

Newick Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 30th June 2015 in the Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road, Newick.

Present: Councillors C. Allen, N. Berryman (Chairman of the Parish Council), M. Halsey, J. Sheppard, J. Smerdon, M. Thew, and C. Wickens.

In Attendance: Mrs S. Berry (Clerk)
District and County Councillor Mr. J. Sheppard
Three members of the public were present

An audio recording was made of the meeting

- 1. Apologies for Absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given:** – Apologies had been received from Cllrs. C. Armitage, B. Horsfall, R. Houghton, and C. Jago. Cllr. J. Smerdon had sent apologies that she may arrive late.
- 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. Exclusion of the press and public** – It was agreed that there were no items on the agenda that would require the exclusion of the press and public.
- 4. Questions or Statements by Members of the Public**
Mr Wickens, on behalf of Loxfield Masonic Lodge, stated that he had great pleasure in presenting to the Parish Council cheques totalling £1200 towards the play area upgrade project. He was thanked by members of the Parish Council.

Mr Thomas made a statement regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANGS). He stated that it was his understanding that the Neighbourhood Plan would be subject to Judicial Review on 13th and 14th July 2015 and that, if the Plan were to be found to be 'illegal', the process would have to be repeated. He referred to the SANGS update that had been reported to the Planning Committee on 9th June 2015 a copy of which had been supplied to him on request. He stated that planning applications would be subject to the Grampian Condition which he understood to mean that no new development could take place until the SANGS matter had been resolved.

Two members of the public left the meeting at 7.06 p.m.

PCSO Sally-Ann Reed's Monthly Report/Neighbourhood Watch Report

PCSO Sally-Ann Reed had sent her apologies that she was unable to attend the meeting. Her written report was distributed at the meeting and was noted.

Cllr. Sheppard, Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator, gave a verbal report on issues that had been reported to her and advised that she had attended some courses on a Junior Neighbourhood Watch initiative that was being introduced. Cllr. Thew raised the matter of the single decker bus that had been parked in the layby on the A272 to the east of the village for some time. County Councillor Jim Sheppard advised that this had been reported to the relevant authorities.

- 5. Approval of the minutes of Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held 19th May 2015** – It was agreed by those who had been present that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 19th May 2015 could be signed as a true record.
- 6. Clerk's Report** – A report from the Clerk regarding the following matters arising from the meeting held on 19th May 2015 was noted:-

Agenda item	PC Meeting 19th May 2015
3	It was confirmed that Cllr. Jean Sheppard had submitted her Declaration of Acceptance of Office form on 20 th May 2015.
5	It was confirmed that all Councillors had submitted their Register of Members' Interests Forms to the Clerk within the required timescale and that these had been forwarded to Lewes District Council for entry on to the website.
16.7	It was confirmed that the necessary forms to amend the signatories to the Parish Council's

three bank accounts had been completed and returned to the relevant banks. Cambridge & Counties had confirmed that the required changes had been made. Barclays required further information in respect of Cllr. Berryman. No response had been received from the Co-operative Bank at the time of writing this report.

7. **Action taken by the Clerk under Delegated Powers in consultation with the Chairman and/or the Vice – Chairman.** The following matters were reported: - Permission had been granted for scaffolding to be erected at 5 The Green, and for a marquee and bouncy castle to be erected on The Green on 5th July for a Church service. Permission had been refused for Cliffe Bonfire Society to put a banner on The Green. Permission had been granted for Newick School Association to erect a temporary banner on The Green. Permission had been granted for the owners of Pound Cottage, The Green, to dig down to the foundations as part of works to damp proof their property, subject to the standard conditions of making good any damage and appropriate insurance and risk assessments being in place.

8. **Planning:**

8.1 **Approval of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held 9th June 2015** – It was agreed by those who had been present that the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 9th June 2015 could be signed as a true record

8.2 **Terms of Reference** – It was agreed that the revised Terms of Reference for the Planning Committee should be approved.

8.3 **Applications**

Newick LW/15/0420 Case Officer: Mrs Sarah Sheath	16 Allington Road Planning Application - Addition of second storey to existing building, remodel ground floor, recladding of exterior and erection of a new detached double garage and log store for Mr & Mrs Filardo. It was unanimously agreed to make no comment on this planning application.
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Newick LW/15/0472 Case Officer: Mrs Alyson Smith	Ivy Cottage 10 High Street Planning Application - Erection of replacement two storey detached garage for Mr G Milne. It was unanimously agreed to make no comment on this planning application.
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Cllr. Mrs Smerdon joined the meeting at 7.26 p.m.

8.4 **Approvals/Refusals etc.** – It was noted that planning permission had been **granted** by Lewes District Council in respect of the following planning applications:-

LW/15/0234 New Cottage, High Street – Retrospective application for the retention of a post and rail fence and erection of a fence to replicate the existing post and rail fence,

LW/15/0311 20 High Hurst Close – Erection of a single storey rear infill extension,

LW/15/0336 Old Greenfields, 32 Church Road – Listed Building Consent Application for forming opening in internal wall,

LW/15/0409 3 West Point – First floor side extension and extension to existing porch with pitched roof.

It was noted that two letters from local residents had been received in respect of planning applications **LW/15/0429 and LW/15/0430 The Crown Inn, Church Road**, and that the Clerk would be writing to these residents to advise them that these applications had already been considered by the Parish Council Planning Committee on 9th June and comments had been submitted to Lewes District Council.

8.5 **Tree works applications** – It was noted that there had been a split decision regarding tree works application **TW/15/0029/TPO Pound Cottage, 39 The Green** – Permission had been refused to crown lift and reduce the size by 20% of an Ash (T2 of the Order), and permission had been granted for pollarding of a Poplar (T1 of the Order).

8.6 **Neighbourhood Plan** – It was noted that there had been no update received regarding the application that had been made for a Judicial Review of Lewes District Council's decision to allow the Neighbourhood Plan to proceed to referendum. Cllr. Thew commented on Mr Thomas's interpretation of the meaning of a 'Grampian Condition' (agenda item 4 above) stating that this condition did not prevent development from starting, but that the dwellings could not be occupied until the SANGS requirement had been satisfied.

At 7.35 p.m. it was agreed that Standing Orders should be suspended in order to allow Mr Thomas to respond to questions from members of the Parish Council.

Mr Thomas stated that he had been advised by a resident of Mitchelswood Farm that the decision to proceed to Judicial Review had been made on 13th May and that the hearing was scheduled for 13th and 14th July. District Councillor Jim Sheppard advised that he would follow this up with officers at Lewes District Council.

At 7.38 p.m. Standing Orders were resumed.

9. Financial Matters:

9.1 To authorise Schedule of Payments for June 2015 – It was resolved to approve the Schedule of Payments for June 2015:-

Payee	Item	Invoice Amount	Cheque Number
Paid prior to meeting			
Public Works Loan Board	Loan repayment instalment	£2,501.01	Direct Debit
S.E. Berry	Clerk's Salary	£693.84	Standing Order
Waiting to be approved			
S.E. Berry	Reimbursement for items purchased by Clerk on behalf of Parish Council	£256.07	200980
Post Office Ltd	Tax and NI from Clerk & PC	£229.89	200981
East Sussex Pension Fund	Pension Contributions from Clerk & PC	£248.93	200982
D. Sankey Ltd.	Routine Mole Treatment - KGVPF	£74.40	200983
<i>Spoilt Cheque</i>			200984
Lewes District Council	Monthly Play Area Inspections x 2 - £36 Dog Bin emptying - £177.84 Litter Bin emptying - 128.70	£342.54	200985
Action in rural Sussex	Social Media Workshop	£10.00	200986
Information Commissioner	Data protection registration renewal	£35.00	200987
Newick Baby and Toddler Group	Grant	£400.00	200988
Newick PCC	Grant (Dancing for Fun & Fitness)	£250.00	200989
Newick PCC	Grant (Churchyard maintenance)	£500.00	200990
Newick Football Club	Grant	£150.00	200991
<i>Spoilt Cheque</i>			200992
Getmapping Plc	Annual Subscription - Parish Online	£50.40	200993
Ms. S. Orwin	Village Maintenance	£315.00	200994
Barcombe Landscapes	Grounds maintenance £1213.56 Mowing of Highway verges £749.74	£1,963.30	200995
Newick Sports Pavilion	VAT reclaimed for 2014/15	£554.83	200996
Total		£8,575.21	

Income in June 2015

Cooperative Bank	Interest	£0.43
Barclays Bank	Interest	£90.80
Lady Vernon Educational Foundation	Grant towards play area upgrade	£1,000.00
Mr Kester	Installation of memorial bench - reimbursement	£60.00
Newick Cricket Club	Annual rent	£230.00
Gatwick Airport Community Trust	Grant towards play area upgrade	£1,000.00

Maritime Transport	Payment for damage to Green	£78.00
HMRC	VAT reclaim (Sports Pavilion 2014/15)	£554.83
Newick Stoolball club	Annual rent	£87.00
Total		£3,101.06

9.2 To note Statement of Performance against budget (Outturn) as at end May 2015 – The outturn for May 2015 had been circulated in advance and was noted.

9.3 Co-operative Bank Account – It was noted that the terms of the Co-operative Bank Community Banking Account had changed and that, with effect from 25th June 2015, interest would only be paid on balances above £25,000.

9.4 Consideration of grant application from Royal British Legion (Newick Branch) – It was agreed that a grant of £500 should be awarded to the Royal British Legion (Newick Branch) towards the provision of a Centennial Memorial Stone on The Green. This award was made using the power available to the Council under S.137 of the Local Government Act 1972. It was agreed that, if requested, consideration could be given to making further grants towards the future maintenance of the Centennial Stone.

10. Correspondence – the following items were noted:-

10.1 Email from Ms Sippetts regarding campaign for transport from Newick to Uckfield Community College – a copy had been distributed with the agenda.

At 7.50 p.m. it was agreed that Standing Orders could be suspended in order to consult East Sussex County Councillor Jim Sheppard on this matter.

Cllr. Jim Sheppard advised that East Sussex County Council had insufficient funds to provide any more buses for Newick children travelling to school in Uckfield. He clarified that children travelling to their nearest school were entitled to free transport to school and that, when making a choice of school, parents were advised that if they chose a school other than the one nearest to them they would be responsible for the cost of transport to that school.

Standing Orders were resumed at 7.55 p.m.

It was agreed that this matter was outside the remit of the Parish Council, however, the Clerk would acknowledge the email and express the Council's sympathy for this difficult situation.

10.2 Email from Ms Deubert regarding welfare of horses at Mitchelswood Farm – the Clerk outlined the details of the email and confirmed that a response had been sent.

10.3 Hadstone Energy – follow up from planning committee meeting 9th June – this had been forwarded to cllrs. 26/5/15

10.4 AirS – Social Media Training – this had been forwarded to cllrs. 26/5/15 – The Clerk would attend.

10.5 Rural Services Network – National Rural Crime Survey – this had been forwarded to cllrs. 28/5/15

10.6 Lewes District Council – press release regarding future development – this had been forwarded to cllrs. 28/5/15

10.7 Newick Amateur Dramatic Society – letter in response to grant application decision

10.8 Newick Football Club – letter of thanks for grant award and notification of Six A Side Tournament to be held 25/7/15

10.9 Ms Matthews – email requesting information about local walks – a response had been sent by the Clerk

10.10 Newick Tiddlers and Toddlers – letter of thanks for grant award

10.11 Mr Thomas – request for copy of SANGS update presented to planning committee – a response had been sent by the Clerk

10.12 Maritime Transport – email of apology and cheque for £78 to cover cost of damage to The Green

10.13 ESCC – link to report of consultation on Rights of Way and Countryside sites – this had been forwarded to cllrs. 22/6/15

10.14 NALC Chairman – Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth – this had been forwarded to cllrs. 22/6/15. It was agreed to take no action in respect of this matter.

10.15 3VA – email link to quarterly magazine – this had been forwarded to cllrs. 22/6/15

10.16 The following regular items had been received and would be circulated in the Member's Envelope -
Rural Services Network – Email News Digest 26th May, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th June 2015, Rural Vulnerability Service – April 2015 (Rural Transport & Fuel Poverty), Spotlight on Older People in Rural Areas, Rural Economy Spotlight, and Rural Opportunities Bulletin – June and July 2015.

3VA e-newsletters 208, 209, 210, 211, and 212

Action in rural Sussex – Community Land Trust Umbrella Project

LCR – Magazine Summer 2014

East Sussex Community Voice – Introduction to Healthwatch East Sussex

CPRE – Sussex Review magazine Summer 2015

Clerks & Councils Direct – Issue 100 July 2015

11 Committees' and Councillors' Reports:

11.1 Playing Fields Committee – It was agreed by those who had been present that the minutes of the meeting of the Playing Fields Committee held on 9th June 2015 could be signed as a true record.

A proposal had been made to amalgamate the Playing Fields and Environment Committees as it was considered that this would be a more sustainable use of manpower and result in a more robust committee. It was agreed that the two committees should be amalgamated and that Cllrs Smerdon and Wickens would draft the proposed Terms of Reference for the new committee for consideration at the Parish Council meeting on 28th July 2015. Any amendment to the schedule of meeting dates would be agreed at the first meeting of the new committee on 11th August 2015.

Details of the proposal for councillors to carry out patrols of the recreation grounds prior to and during the school summer holidays were circulated in advance of the meeting. It was agreed to go ahead with the patrols as proposed and that Cllr. Wickens would coordinate dates and collate the written reports for further consideration at the Parish Council meeting on 28th July.

It was noted that the monthly play equipment inspection report had been received from Lewes District Council and that no new issues had been raised.

It was noted that work had started on the play area upgrade project and that Christopher Bibb, Project Co-ordinator from Lewes District Council would be meeting with the contract supervisor on site on Wednesday 1st July.

An analysis of the research and quotations received for the control of moles on the Recreation Ground and Manwaring Robertson Field was circulated at the meeting. It was agreed to remain with the existing contractor but to change from the gassing method to the trapping method.

11.2 Environment Committee – There had been no meeting this month.

It was noted that Cllr. Allen had started to carry out further maintenance to the wooden benches around the village and agreed that he should be reimbursed for the cost of the materials used.

It was agreed that a survey of the condition of the pavements and overhanging vegetation around the village should be carried out. It was delegated to the Environment Committee to organise this, preferably before the next Strengthening Local Relationships (SLR) meeting with East Sussex County Council Highways officers.

11.3 Tree Warden – An inspection report from RW Green Ltd regarding the large oak tree at the junction of Powell Road and Oldaker Road had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was agreed to carry out the recommendations made in the report and the Clerk was asked to obtain quotations for the work.

11.4 Newick Rootz – Notes of the meeting of Newick Rootz held on 11th June 2015 had been circulated in advance of the meeting and were noted. It was noted that metal waymarker discs had been received for the waymarking of the Sussex Ouse Valley Way which runs through the village.

11.5 Newick Village Hall Management Committee (NVHMC) – It was reported that NVHMC had confirmed that the original 1947 Deed of Trust remained in force and that, according to this document, the Parish Council representative on the committee did not necessarily need to be a councillor. Cllr. Allen agreed to remain as the Parish Council's representative for a further year on the understanding that he might not be able to attend all meetings owing to his work commitments. Cllr Allen gave a verbal report on the NVHMC meeting held on 10th June 2015 and confirmed that work to build the new disabled exit from the village hall had started on 29th June.

11.6 Newick Sports Pavilion Management Committee (NSPMC) – Minutes of the meeting of NSPMC held on 5th May had been circulated in advance and were noted along with a letter received in response to the Parish Council's decision not to award a grant, an email concerning the review of NSPMC's Constitution, and a letter dated 16th June 2015 regarding the proposed new pavilion. It was agreed that the Constitution should be renewed with no changes and that the letter of 16th June should be acknowledged.

11.7 Lewes District Association of Local Councils (LDALC) – The Chairman gave a verbal report on the LDALC AGM which was held on 15th June 2015. He reported that he had been elected to serve on the Lewes District Council Standards Panel.

- 11.8 Newick Festival 2016** – It was reported that an initial meeting of the Newick Festival Working Group had taken place and that a meeting of all those groups and individuals interested in participating had been arranged for 15th July 2015.
- 11.9 Website** – It was reported that Newick Community Centre had agreed to pay the cost of setting up a new page on the village website (£75 +VAT); although at the time of the meeting written confirmation had not been received by the Parish Council. Cllr. Smerdon and The Clerk declared an interest in this matter as Chairman of the Community Centre Committee and Bookings Secretary respectively.
- 12 Parish Council Business Plan** – This matter was deferred for consideration at the next meeting when, it was hoped, there would be more councillors present.
- 13 Lease for Scout Hut** – A report from Cllr. Jago had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was agreed to accept all the recommendations made in this report.
- 14 Parish Council Newsletter** – It was agreed to approve the draft of the Parish Council newsletter subject to a change to the layout.
- 15 Items to be referred to the next agenda** – Parish Council Business Plan

The meeting closed at 9.06 p.m.

Signed:Chairman

Date: