Marchant, A. Sippets, M. Thew, T Whitlock, C. Wickens, K.Wrench

**In Attendance:** Emma Reece (Clerk)  
A total of 6 members of public including County Councillor Matthew Milligan and DI Ingham

- 1. Apologies for Absence** – apologies had been received from Cllr. B Whitlock
- 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.

*Two members of the public arrived at 7.02pm bringing the total to 6*

- 4. To agree author and content of monthly Social Media update** – Cllr. Sippets agreed to write this.
- 5. Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** –

A member of the public (MOP1) spoke about the Newick Parish News magazine, giving an outline of what changes are launching in January and the opportunity to have one magazine, incorporating the Parish Council newsletter. MOP1 stated she would like to incorporate the two publications for the benefit of the village.

*Agenda item 20 was brought forward*

### **20. To consider content for January 2022 newsletter and plans for future editions**

A list of draft content was circulated before the meeting and this was agreed (articles to be with the Clerk by 17<sup>th</sup> December).

The Clerk gave an outline of the cost involved in being included in the Newick Parish News monthly magazine (£420 per annum). Cllr. Hodge said he didn't want to make a hasty decision regarding merging the Parish Council newsletter into the Parish News. He stated that at the moment the magazine does not cost the PC anything and does not see a major problem with having two publications.

Cllr. Wickens stated that she been on Council for many years and when the Parish Council had the old-style newsletter no one ever commented. Now she gets lots of positive comments about the content being useful.

Cllr. Thew stated that she didn't feel NPC should rush into this. She said she was all for saving paper but on other hand merging would mean paying £420 that NPC is not currently paying.

Cllr. D Marchant stated he would like to do more research and that the current Magazine NPC have is a good one.

Cllr. Wickens stated that she did not see what NPC gained by the merge.

Cllr. Armitage suspended standing orders briefly to allow a conversation with member of the public 2 about what reduction in cost to NPC might be available.

Cllr. Sippetts stated he would like more time to consider what options are.

Cllr. Armitage proposed that the NPC newsletter remained as it is, Cllr. Hodge seconded this motion. This motion was carried with 5 voting for and 3 against.

Cllr. Sippetts proposed that the matter was deferred until the new year, Cllr. T Whitlock seconded this motion. This motion was not carried with 3 voting for and 5 against.

It was resolved to make no changes to the existing NPC newsletter at present and to add to the agenda in 6 months time to look at again.

*Two members of the public left the meeting*

*Agenda item 10 was brought forward*

#### **10. Report from Justin Ingham District Inspector, Lewes District Neighbourhood Policing Team, Sussex Police**

DI Ingham gave an overview of his current role, experience and background and stated he was at the meeting because of concerns in the village. He gave an update on the investigation of the defibrillator vandalism and outlined the community resolution proposed. The Clerk shared with the Council that she had accepted the Community Resolution on behalf of the Council and that she had asked the people involved to attend defibrillator training. Councillors stated that they felt that anti-social behaviour was being ignored in the village, that the situation was frustrating and a number of examples were given. DI Ingham stated that new reporting tools would soon be launched by Sussex Police which would demonstrate how much time and resource was actually being allocated to Newick and gave some information on how the resources are currently prioritised.

Cllr. Armitatge thanked DI Ingham for his time.

*At 7.49pm DI Ingham and one other member of the public left the meeting.*

*Item 12 was brought forward*

- 12 Planning**
- 12.1 Approval of draft minutes of the Planning Committee meeting 9th November 2021** – These were approved.
- 12.2 Applications;**

<b>LW/21/0808</b>	<b>24 Church Road</b> Single storey rear extension  It was unanimously agreed to make <b><i>no comment</i></b>
<b>LW/21/0819</b>	<b>Font Hill Farm Font Hill</b> Conversion of existing barn to ancillary residential accommodation, construction of an annexe in lieu of the existing dilapidated cowshed, construction of a detached garage. Hard and soft landscaping works to suit the proposals, including new wall and gates to existing driveway and parking area Standing orders were suspended from 7.52pm – 7.54pm whilst the Chair asked for clarification on the timing of the bat survey from the applicant.

	It was unanimously agreed to make <b>no comment</b>
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At 7.55pm a member of the public and Cllr. T Whitlock left the meeting

**12.3 Approvals/Refusals etc.**

It was noted that the following application had been approved by Lewes District Council: -

- LW/21/0670 11 Harmers Hill - Proposed barn style double garage
- LW/21/0773 14 West Point - Demolition of single-storey extension and erection of two-storey side

It was also noted that the application for 1 Vernons Road had been withdrawn.

**12.4 Tree Works Applications**

It was noted that the following application had been consulted on:-

TW/21/0080/TCA - No comment

It was noted that the following tree works applications had been approved: -

- TW/21/0052/TPO - The Limes, Harmers Hill
- TW/21/0053/TCA - St Marys Church, Church Road

**12.5 To consider policy regarding engagement/communication with property developers** – It was unanimously agreed to continue not to engage with property developers.

**12.6 To note reply from Stephen Gauntlett dated 12th November and discuss proposed response** – A draft response has been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed to send the letter to Maria Caulfield and copy in Stephen Gauntlett.

Cllr. Hodge also noted that an additional 214 pages were submitted for the Telephone Exchange application after the consultation closed. Cllr. Hodge stated it is unacceptable to ignore the process and that he intended to write to Lewes District Council.

- 6. Co-option of up to one new councillor (if candidates have put themselves forward) –**  
There were none.
- 7. Report from Lewes District Councillor Roy Burman** – Mr Burman was not present and there was no report.
- 8. Report from County Councillor Matthew Milligan** – Mr Milligan apologised that this was the first meeting he had attended but intended to come to meetings going forward. He announced that £5.8 million would be spent on roads in East Sussex. He stated that ESCC has submitted the bus service improvement plan and for Newick the draft proposes that the 121 is an hourly service and then a dial a ride for evenings and weekends.
- 9. 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.
- 10. Report from Justin Ingham District Inspector, Lewes District Neighbourhood Policing Team, Sussex Police** – this matter was covered earlier in the meeting
- 11. Approval of draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021** – These were considered and approved.
- 12. Planning** – This item was covered earlier on in the meeting

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

**This included:-**

- 101 posters
- Incident at pedestrian crossing 3<sup>rd</sup> November
- Lease for Sports Pavilion
- Christmas office closure dates
- Fencing on the Green
- The bonfire society has replaced the turf on the green
- CCTV
- The Stump on the green has been removed
- LDC conservation officer

14. **Report by Clerk on any action taken under Delegated Powers in consultation with Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman** – The Clerk reported that there had been additional damage to the fence on the Green on bonfire night and that Stephen Comber was instructed to extend the planned repairs at an additional cost of £50. The Clerk also reported that the email from Hamsey PC offering use of the Santa's Sleigh had been forwarded to Clubs & Societies. The Clerk reported the acceptance of a Community Resolution earlier in the evening. The Clerk also reported that a small repair would be necessary on the playing field gate and that this work would be undertaken by Stephen Comber if he was available.

**15. Financial Matters:**

- 15.1 To authorise Schedule of Payments for November 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: 11:34

**Unity Trust Bank**

**List of Payments made between 01/11/2021 and 30/11/2021**

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
30/11/2021	M&M Services	681163595	72.00		Flagpoles taken down
30/11/2021	Lewes District Council	135992226	18.00		Play Inspection
30/11/2021	Mrs SE Berry	502012167	328.31		Locum Clerk
30/11/2021	Stephen Comber Fencing	404325241	350.00		Fence - Green and Comm Centre
30/11/2021	Qik Group Ltd	680903520	408.00		Portaloos Bonfire Night
30/11/2021	Telefonica UK Ltd	DD	16.86		Mobile bill
30/11/2021	East Sussex Pension Fund	537636332	489.35		Pension Contributions
30/11/2021	Mrs E Reece	944002715	1,442.16		Clerk Salary
30/11/2021	HM Revenue & Customs	563104458	385.04		Tax & NI
30/11/2021	Treewise Tree Services	814590116	468.00		Sycamore and Stump
30/11/2021	SLCC Enterprises Ltd	631044458	18.00		Training meeting 10/12/21
30/11/2021	Peter Howes	742232698	462.00		Village Handyman
30/11/2021	Lewes District Council	374362704	18.00		Play inspection for December
<b>Total Payments</b>			<b>4,475.72</b>		

- 15.2 **To agree arrangements for authorising payments for December 2021** – it was agreed that Cllr. Armitage and Cllr. Sippetts would authorise the payments.

- 15.3 **To receive statement of performance against budget as at end October 2021** – This was noted

- 15.4 **To consider Council budget 2022/23 and agree precept request to Lewes District Council** – The draft budget had been circulated before the meeting and was approved by Councillors. It was agreed to request a precept of £68,196.
- 15.5 **To consider grant applications received (S. 137 LGA 1972)** – there were none
- 15.6 **To consider quotations received (if received) including quotation for upgraded CCTV coverage for Newick Sports Pavilion** – It was agreed instruct Protect our Place to upgrade the pavilion CCTV as quoted. It was agreed this would be partially funded by CIL monies.
- 15.7 **To note completion of Clerk’s annual appraisal in October 2021** – This was noted

**16. Environment & Recreation:**

- 16.1 **To consider resuming face to face quarterly Environment & Recreation Committee meetings starting 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022** – It was agreed to resume these meetings
- 16.2 **Report from Cllr. Thew on C.I.L Training attended** – Cllr. Thew reported the minor changes that have been made since the last training she attended. Cllr. Thew reported that in January 2022 the expression of interest window would open with bidding opening in March, board meetings in June and decisions made at cabinet in July. Matched funding was discussed and the need for evidence of community engagement. Successful bids were looked at and the need to build in contingency. The Pavilion trust applying for CIL was discussed and the Clerk had contacted Andy Penfold to share some of the information from the training.
- 16.3 **Skateboard Ramp project update from Cllr. Thew** – Cllr. Thew consulted with Maverick for a bowl type quote. Cllr. Thew shared that the W.I. had contacted her and would like to make a donation towards Skate Park from the Walter Lacey money. Cllr. Thew also reported that she had looked at Cuckfield PC’s existing skate park and has contacted the contractor who installed that facility for a quote.
- 16.4 **Outdoor Gym Equipment update from Cllr. Thew** – Cllr. Hodge noted that Wivelsfield had similar equipment. Cllr Thew stated that the choice of machines would be key to link into Chailey Heritage advice so the facility was as inclusive as possible.
- 16.5 **Report from Cllr. Thew on meeting of NSPCT held 2/11/21 and update on Pavilion redevelopment** – Cllr. Thew outlined the issues with the condition of the existing Pavilion and the need to move the project forward.
- 16.6 **To consider email from A Mayes regarding erosion of the grass verges and The Green, including the condition of the wooden bollards on the High Street** – This matter was to be added to the E&R committee for February.

**17 Committees’ and Councillors’ Reports:**

- 17.1 **Newick Village Hall Management Committee (NVHMC)** – Cllr. B Whitlock – Cllr. B Whitlock was not present but Cllr. Armitage reported that Cllr. T Whitlock resigned from the committee as vice chair with Cllr. B Whitlock to have voting rights on the committee.
- 17.2 **LDALC meeting** – Cllr. Armitage reported he had asked a question about notification for planning application outcomes and that at the LDCALC meeting Lewes Bus depot redevelopment was also discussed.
- 17.3 **Focus Group** – Inland Lewes Area, Sussex Police – Cllr. Armitage attended this meeting with two communication directors and reported that it was interesting. An increase in precept for the police commissioner was discussed.
- 17.4 **Newick Rootz** – Cllr. Wickens reported that 22<sup>nd</sup> November 6c from Millwood to Cornwells Bank was worked on during the most recent work day. Footpath 7 from Millwood to Tilehouse farm was also cleared as was footpath 16, down to the bridge.

**18 Consultations:**

- 18.1 **Waste and minerals Local Plan** – Cllr. V Marchant stated she will complete by 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and that the process that has been going on for many years with the nearest site at Hamsey Old Lakes in Chailey.
- 18.2 **Northern Runway public consultation Gatwick Airport (closes 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021)** – Cllr. Armitage stated that this consultation was put out to the village and it was agreed that the Parish Council would not get involved in the matter further.

- 19 To consider plans for Annual Parish Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022** – It was agreed to keep same format but without food due to covid concerns. It was agreed to review at the end January from a covid perspective to see if the event could go ahead.
- 20 To consider content for January 2022 newsletter and plans for future editions** – this was covered earlier in the meeting.
- 21 To discuss incident on 19<sup>th</sup> November on the footpath linking Vernons Road/The Rough and consider what action is appropriate** – the incident was noted, and it was agreed that no further action would be taken.
- 22 To consider plans for Queen’s platinum jubilee celebrations 2022** – It was noted that very few societies had shown an interest in being involved in celebrating this.
- 23 To discuss climate change – Cllr. V Marchant** – It was agreed to add this to next agenda and move the matter earlier in the agenda items
- 24 Items for next agenda** – there were none other than those already mentioned above.

The meeting closed at .9.15pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

Mrs E Reece, Clerk to the Council  
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