

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held in the Parish Room, Newington Pavilion on 18 April 2023

Present: Cllr Elaine Jackson (Chairman), Cllr Eric Layer (Vice Chairman), Cllr Michael Barlow, Cllr Ruth Brown, Cllr Stephen Harvey and Cllr Tony Mould; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk)

Also present was Mr Jackson, Pavilion Caretaker.

Cllr Jackson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence None

All Members were present

2. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

3. Matters Arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2023

Cllr Jackson reported that the Lottery Grant application has been successful and the Parish Council has been awarded £2,000 towards the fete

Landscape Services want an extra key for the field gate and have agreed that if the key is not returned at the end of the contract, then £150 can be deducted from the final invoice.

4. Public Question Time

No matters were raised.

5. Anti-Social Behaviour

Cllr Harvey said it is not certain whether the parish still has a PCSO.

Cllr Jackson said the vandalism to play area has been reported to Kent Police.

6. Recreation Ground and green spaces

i. To receive an update

Cllr Harvey said that there will be a Friends of Newington Recreation Ground meeting on Friday. Dr Springate has reported that herbicide has been used around the perimeter fence, Landscape Services has said that it has not been treated but clearly something has been used.

ACTION: Clerk to ask Landscape Services again.

Cllr Jackson reported that Wicksteed has agreed to drop the £300 storage charge for the adult exercise equipment. Installation will begin week commencing 24 April. There will be a meeting with the Football Club on 24 April.

Cllr Harvey said Wicksteed accepted the Council's terms and conditions regarding installing the exercise equipment, including ensuring the gate is kept locked, and will need to make contact regarding access to the site. Upchurch Colts Football Club has requested use of the Recreation Ground for the summer, the current team cannot sublet. There will be an introductory rate of £11 per session and the clubs will have to come to an agreement regarding the goal posts.

ii. To consider hedging options for Recreation Ground

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to order the 420 wild life pack.

ACTION: To be delivered to Cllr Layer.

7. Pavilion

Cllr Jackson reported that the pavilion roof clean is scheduled for 4 May. There is a need for shelves in the cleaning cupboard to store cleaning materials and the contractor has been asked for a quote. Nothing has been heard from GRAHAM regarding installing a footpath around the pavilion. The light has been replaced.

8. Allotments

Cllr Layer reported that the Allotment Association AGM was being held tonight. The new fence panels have been installed at the back of the site.

9. Community Woodland

Cllr Layer said there were no issues.

10. Highways

Cllr Jackson said the bollards at 111 London Road had been queried; Swale Borough Council said it was not enforcement. It was reported to KCC Highways who said there was no works order raised for this work so they assumed that a permit to work was not applied for. The land is unregistered.

Cllr Harvey reported that there had been a meeting of the Highways Improvement Plan Working Party and lots of questions were raised. There will be a meeting on Microsoft Teams with KCC Highways next month and issues will be raised.

Cllr Mould reported that there have been requests for wheelie bin stickers.

Cllr Mould said an issue with the [pavement in Church Lane had been raised with him.

ACTION: Clerk to report.

11. Lights

i. To receive an update

Cllr Jackson reported that UKPN is arranging a date for early May to complete the works in Station Road.

ii. To consider quotation for column replacement

Waiting for quote

12. Footpaths and Bridleways

There was nothing to report.

13. Village Voice and media

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** for the May edition to be online and the June edition to be printed to ensure details of the fete were given to all homes in the village.

Cllr Mould reported that the next edition will include a bigger fete article; Citizens Advice article; planning; adult exercise equipment; details of the Newington election; and a thank you to attendees of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Cllr Jackson thanked Cllr Mould for his sterling work.

14. Cemetery and Churchyard

Cllr Mould reported that two graves have sunk in the Cemetery.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the Funeral Directors.

Cllr Layer reported the grass has been cut and the trees need to be cut.

15. Events

Cllr Jackson reported that as well as the £2,000 grant received from The National Lottery, Overburys and Newington Pharmacy have agreed to sponsor events at the Fete.
Cllr Mould said he is trying to find an organiser for the dog show.

16. Any Other Business

The Plymouth Brethren Christian Church has offered to make hot breakfasts for volunteers at the litter pick.

ACTION 1: Cllr Jackson to meet with representative.

ACTION 2: Clerk to ascertain the Village Hall Spaces can be used.

Date of Next Meeting: 30 May 2023

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chairman
Date: 25 April 2023