

NEWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee of Newick Parish Council held at the Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road, Newick on Tuesday 12th November 2013 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. R. Houghton, Mrs. J Sheppard, and Mrs. J Smerdon (Chairman of this committee)

In Attendance: Mrs. S. Berry (Clerk)

- 1. Apologies for Absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given -** Apologies had been received from Cllrs. C. Allen (work commitments), N. Berryman (prior engagement), and Mrs. DJ Sprackling (illness) . It was resolved to approve the reason given for absence.
- 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 –** No disclosures were made.
- 3. Questions or Statements by Members of the Public –** No members of the public were present.
- 4. Consideration of mowing contract for 2014/15 –** Details of the prices quoted by the Council's existing contractors for 2014/15 had been circulated in advance. The Clerk was asked to obtain further information as to how much the contractors would charge to cut the area of grass in front of the Community Centre car park and the edges of twitten leading from High Street to Leveller End 12 times a year instead of the current 6 times. The Clerk was also asked to check how often the site between Vernons Road and The Rough is cut, how much it would cost for additional cuts, and details of when fertilizer was applied to The Green. It was agreed to recommend to the Council that the quotation supplied by the existing contractors i.e. a 2% reduction in the cost of the contract for placement of a three year contract, should be accepted on the grounds that this represented good value for money and provided future certainty.
- 5. Update on Japanese Knotweed –** The Clerk reported that the Japanese Knotweed already identified had recently been treated and that a further infestation beside Bridleway 16 (Cockfield Lane) had also been brought to her attention. The Clerk had reported this to ESCC Rights of Way department and it was agreed that an advice letter should be sent from the Parish Council to the landowner.
- 6. Update on request for School Crossing Patrol –** There had been no progress on this item. Cllr. Mrs Smerdon advised that she would speak to the Head Teacher of Newick Primary School. The possibility of imposing a 20 mph speed limit near to the school was discussed and it was agreed that this should be put on the agenda for the forthcoming SLR meeting.
- 7. Update on kerbing works to The Green -** The Clerk reported that she had spoken to ESCC and been advised that the work would be done before Christmas. It seemed likely that there would be about £2,000 remaining from the S.106 transport money after the work had been completed. The committee recommended that this should be used for landscaping work which had previously been omitted from the contract.
- 8. Condition of The Green following Newick Bonfire Celebrations –** It was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to Newick Bonfire Society for clearing up The Green so promptly, and stating that the Parish Council looked forward to seeing the turf reinstated when conditions permitted.
- 9. Overhanging trees, hedges and shrubs –** It was agreed that councilors would send details of any overhanging trees, hedges or shrubs to the Clerk and that the list would be passed to ESCC Highways at the SLR meeting.
- 10. Damaged Road Signs -** The Clerk reported that Lewes District Council and ESCC had been made aware of damaged street and road signs at Newick Drive, Paynters Way, and Allington Road.

11. Proposal from resident to move location of westbound bus stops – The proposal from a resident to combine the westbound bus stops on the A272 near to the telephone box was considered. ESCC Transport Department and Compass Travel had been consulted but had rejected the proposal for safety reasons. It was agreed that no further action would be taken.

12. Items for the agenda of the SLR Meeting to be held on 6th December 2013 –
Overhanging hedges
Proposal for 20 mph speed limit outside the primary school
Leaves and debris on the pavements
Confirmation of responsibility for reinstating damaged verges

The meeting closed at 8.05 p.m.

Signed:

Dated:.....