

NEWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF THE ABOVE-NAMED PARISH HELD ON TUESDAY, 8TH MAY, 2012 AT THE SPORTS PAVILION, KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD ALLINGTON ROAD NEWICK COMMENCING AT 5.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr. Mrs. Jenny Smerdon (Chairman for this Committee)
Cllr. Ross Houghton (Vice-Chairman for this Committee)
Cllr. Cris Allen
Cllr. Mrs. Jean Sheppard
The Clerk Mrs. Linda Farmer

1. **APOLOGIES:** There was one apology Cllr. John Lucas.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** There were no Declarations of Interest.
3. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:** There were no questions. No members of the public were present.
4. **ACTION TAKEN BY THE CLERK AND THE CHAIRMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE:**
 - Village Maintenance** – The Clerk had received notice about what work could be done by the team. The following work had been reported to the Highways Maintenance to be carried out:- Overhanging hedges, kerb stones, fencing at on the roadway at Newick Hill
 - Flags for Newick Green** – Now up.
 - Signs “Deer Warning” signs at little Bridge on Newick Hill** The Clerk will chase this request up.
 - Fingerpost at the bottom of the narrow road at Fonthill** – This had been reported to ESCC Highways Department however the Clerk was given permission to get a quote for replacing this fingerpost.
5. **PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HIGH STREET GRASS VERGE:** This matter had been discussed at the Strengthening Local Relationships Meeting with ESCC. As it was understood at the moment the Section 106 money could not be used for this project. The Clerk was asked to try to see what funding may be available and to speak to the planners at LDC to see if Planning Permission was requested. Regarding the comments made by ESCC to the plans these would need to be addressed should funding be obtained and if planning permission was required. It was noted that over £2000.00 had been pledged by residents living along High Street towards this project.
The Clerk was trying to arrange a site meeting with Mrs. Teresa Ford Senior Transport Development Control Officer for ESCC to discuss the use of Section 106 monies for transport.
At the SLR Meeting it was confirmed that the implementation of “Double Yellow Lines” at Newick Hill was in hand.
6. **NEWICK GREEN:**
 - Grass** – The Green on the area in front of Snells had been re-instated after the Circus had used the area which had been badly rutted. The Circus owner had paid Barcombe Landscapes for this work to be carried out.
 - Resolved:** To wait and see how the area responded to the work carried out.
For the Green to have a feed put on it as soon as possible.
The Fair had been postponed for a couple of months to give the area a chance to recover.
Grass cutting in general – The Clerk was asked to report to Barcombe Landscapes that it was felt that this was not up to its usual standard.
The Clerk was asked to speak to ESCC Highways Department asking when a spray was going to be put along the edges of the roadways to stop the weeds growing through the tarmac.
 - Hardstanding:** This had now been re-laid satisfactorily
Regarding the area directly in front of SVS stores, a further letter had been sent asking for the repair work to the tiles to be completed by the end of May.
 - Bus Shelter:** It was agreed that the Environment Committee would meet on Thursday, 24th May at 2.00 p.m. to give the bus shelter a good clean.

Kerbs around the Green: It was noted that this had been discussed with Mr. Johnson at the Strengthening Local Relationships meeting who was looking at the problem and would report back in due course.

7. **EAST SUSSEX STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS MEETINGS:** Minutes of this meeting were circulated. A couple of corrections were noted which the Clerk would deal with. The Chairman felt that this meeting had been beneficial and was happy that further meeting were being arranged.

It was noted by Mr. Johnson that Church Road needed re-surfacing work as did Allington Road as soon as possible. ESCC were going to confirm that these two roads were on the list for work to be done.

Verges – This had been discussed at the above meeting and the comments noted.

Vehicle Activated Sign – A272 – Mr. Johnson had informed the Committee that this had been realigned.

8. **SPEEDING DRIVERS:** It was noted that Buxted Parish Council were happy for Newick Parish Council to use the Speed Gun with training from the police on how to use it and subject to a small annual cost. The Committee recommended that the Parish Council proceed with this and take up the offer of Cllr. Armitage to manage this scheme. The Clerk was asked to check the age limit of those that could be involved.

Gated effect to entrance of village similar to Lindfield and Maresfield – This idea had been discussed at the ESCC SLR Meeting when it was noted that if the Parish Council supported this proposal it would have to pay for the materials, installation and insurance. It was agreed to recommend to the Council that the Committee request support for this proposal. Some photos of the format would be taken so that quotes could be obtained. The Clerk would also seek information on construction of these from ESCC Highways Department.

9. **WILD FLOWER PLANTING:** The Chairman reported that she had received the names of ten people who were prepared to be part of a group supporting these proposals.

It was suggested that the Committee seek Council's approval for the following areas not be mowed to see what grew:-

The area in front of the wall to the Community Centre, the area running alongside the fencing in the twitten by the side of the Health Centre, the area from the pond to westward to the start of footpath in the Manwaring Robertson Field.

It was further agreed to recommend that the Council continue to support a green policy and only use natural feeds and fertilizers to help protect the wildlife.

It was noted that on the verge adjoining Newick Drive opposite the shops had the Common Orchid growing on it. Both Barcombe Landscapes and the occupier of Newick Drive had been asked not to cut the grass on this area until flowering was over.

12. **ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO THE NEXT AGENDA:**

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next scheduled meeting was to be held in August.

Overhanging Hedges – The Clerk was to write to ESCC concerning a number of hedges which were overhanging the pavements in the village.

The meeting closed at 6.05 p.m.

Signed: Dated:.....

L. M. FARMER *Clerk to the Parish Council*

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