

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Tuesday 23 January 2018 in the Wickham Room, Newington Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Elaine Jackson (Chair), Cllr Eric Layer (Vice Chair), Cllr Sue Brewster, Cllr Dean Coles, Cllr Ray Cuffley, Cllr Stephen Harvey, Cllr Tony Mould and Cllr Richard Palmer; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

Also present was one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

All members were present.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Jackson declared a pecuniary interest in item 6(i) b as her husband had applied for the role of volunteer caretaker.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Amenities Meeting on 21 November 2017

- Letter requesting an extra light in Pear Tree Walk- resident has been referred to Optivo.
- New Pavilion locks- Locksmith has ordered locks.

ACTION: Clerk to ascertain when locks will be replaced.

- Tree Preservation Orders (TPO)- Sara Potter, Swale Borough Council (SBC), will ascertain details of TPOs on Friday from Paul Hegley, SBC.

Cllr Harvey said the line of trees from the end of Orchard Drive to Pear Tree Walk should also be included.

ACTION: Clerk to add the line of trees at the end of Orchard Drive to the trees for TPO requests.

4. Public Question Time

The meeting was adjourned for the public question time.

- I am concerned that the double yellow lines in Church Lane are causing vehicles to travel faster. Before Christmas, I had two cars damaged by a vehicle which then damaged two more cars. KCC Highways have said there was a public consultation but I was not informed of this. I would prefer a chicane with designated parking. Many residents have had their cars damaged.

Cllr Harvey said he was concerned that details of the damage to cars had not been included in either PCSO or Community Warden report. The Parish Council has discussed the possibility of a speed table in Church Lane which could double as a pedestrian crossing if it were to be close to the alleyway. One of the conditions of the Persimmon planning permission is that a general traffic review has to be carried out before work can commence. KCC have indicated that the double yellow lines in Church Lane were right.

Cllr Palmer said the issue had been raised at a meeting with KCC Highways and SBCllr Wright. KCC Highways were not in favour of chicanes. Residents can raise a petition and present it to the Swale Joint Transportation Board.

Cllr Jackson said solutions to traffic issues have to be holistic and this is beyond the remit of the Parish Council. The matter will be raised on the Full Council agenda and the County Councillor will be at the meeting.

Cllr Mould said that the Council has previously tried to set up Speed Watch in the village but was unable to recruit volunteers.

Cllr Jackson thanked the resident for attending the meeting and raising the matter.

ACTION 1: Clerk to ask the PCSO and Community Warden why the matter has not been reported to the Parish Council.

ACTION 2: Clerk to invite KCCllr Mike Whiting to the Full Council meeting.

The meeting was reconvened.

5. Anti-Social Behaviour

i. PCSO report

Cllr Harvey said PCSO Cork expressed concerns regarding the Car Wash at the November meeting, a planning application for a studio apartment had just been lodged at the time. It would be helpful for the Police to inform Swale Borough Council of their concerns.

ACTION: Clerk to contact PCSO Cork to respond to the application.

ii. Community Warden report

Apologies had been received from Georgina Springall, the Community Warden who had sent the following report:

- 1) Motorbike stolen from Bull Lane, recovered elsewhere – police aware.
- 2) Work van broken into in Bramley Close – Police aware.
- 3) Lamp post top dangling from post situated at rear of 64/66 Pear Tree Walk – Reported to Clerk.
- 4) Wheel fly tipped in entrance of footpath in Church Lane that leads to Station Road – Reported to Swale Borough Council.
- 5) Large amount of fly tipping in lay by outside orchard area, Bull Lane – removed by SBC.
- 6) Vehicle with no tax or MOT parked in Orchard Drive – Reported to DVLA.
- 7) Vehicle with no tax or MOT parked in Callaways Lane – Reported again to DVLA.
- 8) Christmas tree and three black sacks rubbish fly tipped at entrance to recreation ground – Reported to SBC.
- 9) Nuisance youths on bicycles in Wickham Close – Resident reported to PCSO John Cork.
- 10) Dog fouling on verges and pavement in Bull Lane.
- 11) Lorry delivering diggers to working man's site parked on double yellow lines at top of Church Lane, between 8.15 and 9.00 am. Caused massive obstruction during the school run – spoke to site foreman who apologised and said new delivery driver was unaware of parking etc. He assured me it would not happen again.
- 12) Five black sacks of rubbish again fly tipped in entrance to recreation ground – Reported to SBC.
- 13) Suspect bogus callers at resident in Playstool Road regarding loft insulation – Advised to report further like callers to police.
- 14) Starting to organise new village art group called the St. Mary's Art Group as it will be held in the upstairs room in the church which has been kindly loaned by Rev. Julian.

Cllr Layer reported there has been a lot of tyres flytipped in High Oak Hill and Breach Lane.

The Clerk said she has reported of several incidents in Breach lane, the A2 and Upchurch.

Cllr Jackson said this needed to be monitored.

ACTION: Item for February Amenities agenda.

Cllr Mould said the issues of bogus callers raised by the Community Warden will be included in the Village Voice.

6. Recreation Ground

i. Pavilion

a) Report from the Pavilion Working Group

Cllr Jackson reported the working party noted that the renovation works were all in good order with the exception of the ceiling cracking in the Parish Room, Councillors had been warned that this might happen and there was general agreement that this was acceptable.

Cllr Haigh had obtained new signage which has been put up and the fire extinguishers have also been put in the Pavilion.

The volunteer care taker, when appointed, would be asked to clear the rubbish outside of the pavilion and to put the flower pots that are spread around the site on the veranda area.

ACTION: Cllr Harvey to contact a local fencing contractor for ideas and costs concerning the compound fence. The quotes would also include cutting off the barbed wire angled section at the top of the concrete posts.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotes for new soffits/facias and guttering together with separate quotes for fitting of external bulkhead lights with guards.

b) To consider applications for Voluntary Pavilion caretaker

Cllr Jackson left the room and Cllr Layer took the Chair.

There had been one application for the position and Councillors agreed to interview the applicant prior to the Full Council meeting on 30 January. The position will be reviewed at six monthly intervals.

Cllr Jackson returned to the meeting.

c) To consider quotations for Parish Room Flooring

Councillors considered three quotations for the flooring and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to recommend to Full Council the quote from D MacLugash for £1450 for the cedar blue playsafe standard flooring.

ii. Play equipment update

Councillors were informed that Daniel Gooch SBC is willing to meet with Councillors week commencing 19 February to advise on options for the play area.

ACTION: Councillors to notify Clerk of availability for meeting.

7. Allotments

Cllr Layer reported there will be a committee meeting next week to discuss the fencing.

8. Newington Festival 2018

Cllr Jackson reported bands have been booked for the festival although there is one gap in the line up. The toilets and stage have been booked. There will be more arena events. Bottles are needed for the barrow of booze and consideration is being given to a tombola.

Cllr Coles reported the details of the booking form and terms and conditions have been finalised; last year's stall holders will be contacted and all money will be sent to the Clerk.

Cllr Mould reported that he and Cllr Brewster liaise to sell the advertising space.

Cllr Jackson said Cllr Brewster has organized the attendance of the custom cars and the vintage motorbikes. Help is needed to run the barbeque.

Cllr Coles said use of the barbeque equipment has been offered.

Cllr Mould said the Scouts have offered to help with the barbeque.

ACTION: Clerk to invite the Community Warden to attend the Festival.

8. Lights

The following lights have been reported:

81 Bull Lane

St Stephens Close,

6 St Marys View

the T Junction of St Marys View.

opposite Greenacres in Callaways Lane

rear of 64/66 Pear Tree Walk

Previously reported in December and again in January:

Outside Methodist Church, Church Lane

55 Church Lane

Cllr Mould said the car park light is not working.

ACTION: Clerk to report to Swale Borough Council.

9. Footpaths and Bridleways

Cllr Brewster reported the footpath has not been re-instated and crops are now beginning to grow. There are still two vans on the bridge.

ACTION 1: Clerk to contact KCC PROW for an update.

ACTION 2: Clerk to report the footpath to Swale Footpaths Group

10. Village Voice

Councillors agreed there should be half page of planning matters; Speed Watch article; bogus callers article; Newington Festival; and a request for volunteers for the lunch club.

11. Any Other Business

Cllr Coles said the bus shelter is in urgent need of maintenance.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotes for consideration at Full Council.

Cllr Coles asked whether it would be possible for the Parish Council to have the disused toilets as a Parish Office and room for the PCSO and Community Warden to hold a surgery.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Swale Borough Council.

Cllr Jackson said BT have requested a photo of the telegraph pole.

The Clerk reported Cllr Layer and Cllr Cuffley have taken photos and these will be sent to BT.

Cllr Layer reported he has spoken to Jones Builders regarding the rubbish near the development and they have said they will rectify the problem.

Date of Next Meeting: 20 February 2018

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm