

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 11th March, 2014 at 7.55 p.m.

Present: Councillors: Mrs J. Smerdon, Mrs DJ Sprackling, and Mrs C. Wickens (Vice 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 Cllr. C Armitage (work commitments) and Cllr. Mrs Thew (prior family engagement). It was resolved to approve the reasons given for these absences.
- 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. Skateboard Area Update –** The Clerk reported that following the previous playing fields committee meeting an attempt had been made to set up a meeting with the Skateboard User Group, however, only one person had responded to the email. It seemed that previous members of the user group no longer used the facility and a new group of youngsters were involved. It was noted that Cllr. Armitage had spoken to some of the skate park users and that they had complained that one of the nearby residents had sworn at them on several occasions. PSCSO Sally-Anne Reed had been asked to monitor the area and she had reported that there had been no incidents and no reports to the police for some considerable time.

Cllr. Armitage had drafted an article about antisocial behaviour by skate park users to be included in the Parish Council newsletter, however, it was agreed that this would be likely to upset and alienate parishioners and that the article should be rewritten in a more positive way. It was suggested that the opportunity could be taken to ask people to come forward to form a new skateboard user group.

Cllr. Mrs Sprackling reported that she had spoken to Chris Bibb at Lewes District Council and he had confirmed that he would be happy to meet with councillors to discuss the way forward for the skateboard facility.

The Clerk reported that she had asked Lindsey Baker to fill the cracks in the concrete surface of the skate park, however, Mr Baker had advised that the surface had moved and simply filling the cracks would not resolve the problem. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Lewes District Council to ask for some advice on how to deal with this problem.

- 5. Provision of new recreational facilities and pathways –** Cllr. Mrs Sprackling updated the committee on the progress of the sub group. Notes from the sub group meeting held on 3rd March 2014 had been circulated in advance and Cllr. Mrs Sprackling had redrawn the plan showing the proposed location for pathways and new play equipment. It was confirmed that Cllr. Mrs Sprackling would prepare a summary of the sub group's proposals for approval by the Parish Council at the meeting on 25th March.

It was reported that a preliminary site meeting had taken place to discuss the proposal to create a memorial walk on the southern boundary of the Manwaring Robertson Field. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Mr and Mrs Sharpe to ask for a meeting in order to discuss the proposal with them. Once it had been established that there would be no objection from Mr and Mrs Sharpe, other nearby residents and the Rugby Club would be consulted.

6. Repair and Maintenance issues –

It was reported that the new parts for the roundabout had been ordered but that, as these were manufactured to order, it would take 4-6 weeks from the date of order (28th February) for the repair to be completed.

It was agreed that Barcombe Landscapes should be asked to plant new hedging in the gap that had appeared on the Church Road boundary of the King George V Playing Field.

It was agreed that the Sports Pavilion Management Committee should be asked to remove the metal stakes near to the front of the pavilion. It was recognised that these had been placed there in order to try to protect the grass, however, the committee considered that they were a potential hazard to people using the path in front of the pavilion.

7. Review of the Conditions of Hire for KGV Playing Field and Manwaring Robertson Field – It was recommended that there should be no change to this document.

8. Items for the next agenda – It was agreed that the following items should be included on the next agenda:-
Update on Play Facilities and Pathways project
Update on Skate Park

The Meeting Closed at 8.25 p.m.

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