

## Newick Parish Council

**Minutes** of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2013 in the Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road, Newick.

**Present:** Councillors C. Allen, C. Armitage, N. Berryman, R. Houghton, C. Jago, J. Lucas (Chairman), Mrs. J. Sheppard, Mrs. J. Smerdon, Mrs. D.J. Sprackling, Mrs. M. Thew, and Mrs Wickens.

**In Attendance:** Mrs. S. Berry (Clerk),  
Mr J. Sheppard (LDC & ESCC Councillor)  
Mrs S. Mullins and Mr E. Sheath - Lewes District Council Planning Dept. for agenda item 7.4  
Mr D. Thompson – Hastoe Housing Association for agenda item 3  
Two members of the public were present for the planning section.

1. **Apologies for Absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given** – No apologies had been received.
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.** Cllr. Allen disclosed that he was a member of Newick Village Hall Management Committee.
3. **Questions or Statements by Members of the Public.**  
**PCSO Sally-Ann Reed’s Monthly Report** – PCSO Sally-Anne Reed had sent her apologies that she was unable to attend the meeting. Her report, copies of which had been circulated, was noted.

*Cllr. Armitage joined the meeting at 7.10 p.m.*

**Daniel Thompson from Hastoe Housing Association** attended the meeting at the request of Councillors to answer questions which had been sent to him in advance of the meeting regarding the Alexander Mead development. He explained the differing grant regimes that were in place when phases 1 & 2 of the development were built and the basis for setting the rents. Examples of rents for phase 1 and phase 2 properties were given. Two supplementary questions were asked and Mr Thompson agreed to check the details and respond after the meeting. It was agreed that Cllr. Jago would draft a letter expressing the Parish Council’s concern at the high level of rents for phase 2 properties to be sent to the Chief Executive of Hastoe Housing Association and the Housing Minister, with copies to Barcombe and Wivelsfield Parish Councils.

It was resolved that **Item 7 Planning** would be brought forward in order to assist the Lewes District Council Planning Officers and members of the public who had attended for this item.

7. **Planning:**  
It was agreed by those who had been present that the Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2013 could be signed as a true record.

### 7.1 Applications

<p><b>Newick</b> LW/13/0512 <b>Case Officer:</b> Mr Andrew Hill</p>	<p><b>9 Growers End</b> Planning Application - Erection of roof over front door and single storey rear extension (resubmission of LW/13/0285). The Parish Council supported this application.</p>
<p><b>Newick</b> LW/13/0533 <b>Case Officer:</b> Miss Amanda Collison</p>	<p><b>43 High Hurst Close</b> Planning Application - Creation of a first floor. The Parish Council supported this application.</p>

### LW/13/0509 – Goldbridge Farm

It was noted that Prior Notification of Agricultural Development under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 had been received in respect of a proposed new agricultural storage barn at Goldbridge Farm. Cllr. Mrs Sprackling declared a personal interest in this application. The Parish Council made no comment in respect of the application.

### Tree Work Applications:

**TW/13/0058/TPO**      **7 The Pagets**  
**TW/13/0053/TCA**      **Marbles, 7 High Street**

It was noted that the Parish Council’s tree warden had supported both of the above applications.

## 7.2 Approvals/Refusals etc.

It was noted that the following applications had been approved by Lewes District Council:-

**LW/13/0432 Flanders Cottage, Fletching Lane, Fletching Common**

**LW/13/0433 30 Cricketfield** – It was noted that a further letter of objection had been sent to Lewes District Council by a neighbour in respect of this application, however, a copy had not been received by the Parish Council until after it had considered the application.

**TW/13/0043/TCA The Bull Inn, 24 The Green**

## 7.3 Neighbourhood Plan – Report by Steering Group

Notes from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2013 had been circulated for information and the Chairman gave a verbal progress report. It was noted that the report following the parish questionnaire was being prepared and a draft was expected to be available for consideration at the Parish Council meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September. Details of the support shown for individual sites would also be available for the Parish Council planning meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> September.

It was agreed that the draft report following the Consultation Day on 8<sup>th</sup> June, which had been circulated in advance to members, should be approved and that it would be made available on the parish website. It was noted that an article had been drafted for the parish magazine to alert parishioners to the fact that this report would be on the website and that the questionnaire report would be coming soon.

## 7.4 Consideration of Special Motion signed by at least four members of the Council

A special Motion signed by five members of the Council had been received by the Clerk on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2013, two further members had subsequently signed the motion which asked the Parish Council 'to reconsider the number of houses for the draft neighbourhood development plan, with advice from LDC planning department representative(s)'. Mrs Mullins and Mr Sheath from Lewes District Council Planning Department were in attendance at the meeting to give advice and answer questions on this agenda item. Questions regarding the timetable for submission and adoption of Lewes District Council's Core Strategy, the likelihood of a change in the number of houses planned to be built in Newick and the impact that this process would have on the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan had been forwarded in advance to Lewes District Council. Mr Sheath had prepared a written response to the questions, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

*Cllr. Mrs Smerdon joined the meeting at 8.05 p.m.*

The implications of delaying the Neighbourhood Plan until after the LDC Core Strategy had been accepted, or of planning for 61 new homes in the Neighbourhood Plan, as had been agreed at the meeting of the Parish Council on 30<sup>th</sup> July, were discussed. Mr Sheath advised that producing a Neighbourhood Plan which planned for any fewer than 100 new homes would leave it open to a great deal of challenge and reduce the chances of it being approved by the Examiner. Taking into account this advice and not wishing to lose the interest already generated in the Neighbourhood Plan, it was resolved that the Parish Council should continue to develop the Neighbourhood Plan in accordance with the existing timetable and that the number of new homes planned for should be 100. The resolution was carried with 10 in favour and 1 abstention.

4. **Approval of the minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> July 2013** – It was agreed by those who had been present that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2013 could be signed as a true record.
5. **Matters Arising** – A report from the Clerk regarding the following matters arising from the meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> July was noted:-

Agenda item	
11	A response had been received from Newick Cricket Club to the request for the recreation ground to be used for Newick Festival over the weekend of 28/29 June 2014. The Cricket Club had stated that if the cricket ground were not available for its league match on the Saturday of that weekend they would have to find another venue which would have financial implications for the club. The Festival organising committee was trying to work round this.
13	An article on Japanese Knotweed had been placed on the website, notice boards, and submitted for inclusion in Parish Magazine
14	A response had been received from Compass Travel regarding a new bus stop sign on The Green. A site visit had been arranged for 29 <sup>th</sup> August in order to agree the details of the sign to be installed.

<b>16</b>	Poor condition of properties in High Street and High Hurst Close. A joint site inspection had been made by LDC Environmental Health and Planning Enforcement Officers and copies of their reports had been circulated to councillors. The Clerk reported that the neighbours of one of the properties had approached her about the issue. It was agreed that contact details for the LDC officers should be passed on to the neighbours.
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**6. Action taken by the Clerk under Delegated Powers in consultation with Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman:** There had been no action under delegated powers this month.

**7. Planning:** This item had been brought forward – see above

**8. Financial Matters:**

**8.1 Authorisation of Schedule of Payments for August 2013** – It was resolved that the schedule of payments be approved.

Payee	Item	Invoice Amount	Cheque Number
S.E. Berry	Clerk's Salary	£22.08	200671
East Sussex Pension Fund	Pension contributions from Clerk and Parish Council	£177.48	200672
Post Office Ltd	Tax & NI from Clerk and Parish Council	£616.61	200673
Treewise Tree Services Ltd	Remove dead cherry tree from KGVPF Apply to ESCC for TPO work	£72.00	200674
D. Sankey Ltd.	Mole Treatment to KGVPF	£50.40	200675
Upper Bridge Enterprises	Website licence fee, domain names & mail boxes	£609.18	200676
L.M. Farmer	Locum Cover for Clerk Feb & July 2013	£322.16	200677
S.E. Berry	Clerk's Expenses (postage, telephone/broadband, toner cartridge, stationery, use of home as office)	£331.88	200678
Newick Sports Pavilion	Reclaimed VAT for 2012/13	£1,122.85	200679
Sandra Orwin	Village Maintenance	£315.00	200680
Sandra Orwin	Strimming grass around seats, spray weedkiller, Purchase of disinfectant	£23.13	200681
<b>Total</b>		<b>£3,662.77</b>	

**Income in August 2013**

Cooperative Bank interest	£1.86
Barclays Bank interest	£66.18
Rent from Allotment Society	£100.00
Recycle 4 charity	£18.90
HMRC - VAT Refund (£1122.85 re Sports Pavilion 2012/13)	£1,950.94
Refund from P.A.A.L.	£450.00
Rent from Stoolball Club	£87.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,674.88</b>

**8.2 Statement of Performance against budget (Outturn) as at end July 2013** – This had been circulated to Councillors for information and was noted.

**8.3 Approval of purchase of 9th Edition 'Arnold –Baker on Local Council Administration'** – It was agreed that the Clerk could purchase a copy of this publication on behalf of the Parish Council at £60 + £3 postage and packing.

**9. Correspondence to be noted:**

**9.1** South Downs National Park Authority – request for nominees to attend meeting on the impact of horiculture and equestrian issues in relation to planning. No volunteers had come forward.

**9.2** East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Plan Fact Sheet 5 – this had been emailed to councillors 26/7/13

- 9.3 Invitation to attend workshop discussion on the Partnership Management Plan for the South Downs National Park on 10<sup>th</sup> September – this had been emailed to councillors 26/7/13
- 9.4 SSALC August newsletter – this had ben emailed to councillors 8/8/13
- 9.5 Lewes Town and Rural Neighbourhood Watch Association – poster for Safety and Security in the Community event 12<sup>th</sup> October 2013 – this would be displayed on the Parish Council notice board.
- 9.6 Sussex Police – relaunch of Operation Crackdown (antisocial driving and abandoned vehicles), press release for newsletter or parish magazine. It was agreed that this should be put in the parish magazine and on the website.
- 9.7 Email from resident requesting further information be made available on ‘Fracking’. It was agreed that the Parish Council did not wish to organise a public meeting to discuss this subject.
- 9.8 Invitation for two representatives to attend ESCC’s Parish and Town Council Conference 18<sup>th</sup> October – emailed to councillors 9/8/13. It was agreed that the Clerk and the Chairman should attend.
- 9.9 Email from PCSO alerting Parish Council to existence of deadly nightshade on playing field. This was noted but no further action was thought to be necessary.
- 9.10 Request from SSALC for photos, articles, newspaper cuttings etc. to be included in Deputy Lieutenant’s archive for Queen’s Diamond Jubilee 2012. It was noted that the Parish Council had already submitted this information to the Deputy Lieutenant but had received no acknowledgement.
- 9.11 LDC Planning Dept., email containing link to view representations on Proposed Submission Core Stragegy – this had been emailed to councillors 13/8/13.
- 9.12 Piltdown Action Against Landraise – it was noted that a refund of £450 had been received.
- 9.13 Rural Services Network – Rural Fair Share Campaign details and petition – emailed to councillors 15/8/13. It was agreed that the Parish Council would not promote this campaign.
- 9.14 Email from resident in Oxbottom Lane – LDC Planning Enforcement had investigated the complaint but decided to take no further action at present. Thanks had been received from the resident for the Parish Council’s support.
- 9.15 Newick Stoolball Club – Signed ‘conditions of use’ for playing field, and copy of insurance details.
- 9.16 ESCC – details of changes to bus routes from September – this had been emailed to Cllrs. 21/8/13

**10. Members’ Envelope** – A suggestion from Cllr. Berryman that individual councillors should undertake to monitor items normally contained in the ‘Members’ Envelope’ and to inform others of any items of interest was considered. Four members were in favour of the proposal and seven against. It was resolved that the existing system of circulating documents in an envelope should continue. It was requested that any envelopes still in circulation should be returned to the Clerk when they are finished with.

The following had been received during August and would be circulated via the Members’ Envelope:-

Trading Standards E-newsletter Issue 25

Rural Services Network - weekly news digest 29<sup>th</sup> July, 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup> August, Rural Opportunities bulletin August 2013, Rural Vulnerability Service (Transport & Broadband), Evidence for Neighbourhood Plans, and Spotlight on Young People.

3VA eNewsletters issues 121 & 122 and 3View magazine Autumn 2013 edition

CPRE Countryside Voice magazine – Summer 2013 edition

*Cllr. Mrs Sprackling gave her apologies and left the meeting at 9.10 p.m.*

## **11. Committees’ and Councillors’ Reports:**

**11.1 Playing Fields Committee** – There had been no meeting this month

The monthly play equipment inspection reports for July showed that there were no items needing attention. The report for August had not been received at the time of the meeting. The Clerk advised that the Village Handy Person had noted a few minor issues on her inspection report and that these would be considered by the Playing Fields committee at its meeting in September.

**11.2 Finance and General Purposes Committee** – There had been no meeting this month.

**11.3 Environment Committee** – It was agreed by those who had been present that the Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> August 2013 could be signed as a true record.

Councillors noted the draft minutes of the Strengthening Local Relationships meeting with East Sussex County Council (ESCC) Highways staff held on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2013 and the responses from ESCC received after the meeting. It was noted that quotations for the kerbing work on The Green were still awaited and that the Environment Committee would be obtaining further quotations for mowing services.

*Cllr. Armitage gave his apologies and left the meeting at 9.20 p.m.*

**11.4 Tree Warden** –Cllr. Mrs Wickens reported that the Parish Council’s application for the oak tree at Powell Road to be cut back had been refused by Lewes District Council. It appeared likely that the tree surgeon

who submitted the application had not included the inspection report from Harraway Tree Services. The Clerk was asked to check on this and to submit a further application for permission to carry out the work.

- 11.5 Newick Rootz** –Cllr. Mrs Wickens reported that the minutes of the Rootz meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> August would be circulated in due course.
- 11.6 Neighbourhood Watch** –Cllr. Mrs Sheppard gave a verbal report on Neighbourhood Watch issues which was noted.
- 11.7 Newick Village Hall Management Committee (NVHMC)** – There was nothing to report.
- 11.8 Newick Sports Pavilion Management Committee –**  
The minutes of the meeting of the Sports Pavilion Management Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> August had been circulated in advance. It was noted that the Sports Pavilion Management Committee had plans for the development of current pavilion facilities and for a new pavilion building at some time in the future.
- 11.9 Allotments** –Cllr. Mrs Smerdon reported that the allotments were up and running. Lewes District Council had sealed the well for safety reasons but they had not yet removed the asbestos shed from the site. The Clerk was asked to follow this up. It was confirmed that no response had been received from the trustees of Headway.
- 11.10 Lewes District Association of Local Councils** – There had been no meeting this month.
- 12. NALC Consultation ‘A New Future: developing the strategy’** – this had been emailed to councillors on 9<sup>th</sup> July and 7<sup>th</sup> August but no response received. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to this consultation on behalf of the Parish Council by the deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> August.
- 13. Approval of draft Community Resilience Plan** – It was noted that the draft Community Resilience Plan had been amended taking into account comments made by the Finance and General Resources committee and that volunteers named in the plan had given their permission for their contact details to appear on the website. It was resolved that the amended plan should be approved and a copy put on the parish website. Cllr. Allen was thanked for the work that he had put into producing the plan.
- 14. Confirmation that Village Handy Person Contract should be extended beyond initial 2 month period.** It was agreed that the village handy person should continue to work on the existing terms and that the arrangement should be reviewed in 6 months’ time.
- 15. Newick Website** – Cllr. Berryman reported that the feedback he had received from councillors indicated that most were not in favour of having individual councillors’ photographs, profiles, or home contact details on the website. A group photograph had been taken and it was agreed that this could be used on the new website. Contact from the website would be via the Clerk’s email address.
- 16. Newick Festival 2014** –See agenda item 5 above regarding response from Cricket Club.
- 17. Consideration of request from Headway to put banner on the Green 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> September to advertise their ‘Bring Home the Harvest’ event.** It was agreed that the request from Headway to put up a banner on The Green should be approved. It was noted that Newick Bonfire Society had not sought permission before putting up their banner on The Green recently and that the Clerk had spoken to the NBS secretary about this.
- 18. Newsletter** – It was agreed that the following items should be in the autumn edition of the parish council newsletter:- Core Strategy (Cllr. Jago), Neighbourhood Watch (Cllr. Mrs Sheppard), Japanese Knotweed (Clerk), Neighbourhood Plan (Chairman). Items to be sent to the Clerk by 14<sup>th</sup> September 2013
- 19. Items to be referred to the next Agenda** – There were no items to be referred to the next agenda.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

Signed: .....Chairman

Date: .....

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