

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 June, 2014 at 7.25 p.m.

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

- 1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for this committee** – It was agreed that Cllr. Mrs Sprackling would be the Chairman and Cllr. Armitage the Vice Chairman for this committee.
- 2. Apologies for Absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given** – No apologies had been received.
- 3. 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.
- 4. Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – No members of the public were present.
- 5. Skateboard Area** – A draft letter in response to emails received from residents of Allington Place was considered and amended. It was agreed that the amended version should be sent to Mr Balloch and Mr Shorter.

Consideration was given to the wording suggested by Cllr. Jago for a sign in the area of the Skate Park. It was agreed that this would have little impact on the perpetrators of antisocial behaviour and that committee members would carry out research with a view to presenting an alternative design for approval by the Parish Council.

- 6. Provision of new recreational facilities** – Cllr. Mrs Sprackling updated the committee on the response to preliminary consultation on the proposals for new play equipment. It was noted that there had been no response from any of the sports clubs, however, several residents in the Church Road area had put forward objections to the proposed play trail. Some of the issues raised by the residents had also been reinforced by one of the companies tendering for the work. In view of this response, the sub committee had revised its plans. The new proposals, which were supported by the Playing Fields Committee, involved additional changes to play equipment in the existing play area, including the replacement of the central multiplay unit, the placing of an outdoor table tennis table in the area between the Sports Pavilion and the play area, and the installation of fitness equipment for adults/teenagers near to the youth shelter. The tendering companies had been consulted and would produce designs and suggested layouts. It was agreed that the designs, when received, should be considered first by the Playing Fields committee and then put out for wider consultation.
- 7. Consideration of request for 'no ball games' sign to be erected in the fenced play area** – It was noted that several residents of Allington Place whose gardens backed on to the play area had written to complain about footballs landing in their gardens and causing damage. It was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that a 'no ball games' sign should be erected inside the play area.
- 8. Consideration of request for adult recreation equipment to be provided** – It was noted that an email had been received asking for adult recreation equipment to be provided. This had already been covered in item 6 above and it was noted that any such equipment would be suitable for use by both adults and teenagers.
- 9. Repair and Maintenance issues** – Comments made by the Lewes District Council playground inspector following the inspection carried out on 22nd May 2014 were noted. It was agreed that no action would be taken regarding the height of the signs for the play area and skate park until after the annual independent inspection had been carried out. The comments

regarding the litter bin and bench would be addressed as part of the play area upgrade.

It was noted that Cllr. Jago had raised some issues including the gaps in the boundary hedge alongside Church Road, the floodlight which is reportedly directed towards properties in Church road, and the long grass in the rugby field. It was agreed that these would be checked as part of the forthcoming inspection.

10. Arrangements for Inspection of Playing Fields by members of the Committee -

It was agreed that committee members would carry out an inspection of the King George V Playing Field and Manwaring Robertson Field at 6.30 p.m. on Friday 18th July. The Clerk was asked to produce a template document for the inspection

11. Items for the next agenda – It was agreed that the following item should be included on the next agenda:-

Reconsideration of previously rejected plans for the Church Road gate area

The Meeting Closed at 8.35 p.m.

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