

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held in the Parish Room, Newington Pavilion on 20 June 2023

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

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Layer took the Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Elaine Jackson (holiday) and Cllr Chris Palmer (Jury Service); apologies accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 30 May 2023

i. To consider the minutes of the meeting and if in order sign as a true record

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 30 May as a true record. Cllr Layer duly signed the minutes.

ii. Matters arising from the minutes (except those issues appearing under specific headings)

No Quad bike signs- Cllr Layer reported that the signs had been torn down.

ACTION: Cllr Mould to make more signs to be put on the Pavilion.

4. Public Question Time

No members of the public were present.

5. Anti-Social Behaviour

Cllr Layer informed Members that he has removed the graffiti at the play area. He had met with Community Warden Adam McKinley regarding the graffiti, there are only three wardens in Swale. Mr McKinley has been given details of the Fete. The new Police Officer is Jez Chittim.

6. Recreation Ground and green spaces

i. To receive an update

Cllr Layer asked for an update on the play panels.

The Clerk reported that she had unable to get a response from the company even though she had phoned several times, sent several emails and used the online contact form. When phoned, they promise to call back but do not.

Cllr Harvey said there needs to be a meeting with the Friends of Newington Recreation Ground to consider other options.

ITEM FOR FULL COUNCIL.

Cllr Layer reported that a new padlock is being purchased for the contractor entrance to the play area, the grass cutters will need a key.

ii. To consider quotations for sputnik repairs

Cllr Harvey PROPOSED to accept the quotation of £190.00 from Maylow Construction: **SECONDED** by Cllr Layer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ACTION: Clerk to inform contractor of Fete date.

Cllr Harvey asked for an update on the wet pour issue at the play area.

The Clerk said she has sent a photo to Wicksteed and they are looking into the matter.

iii. Update on Football Clubs

Cllr Harvey reported that he had met with Upchurch Colts Football Club several weeks ago; there was a meeting with Bredhurst Junior Football Club on 1 June and the caretaker has cleared a space in the garage. Bredhurst Junior Football Club said they could not use the five-a-side goals as it needs padding, it was suggested that they could use lagging. They have agreed to move the goal posts.

ACTION 1: Clerk to chase Bredhurst Junior Football Club regarding contact with Upchurch Colts Football Club.

ACTION 2: Clerk to ascertain if Upchurch Colts still needs a pitch.

ACTION 3: Clerk to inform football clubs of Fete opportunity.

7. Pavilion

i. To receive an update

Cllr Layer reported that he had found the fire exit door open and the toilet light was on.

ii. To consider quotations for roof repairs

Waiting for quotations.

iii. To consider quotation to paint the Pavilion foyer

It was agreed that a quote be obtained for painting the walls only.

8. Allotments

Cllr Layer informed Members that UKPN has replaced its poles and has put one in the allotments. The Allotments Association is concerned as they accessed through the fence and the repair is not very good and also the pole has been put on one of the plots.

The Clerk said the issue has been reported and UKPN is investigating.

ACTION: Clerk to ascertain quotation to replace the fence panel.

9. Highways

There was nothing to report.

10. Lights

The Clerk informed Members that she had received an acknowledgement email (20 June) from KCC Members' Desk that the issue raised regarding the bridge light, will be responded to in twenty working days.

Cllr Harvey said the alley light is still not working.

ACTION: Clerk to report.

11. Footpaths and Bridleways

Cllr Layer said trees are overhanging from the path behind the Orchard Drive houses.

ACTION: Clerk to report.

12. Village Voice and media

Cllr Mould said the next edition will be an online version with the front page echoing the Fete poster and will include the regular articles.

Cllr Harvey asked if there could be a specific section for the wider community information including areas of help.

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

13. Cemetery and Churchyard

i. To receive an update

Cllr Layer reported that the Cemetery Working Group had met. The tap has been replaced. Cllr Harvey said two residents have offered to join the Working Group and have agreed to put the dustbin out.

ii. Review of Cemetery fees

Councillors reviewed the Cemetery Fees.

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** to recommend to Full Council an increase in the fees of 5%; **SECONDED** by Cllr Barlow: **4- FOR, 1 ABSTENTION: MOTION CARRIED.**

14. Commemorative Plaque on Coronation Bus Stop

Cllr Layer said Newington History Group has suggested that it would be fitting if the Coronations plaques on the bus shelter were restored as part of the Parish Council's contribution to the village's King Charles III Coronation commemorations 2023.

ACTION 1 Cllr Mould to take photo of the panels.

ACTION 2: Clerk to ascertain cost of restoration.

15. Events

Village Fete 15 July 2023 – to receive an update

Cllr Layer reported that the rosettes, bunting, cupcake flags and plates have been ordered.

Cllr Mould said a resident has asked if he can have a craft beer stall.

It was agreed that there should no alcohol at the event.

Cllr Mould said posters are being put up in the village.

Cllr Harvey said neighbours of the Recreation Ground need to be written to regarding the Fun Fair.

ACTION: Clerk to draft letter.

16. Any Other Business

No further business was raised.

Date of Next Meeting: 18 July 2023

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chairman

Date: 20 June 2023