

## Newick Parish Council

**Minutes** of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2015 in the Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road, Newick.

**Present:** Councillors C. Armitage, C. Allen, N. Berryman, R. Houghton, J. Lucas (Chairman of the Parish Council), G. Parker, Mrs J Sheppard, Mrs J Smerdon, and Mrs C Wickens.

**In Attendance:** Mrs S. Berry (Clerk)  
Four 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. Mrs. M. Thew (prior family engagement) and C. Jago (objection to being recorded). It was resolved to approve the reasons 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. Exclusion of the press and public** – No resolution was made to exclude the press and the public for any part of the meeting.
- 4. Questions or Statements by Members of the Public**  
**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.

The Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator had nothing to report.

Mr Loveman referred to emails that he had sent to the Parish Council dated 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February, in which he had asked for responses to some of the questions he had raised at the Parish Council meeting held 27<sup>th</sup> January 2015, and to his letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015. He stated that SEA (Strategic Environmental Assessment) directives required alternatives. The Chairman advised Mr Loveman that his questions had been answered verbally at the previous meeting and that this had been included in the minutes for that meeting which would be published once they had been approved. The Chairman also stated that a response to his letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February, copies of which were distributed at the meeting, would follow once the Parish Council had had the opportunity to consider this and taken advice from Lewes District Council if this were necessary.

*Cllr. Mrs Smerdon joined the meeting at 7.03 p.m.*

Mr Cumberlege gave a summary of action that had been taken by Newick Village Society and individual Parish Councillors to try to improve the recent poor level of service at Lloyds Pharmacy. He advised that the pharmacy was recovering but that Lloyds had indicated that if the recent re-application by Mid Downs Medical Practice to dispense from Chailey were to be successful then the pharmacy in Newick would close. He urged the Parish Council to support the Village Society in resisting the Medical Practice's application to dispense.

It was noted that, in accordance with Standing Order 7a, a minimum of four councillors had submitted written requests asking that the matter of whether or not the Parish Council should comment on the Mid Downs Medical Practice application to dispense should be reconsidered.

It was agreed that in order to assist Mr Cumberlege, item 10.13 would be brought forward and discussed earlier in the meeting.

- 5. Approval of the minutes of Parish Council Meetings held 27<sup>th</sup> January and 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015** – It was agreed by those who had been present that the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 27<sup>th</sup> January and 10<sup>th</sup> February 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 27<sup>th</sup> January 2015 was noted:-

Agenda item	
4	Statement from Mr Loveman that councillors' reasons for absence were no longer being recorded in the minutes. Mr Loveman had since clarified that he was referring to minutes of meetings held 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2014 when the Clerk was on holiday. It was highlighted that the council's Standing Orders did not require reasons for absence to be given or recorded, however, it was good practice for a councillor to seek the council's approval for his/her absence.
8.4	Neighbourhood Plan – It was noted that confirmation had been received from the Community Development Foundation that the final DCLG grant instalment of £200 would be released and that this had since been received.
11.3	A response had been received from the LDC Tree Officer regarding possible tree preservation orders on development sites identified in the Neighbourhood Plan. A copy of this response was forwarded to councillors on 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2015.
13	Business Plan – Trevor Leggo, Director of SSALC, had advised that he would be away for parts of June and July and that he would not be available to help the new Parish Council with its business plan until after training for new councillors had been completed.

**7. Action taken by the Clerk under Delegated Powers in consultation with the Chairman and/or the Vice – Chairman.** There was nothing to report.

**10.13 Correspondence – letter from Mr Cumberlege**

A letter from Mr Cumberlege dated 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015, in which he asked the Parish Council to consider whether to oppose the application by Mid Downs Medical Practice to dispense from its Chailey surgery, had been circulated in advance and this matter was discussed. It was noted that whilst the closing date for submitting comments had already passed, confirmation had been obtained that any comments made by the council would be shown to the NHS committee with a note stating that they had been received out of time. It was agreed that the Parish Council should write to NHS England objecting to the Mid Downs Medical Practice application on the grounds that this would put the existing village pharmacy at risk of closure and that one of the stated objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan was to maintain and enhance a diverse economic base within the Parish (eight in favour and one abstention). It was agreed that Cllr. Jago should be asked to draft the letter to be sent to NHS England.

*One member of the public left the meeting at 7.20 p.m.*

**8. Planning:**

**8.1 Applications:**

**Newick**

LW/15/0078

**Case Officer:**

Mrs Alyson Smith

**73 Church Road**

Listed Building Consent Application - Works to remedy damp affected timbers within the cellar on the southern side and the replacement of a set of French doors with a new double glazed window including associated works for Mr & Mrs de Coverly Veale. It was unanimously agreed to make **no comment** on this application.

**8.2 Approvals/Refusals etc.** - There were no approvals or refusals to be noted.

**8.3 Tree works applications –**

It was noted that the Parish Council's tree warden had indicated to Lewes District Council that **no comment** would be made on the following tree works applications:-

**TW/15/009/TPO 16A Allington Road** - 2 x Oak (G1 of the Order) – reduce back lateral branches by 20% of branch length where they overhang the garden.

**TW/15/0011/TCA Ivy Cottage, 10 High Street** – 1 x Sycamore – reduce crown by approx 1.5m to suitable growth points and 1 x Sycamore – reduce height to approx 2m below previous pruning points.

It was noted that Lewes District Council had confirmed that tree clearance work recently carried out to the north of The Green did not require planning consent.

**8.4 Neighbourhood Plan –** The notes of a meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015 were distributed at the meeting. It was noted that Cllr. Lucas had undertaken to

draft a letter to Lewes District Council containing the Parish Council's proposed response on the Local Plan Part 2 draft documentation.

It was reported that an application had been made in the High Court for a Judicial Review into Lewes District Council's decision to hold a Referendum on Newick's Neighbourhood Plan. It was noted that the Referendum would still proceed on 26<sup>th</sup> February as planned.

It was reported that property belonging to the Parish Council and a private individual had been stolen, posters had been torn down, and stickers placed on Parish Council and private property. This had been reported to the Police and to Lewes DC Electoral Services.

**8.5 Lewes District Council Joint Core Strategy Examination** – The LDC Core Strategy Examiner's preliminary report had been circulated in advance of the meeting and was noted.

**9. 9. Financial Matters:**

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

Payee	Item	Invoice Amount	Cheque Number
<b>Paid prior to meeting</b>			
Orchard Street Furniture	Memorial bench (cost to be reimbursed by family)	£621.68	200929
<b>Waiting to be approved</b>			
S.E. Berry	Clerk's Salary	£738.55	200930
S.E. Berry	Reimbursement for items purchased by Clerk on behalf of Parish Council	£253.10	200931
Post Office Ltd	Tax and NI from Clerk & PC	£260.72	200932
East Sussex Pension Fund	Pension Contributions from Clerk & PC	£262.20	200933
D. Sankey Ltd.	Routine Mole Treatment - KGVPF	£50.40	200934
Acorn Technology Services	Website maintenance November 2014 to May 2015	£120.00	200935
J. Lucas	Mileage expenses for attending Core Strategy Examination Hearings	£36.00	200936
CHEC	Printing of Neighbourhood Plan Banners	£39.60	200937
Friends of Newick Health Centre	Grant towards purchase of defibrillator for Sports Pavilion	£850.00	200938
S. Orwin	Village Maintenance as per contract	£200.00	200939
Office Depot	Archive files	£43.20	200940
SLCC	Practitioner Conference March 2015	£282.00	200941
The Danewood Press	Printing of Neighbourhood Plan Flyers	£108.00	200942
<b>Total</b>		<b>£3,865.45</b>	

**Income in February 2015**

Cooperative Bank interest	£0.41
Barclays Bank interest	£84.63
DCLG Grant	£200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£285.04</b>

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

**9.3 PAT Testing of portable electrical equipment** – It was noted that the Parish Council's portable electrical equipment was due to be tested and that the Clerk was trying to obtain quotations for this work.

**10. Correspondence to be noted:-**

**10.1** Email from Streetlife social network – this had been forwarded to councillors 27/01/15

- 10.2 Democratic Society – List of projects funded by Zero Heroes competition
- 10.3 Letter from resident of Paynters Way regarding renovation work in Vernons Road – this had been forwarded to Lewes District Council planning department.
- 10.4 SSALC – copy of ministerial statement by Kris Hopkins MP on local government finance settlement – this had been forwarded to councillors 04/02/15
- 10.5 Chailey School Governors – performance statistics – this had been forwarded to councillors 05/02/15
- 10.6 ESCC – Details of employer representatives on East Sussex Pension Board
- 10.7 Email from resident – vision for the future – this had been forwarded to councillors 09/02/15
- 10.8 Lewes District CAB – Notification of AGM 25/02/15 – this had been forwarded to councillors 09/02/15
- 10.9 Request from local student to set up stall on The Green – this had been forwarded to councillors 09/02/15, a telephone response had been given by Clerk.
- 10.10 CPRE Sussex – Invitation to attend event 28/02/15 – this had been forwarded to councillors 10/02/15
- 10.11 LDALC – notes of meeting on possible upgrade of A27 – this had been forwarded to councillors 11/02/15
- 10.12 Email re petition against removal of street parking in Uckfield – this had been forwarded to councillors 13/02/15
- 10.13 Mr Cumberlege – correspondence re Mid Downs Medical Practice's application to dispense from Chailey surgery and copy of complaint to LDC regarding the delay in the revision of Conservation Area. This agenda item had been brought forward for discussion earlier in the meeting, see above.
- 10.14 SSALC newsletter and training leaflet – this had been forwarded to councillors 17/02/15
- 10.15 The following regular items had been received and would be circulated in the Member's Envelope - Rural Services Network – Email News Digest 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, & 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015, Rural Vulnerability Service – February 2015 (Rural Broadband and Rural Transport), Spotlight on Rural Housing, Spotlight on Rural Health, Spotlight on Older People in Rural Areas, and Rural Opportunities Bulletin February 2015.  
3VA e-newsletters 191, 192, 193, 194, and 195. 3VA Training Programme 2014/15 and Health and Wellbeing Visits Project details.  
Local Councils Update January/February 2015  
Lewes District Citizens Advice Annual Report 2013-2014  
CPRE Sussex Review – Winter 2015

## 11 Committees' and Councillors' Reports:

- 11.1 **Playing Fields Committee** – There had been no meeting this month.  
The Clerk reported that Lewes District Council had not yet drafted the contract for the play area upgrade. It was agreed that Cllr. Armitage in consultation with Cllrs. Mrs Smerdon and Mrs Wickens would work on the grant application forms for the grants that would be necessary to install a new trampoline in the play area and to extend the existing goal equipment.  
  
It was noted that the monthly play area inspection report for January had been received from Lewes District Council and that the annual report, carried out by The Play Inspection Company covering the skate park had been received. These would be considered by the Playing Fields Committee at its meeting in March.
- 11.2 **Environment Committee** – It was agreed by those who had been present that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015 could be signed as a true record.
- 11.3 **Tree Warden** – It was reported that the Parish Council's application for work to be carried out on three trees with Tree Preservation Orders had been submitted to Lewes District Council by the contractor.
- 11.4 **Newick Rootz** – The notes from the meeting of Newick Rootz held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015 had been circulated in advance of the meeting and were noted.
- 11.5 **Newick Village Hall Management Committee (NVHMC)** – It was reported that the NVHMC AGM would be held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015.
- 11.6 **Newick Sports Pavilion Management Committee** – Cllr. Armitage gave a verbal report on the meeting of the Sports Pavilion Management Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015. It was noted that the fees to clubs using the pavilion would remain unchanged for the coming year.
- 11.7 **Allotments** – There was nothing to report.

**11.8 Website** – It was reported that minutes of meetings held in 2013 had not been visible on the website for a short period during February. This problem had been rectified after it had been reported but it was not clear as to why it had happened.

**12 Royal British Legion (RBL) – Memorial Stone on The Green**– A group of councillors had met representatives of the RBL on The Green on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2015 to discuss the location of the proposed memorial stone. The RBL had produced a full size mock-up of the proposed design and photographs of this design in situ had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was unanimously agreed that permission should be given to the RBL to erect the memorial stone on the small triangle on the north-west side of The Green, in front of the Community Centre. The Clerk was asked to check with the RBL as to how they proposed to protect the stone from damage by grass cutters and strimmers.

**13 Annual Parish Meeting** - It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2015 should be arranged along similar lines as in previous years with contributions from clubs and societies and the Chairman of the Parish Council, however, a guest speaker would not be required this year. The Clerk was authorised to spend approximately £75 on refreshments for this meeting.

**14 Spring Newsletter** – It was agreed that articles on the following subjects should be included in the Spring newsletter to be distributed at the end of March:-

Neighbourhood Watch

Speed Watch

The results of the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

The RBL Memorial Stone

A warning about poor visibility for traffic emerging from the Church on to Church Road

Chairman's Report

It was agreed that items should be sent to the Clerk by 6<sup>th</sup> March so that the draft newsletter could be approved at the Parish Council meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March.

It was agreed that copies of the updated Clubs and Societies list should be printed and circulated with the newsletter.

*One member of the public left the meeting at 8.00 p.m.*

**15 Parish Council Election May 2015** – A draft flyer to encourage people to stand for election to the Parish Council in May was circulated at the meeting. It was agreed that this should be printed and copies distributed with the Spring edition of the newsletter.

**16 Newick Bonfire Celebrations 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015** – It was agreed that the usual permission should be granted to Newick Bonfire Society to hold its annual Bonfire Celebrations on The Green on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015. The Clerk was asked to advise the Bonfire Society that the Parish Council was supportive of its request for hawkers and street traders to be moved on but that the Parish Council would not be able to provide any manpower to assist with this.

**17 Request for traffic mirror to be installed opposite the entrance to St Mary's Church** – Information from an ESCC Traffic and Safety Officer and a request from County Councillor Jim Sheppard for the Parish Council to consider allowing a resident of Church Road to install a traffic mirror on Parish Council land opposite the entrance to the Church had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Parish Council's insurance company to discuss any potential liability should a traffic mirror be sited on council owned land.

**18 Items to be referred to the next agenda** – Summer Festival 2016

The meeting closed at 8.14 p.m.

Signed: .....Chairman

Date: .....

The Clerk: Mrs SE Berry, 18 Newlands Park Way, Newick, BN8 4PG  
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