

## 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 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022 at 7 p.m.

**Present:** Cllrs. C. Armitage, V Marchant, M. Thew (Chair), C. Wickens and K. Wrench

**In Attendance:** Mrs S. Berry, Locum Clerk

An audio recording was made of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – No apologies had been 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.** – There were no disclosures.
3. **Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – There were no members of the public present at the meeting.
4. **Update on Newick Sports Pavilion Meeting** - Cllr. Thew reported the last Sports Pavilion Committee meeting had been held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022 attended by Cllrs. Wickens and Wrench. The minutes of that meeting had not yet been received. It was agreed that a request should be made for an urgent meeting of the Sports Pavilion Development Committee to agree on a timeline for the new pavilion project. Cllr. Thew agreed to try to set up a meeting. **Action Cllr. Thew**
5. **Update on Skate Park** – It was noted that the planning application for the replacement skate park facility was currently in its public consultation phase and that there had been twenty supportive comments on the planning portal. To date, there had been no negative comments published. According to dates published on the portal, the target date for completion of the application is 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022. Cllr. Thew confirmed that nearby residents had been kept informed of the progress of the planning application.
6. **Update on Outdoor Gym Equipment** – Cllr Thew reported that she had received some feedback from the Clerk of Wivelsfield Green Parish Council regarding the outdoor gym equipment installed on the recreation ground there. The equipment was reportedly popular and well used. Wivelsfield PC had installed moving rather than static equipment (such as bars) with a bonded mulched rubber surface. Cllr. Thew has details of the supplier and will arrange a site visit to Wivelsfield Green. **Action Cllr. Thew**
7. **Open Morning 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022** – Cllr. Thew confirmed that plans were in hand for the public consultation open morning to be held at the Sports Pavilion on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September. She asked for as many parish councillors as possible to attend. Cllr. Marchant had been in touch with OVESCO (a Lewes based community renewable energy company) and it was hoped that they would be able to attend.
8. **Paving on the Green** – Cllr. Armitage reported that he was in the process of obtaining a second quote for paving on The Green and that he would report to the next meeting.
9. **Other maintenance issues including wetpour surface in play area** –
  - It was noted that the wetpour surface in the play area had been patch repaired by a local trades person which would allow the play area to stay open during the school summer holidays. A sustainable solution for the whole area was still being investigated.

- The LDC monthly play area inspection report had been circulated to the committee, most of the issues raised were already in hand.
- Cllr. Wickens had sought advice on routine maintenance to the Diamond Jubilee Oak tree on the recreation ground and she reported that Rootz would carry out the work on their next work day.
- It was noted that the annual inspection of Parish Council assets and equipment had been carried out and the reports were in the process of being compiled for consideration at the Parish Council meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> August.
- Cllr. Armitage reported concern over the condition of the bench on The Green underneath the large oak tree. It was agreed that the village handy person should be asked to carry out an urgent inspection and advise on whether or not the bench should be disabled to prevent it from being used. **Action Clerk**
- Locum Clerk reported that the meter for water supply to recreation ground is covered in vegetation and cannot be accessed. Cllr. Wickens advised that Rootz would clear the area on their next work day (17<sup>th</sup> August). **Action Cllr. Wickens**
- Cllrs. Thew and Wickens reported on a meeting with the contractor who maintains the cricket square. They had discussed the dumping of grass cuttings at the edge of the recreation ground and a possible solution for this. The Clerk was asked to contact the contractor to obtain a quote for clearing the dumped grass cuttings, nettles and rubble from beside the sheds at KGVPF and for supplying 3 x wooden compost bays for future use. **Action Clerk**
- Following above meeting, concern was expressed at items being stored and manner of storage in cricket groundsperson's shed. Cllr. Thew agreed to raise this issue with the Chair of the Pavilion Management Committee and the Clerk was asked to arrange a fire safety inspection from the Fire Brigade. **Action Cllr. Thew and Clerk**

**10. Newick Allotments including lease** – Cllr. Marchant highlighted that the current lease for the allotment land at Cornwells Bank would expire in December 2023 and it was not clear as to whether or not the landowners would be willing to renew it. It was agreed that options would be explored. **Action Cllr. Marchant**

**11. To discuss plans for planting an Oak tree to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee at KGVPF** – It was agreed to seek advice from Cllr. David Marchant on the purchase and planting of an Oak tree on King George V Playing Field in the place of the Rowan tree which is now dead. Tree to be sourced from English Woodlands at Heathfield. It was noted that a robust system of watering would need to be in place in order to ensure that the tree survives.

**12. Autumn Village Litter pick event** – It was agreed to try to get Newick Primary School involved with the autumn litter pick by holding it on their 'break out' morning in October. It was also suggested that, dependant on the weather and ground conditions, the removal of the Rowan tree and planting of the Platinum Jubilee Oak tree could take place on the same day to give added interest for the school pupils. Clerk to contact School to discuss feasibility of this proposal. **Action Clerk**

**13. Items for next agenda** - Proposal for boulders to be placed on the Green to prevent parking by large vehicles (Cllr. Armitage)

*Meeting closed at 7.55 pm*

Signed: .....

Dated:.....

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