

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Tuesday 19 June 2018 in the Parish Room, Newington Pavilion.

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

Also present were two members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Ray Cuffley (holiday): apology accepted

2. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Amenities Meeting on 22 May 2018

- Tree Preservation Order and tree survey - there has been no response to the request for a Tree Preservation Order on the Oak Trees on foot path ZR66a and advice from the Swale Borough Council Tree Officer. A resident has asked about the oak tree over hanging her garden.

ACTION: Clerk to advise resident the Council is still waiting to receive advise from Swale.

This item was brought forward

10. Village Voice

Cllr Mould said he will be sending the Festival programme to the printers and he will also ensure the Village Voice is printed so the programmes can be distributed with it. The first draft of the Village Voice was circulated.

Cllr Jackson thanked Cllr Mould for his work on the Village Voice.

Cllr Mould left the meeting.

4. Public Question Time

No matters were raised.

5. Anti-Social Behaviour

i. PCSO report

PCSO John Cork was unable to attend the meeting and reported that from 01/05/2018 to 11/06/2018:

Motor vehicle was taken 23/05/2018

Burglary theft 14/05/2018

Three thefts from motor vehicles between 10/05-17/05

Vehicle inference CCTV shows suspect.

No reports of any ASB or nuisance vehicles

School parking patrolled.

Cllr Jackson said residents should be made aware of issues and but it is difficult to do this when there is so little detail in the report.

ACTION: Clerk to contact PCSO Cork and request a more detailed report.

ii. Community Warden report

Community Warden Georgina Springall was unable to attend the meeting and sent to following report:

- 1) *Golf bag and clubs stolen from van in golf club, Wormdale Hill – Police aware.*
- 2) *Disabled persons blue badge stolen from car in Playstool Close – Police aware.*
- 3) *Young children playing football on green in Pear Tree walk and knocking on widows and running off – Reported to PCSO John Cork and Optivo.*
- 4) *Resident repairing cars on Optivo land – Reported to Optivo.*
- 5) *Petrol strimmer and drill and driver set stolen from shed in Playstool Close – Police aware.*
- 6) *Transit van loaded with fence panels stolen from St. Matthews Close, van later found, minus the fence panels – Police aware.*
- 7) *Double glazing firm cold calling around areas in the village – Details emailed to PCSO John Cork. Reported to KCC Trading Standards.*

Cllr Harvey said the cold callers were telling residents that their windows could be removed from outside and that they were not safe causing distress to residents. Newington has a full “No Cold Calling” status,

ACTION 1: Clerk to ascertain what action Trading Standards will be taking.

ACTION 2: Agenda item for next meeting.

- 8) *Sink hole appeared at side of track that leads to allotments in recreation ground – Reported to Clerk.*
- 9) *Handbag stolen from club room at golf club, Wormdale Hill – police aware.*
- 10) *Overhanging shrubs from residents garden obstructing footpath in Pear Tree Walk – Spoken to residents about cutting back.*
- 11) *Suspected drug dealing in two areas of the village – Passed information on to PCSO John Cork.*
- 12) *Concerns regarding safety to wildlife and possibly children in the newly created moat area. Although fenced off, children and animals could still fall into the moat which is now lined and would be impossible for them to get out.*
Cllr Harvey said he had contacted Planning Enforcement who have advised that restoring and filling the moat does not require planning permission. Any Health and Safety issues regarding children or animals are the owner’s risk. If the owner stops people from using the land it is an offence and must be reported to KCC. The moat cannot be incorporated into the owner’s garden.
- 13) *Neighbour dispute on estate area – Reported to Optivo housing.*
- 14) *Excessive dog fouling down track from Callaways Lane to monkey Island – Monitoring area.*
- 15) *Abandoned vehicle with no tax or MOT in village hall car park – Reported to Swale Borough Council.*
- 16) *Divan bed fly tipped in village hall car park – Reported to Swale Borough Council.*
- 17) *Concerns from resident regarding safety issues where gas company have made holes in pavement on estate area and not hung lights on safety barriers surrounding them – Spoke to foreman of company who was very polite and assured me all health and safety regulations were in place.*
- 18) *I have concerns for safety of pedestrians walking to and from footpath that leads into village hall car park from High Street. Vehicles that have a right of way across this walk way to parking at the rear of their houses on the High Street sometimes drive across it at speed.*
Cllr Harvey said the previous owners kindly gave permission to go across the footpath.
Cllr Coles said ownership of the land needs to be ascertained
ACTION: Clerk to contact Swale Borough Council.
- 19) *Another successful art group meeting that well attended.*

6. Recreation Ground

Cllr Jackson reported there have been issues with the grass cutting contractor.

Pavilion

Cllr Harvey said he has been trying to contact an electrician for advice on the Parish Room electrics.

Cllr Harvey said the Sports Club will vacate the Gym Room in six weeks, it would be appropriate for Cllr Haigh to send a reminder.

Cllr Layer said some of the equipment will be going to a school. The Swans do not want any of the equipment and are applying for grants for their own equipment. The group will be called the Swans Fitness Club.

Cllr Coles said the Parish Room ceiling needs to be repaired.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotations for the work.

Play Area

Cllr Harvey said that he and Cllr Layer will meet with Daniel Gooch, Swale Borough Council on 20 June for advice.

Pavilion Risk Review

12- it was understood that the items stored at height were being cleared. 15- there is an issue with the front light. 18- the cleaning is complete.

Football Club

The Clerk informed Members that the Football Club has indicated they may potentially want to use the Recreation Ground on weekdays instead of weekends for preseason friendlies, they do not want to use the facilities. There has also been a complaint from a resident regarding bad language and also speeding vehicles after matches.

Councillors agreed the Club could use the pitch for pre-season games and the Club must notify the Clerk beforehand.

Cllr Jackson said there needs to be a meeting with the Football Club to discuss a new lease and to ascertain the age of the players.

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** the new lease should be £1450 per annum for two years; **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

It was agreed to meet with the Football Club on Tuesday 10 July at 7pm or 7.30pm.

Pavilion Hire

The Clerk said she had received a request to hire the Parish Room for a Christmas Craft Fair with stalls inside and outside the pavilion.

Councillors said more details are needed regarding the event and no furniture from the Pavilion is permitted outside.

7. Allotments

There was nothing to report.

8. Newington Festival 2018

Cllr Jackson reported the advertising in the programme has made a profit, there are thirty-five stalls, including attractions, booked. The Mayor will open the festival. There will be sheep dog trials, classic cars, classic bikes, a hog roast and the Scouts are providing the barbeque. Some equipment needs to be hired and a list will be sent to the Clerk. There will be another festival meeting on 28 June.

Cllr Coles said there was a query as to whether the Guide Dogs should pay for a stall as they are selling merchandise and that he will check if they have paid previously.

9. Lights

Deferred to Full Council.

11. Footpaths and Bridleways

Cllr Brewster reported some of the footpaths are overgrown near Monkey Island.

ACTION: Clerk to report to KCC Public Right of Way.

12. Any Other Business

No other matters were raised.

Date of Next Meeting: 24 July 2018

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 8.58pm.

Signed as a true record of the proceedings

Chairman

Dated: