

NEWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council Playing Fields Committee held at the Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road on Tuesday, 10th September, 2013 at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors: C. Armitage, Mrs J. Smerdon,
Mrs DJ Sprackling, Mrs M. Thew, and Mrs C. Wickens.
In Attendance: Mrs. S. Berry (Clerk)

- 1. Apologies for Absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given** – 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** – In connection with agenda item 6 Cllr. Mrs Sprackling declared that she was a Vice President of Newick Rugby Club and that her husband was the chairman of the Club.
- 3. Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – No members of the public were present.
- 4. Skateboard Area** – Cllr. Armitage reported on a meeting with Mark Grace of Monster Play who had given preliminary advice on upgrading and relocating the skate park. It was noted that Monster Play had subsequently supplied a quotation in the region of £60,000 for removing the existing skate park and supplying new equipment in a different location. It was also noted that current regulations required the skate park to be a minimum of 30 metres from any dwelling and 20 metres from the boundary of any neighbouring property. It was agreed that measurements should be taken to establish the distance between the existing skate park and properties in Allington Place. The Clerk was asked to establish the time constraints involved if S106 funding were to be used towards the cost of this project.

It was also noted that the Sports Pavilion Management Committee had long term plans to relocate the Sports Pavilion and that this might affect the location of the skate park. It was agreed that a letter should be drafted to the Sports Pavilion Management Committee urging them to consult with Mr and Mrs Sharpe at an early stage. The Clerk was asked to check the Trust document relating to the Manwaring Robertson Field for details of any restrictive covenants which might affect the building of a new pavilion.

- 5. Inspections of Play Area and Skateboard Area** – It was reported that the Annual Inspection of the Play Area and Skateboard Area had taken place in July but that the reports and invoice had still not been received from Lewes District Council. It was noted that the Village Handy Person had received basic training from Lewes District Council on what to look for when inspecting play equipment and that she would be carrying out weekly visual inspections. The Clerk was asked to arrange for any problems noted on these inspections to be rectified.

Agenda item 8 - Consideration of complaint from residents in Allington Place about noise from chime bars in play area. This item was brought forward and it was agreed that the hammer and chain should be removed from the chime bars to prevent further noise nuisance. The Clerk was asked to write to the residents of Allington Place who had complained in order to advise them that action was being taken to resolve the problem.

- 6. Risk Assessment/Inspection of Playing Fields** – It was noted that Cllrs. Armitage, Mrs Thew and Mrs Wickens had carried out an inspection of the recreation ground and rugby field on 21st June and that the risk assessment document had been updated with their findings. Cllr. Mrs Sprackling reported that the Rugby Club's scrummage machine was still outside because the newly erected storage shed had been filled with the Cricket Club's equipment and there was no room for it. This issue was the subject of discussion between the two clubs.

The proposed designs for new signs for the Play Area and Skate Park were approved, subject to amended wording about ball games against the fence on the Play Area sign and confirmation as to whether or not there is still a public telephone near the Community Centre car park. It was agreed that a recommendation should be made for the purchase of aluminium signs at a cost of £73 + VAT.

It was agreed that the current signage on the end of the Scout Hut was untidy and should be updated, preferably on one sign. The Clerk was asked to look for ideas as to how this could be achieved.

7. **Consideration of request from Cricket Club for speed control measures to be implemented at King George V Playing Field** – It was agreed that there should be some warning for drivers bringing their vehicles on to the recreation ground that they were passing a children's play area and to reduce their speed. It was agreed that a letter should be drafted to be sent to all users of the sports pavilion and recreation ground reminding them of their responsibilities when bring vehicles on to the recreation ground, and that the Sports Pavilion Management Committee should be asked to provide a portable warning sign which could be put out by clubs when their members and visitors bring vehicles on to the recreation ground.
8. **Consideration of complaint from residents in Allington Place about noise from chime bars in play area** – This item was dealt with under item 5 above.
9. **Items for the next agenda** – There were no items for the next agenda

The Meeting Closed at 7.20 p.m.

Signed.....Dated.....