

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 10th February 2015 at 7.35 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. C. Allen, R. Houghton, G. Parker, 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 Cllr. N. Berryman (pressing family commitment). It was resolved to approve the reason for this 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 at this meeting.
4. **Overhanging hedges and vegetation** - It was agreed that a survey of overhanging hedges and vegetation needed to be carried out and that the easiest way of achieving this would be to ask councillors to report any problems that they noticed whilst out delivering flyers for the Neighbourhood Plan referendum. It was agreed that the Village Handy Person would be asked to cut back the hedge growing near to the electricity sub-station in Powell Road.
5. **Damaged Verges** - It was noted that there were a number of seriously damaged grass verges around the village. It was agreed that the worst areas should be identified and an approach made to East Sussex County Council for advice on how best to renovate these areas, possibly using volunteers from the village to do the work.
6. **Debris on Footpaths** – It was noted that there was a lot of debris on the pavements in certain parts of the village, particularly Church Road and Western Road. The Clerk advised that Lewes District Council (LDC) was responsible for street cleaning and it was agreed that the worst areas should be identified and LDC would be asked to send a team to clear them.
7. **Village Green** – The Clerk was asked to check with Barcombe Landscapes as to whether or not the Green had been fed/fertilized in the autumn of 2014 and whether this would happen again in the spring. It was agreed that Barcombe Landscapes should be asked to take a look at the strip of grass near to the Bull Inn sign where the concrete path had been taken up and give advice on how this could be improved.
8. **Shrubs around Community Centre Car Park** – It was noted that the hedge around the Community Centre Car Park needed to be cut back and agreed that members of the committee would undertake this themselves. The Clerk agreed to carry out a risk assessment for this work and check the insurance implications. The proposed date for carrying out the work was 8th March 2015.
9. **Re-seeding of ground after work on PC land at Oldaker Road** – It was noted that the recent removal of a hedge and erection of a close board fence to the rear of 2 Allington Road had left behind a bare patch of ground. It was agreed that the householder should be asked to re-seed the area. It was also agreed to consider planting bulbs in this area later in the year.
10. **Wild Flower sowing to twitten areas** – It was proposed that the grassed area at the northern end of the twitten leading between High Street and Oldaker Road (footpath 21) should be sown with wild flower seed. It was agreed to consult with East Sussex County Council as this land belonged to them.
11. **Complaint about garden refuse bag on Parish Council land between Vernons Road and The Rough** – The Clerk advised that she had received a complaint about a large garden refuse bag on Parish Council land adjacent to 36 The Rough. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the householder asking for this to be removed.

- 12. Renovation of fingerpost on The Green and survey of other fingerposts in the parish** - It was reported that a site meeting had taken place with Mr Anderson whose quotation for renovating the fingerpost on The Green had previously been accepted. Mr Anderson had since submitted a revised quotation of £120 which included replacing one of the fingers. It was agreed to accept this quotation. Cllr. Allen reported that he had started to survey the fingerposts in the outlying areas of the parish and would submit his report in due course.
- 13. Damaged post on The Green**
It was agreed that Lindsey Baker should be asked to reinstate the post on the south eastern part of The Green which had been damaged and that he should also be asked to remove splintered edges from other posts on The Green.
- 14. Litter Bin removed from beside Post Office** – It was reported that Lewes District Council had removed the litter bin from beside the Post Office at the request of the land owner. Cllr. Allen had suggested some possible alternative locations and it was agreed to suggest to LDC that they should consider re-siting the bin where the telephone box had previously been located.
- 15. Report from Speed Watch Team** – It was reported that the Speed Watch Team had been unable to use their new speed monitoring equipment because the training had not yet taken place. It was hoped that this would be addressed in the very near future.
- 16. Items for the next agenda** – It was noted that District Councillor Jim Sheppard had taken up Mrs Robert's request for a traffic mirror to be placed on Church Road and proposed that this should be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.22 p.m.

Signed:

Dated:.....