

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held in the Parish Room, Newington Pavilion on 19 March 2024

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Eric Layer (holiday) and Cllr Chris Palmer (at another meeting): apologies accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2024

Cllr Jackson informed Members that the caravan in Playstool Road has been removed. Facebook posts have reported to Insurance company. Volunteers have come forward to help with the litter pick. Network Rail has been contacted about the litter and it will be investigated.

ACTION: Clerk to request an update.

The Portrait of the King has been ordered

Cllr Harvey requested an update on the saplings.

The Clerk said the contractor is waiting for better weather.

ACTION: Clerk to ask contractor when it is scheduled and to request avoiding the Easter holidays.

4. Public Question Time

No members of the public were present.

5. Anti-Social Behaviour

There was nothing to report.

6. Recreation Ground and green spaces

i. To receive an update

Cllr Harvey requested an update be obtained from insurance company.

ACTION: Clerk

The Clerk reported that the keyholders' list has been updated.

Two contractors have been approached for quotations to clean the bus shelters.

ii. To consider play area inspection report

Councillors considered the inspection report and noted there were a few very low risk matters. The basket swing was rated a moderate risk and it was agreed to take action to prevent further deterioration. The cable ties need to be cut back.

ACTION: Clerk to check guarantee for rope net and to request bolt covers from Wicksteed.

The yellow bin is not being locked.

ACTION: Clerk to check specification of the bin.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain quote for replacement basket swing and also rope only.

7. Pavilion

i. To receive an update

Cllr Harvey reported the cleaner was unable to clean the pavilion at present.

Cllr Jackson said the Council is still waiting for quotation for a new hand dryer.

ii. Pavilion extension

Cllr Mould reported that an expert will give advice on a proposal.

iii. To consider quotations for notice board

No response from contractor

iv. Youth Provision Service Agreement

Amendments were suggested for the agreement. Monthly feedback will be requested to monitor numbers of children from Newington; total attendees and how many new children attend.

ACTION: Clerk

8. Allotments

There was nothing to report.

9. Highways

i. To receive an update

Cllr Harvey reported that a query has been raised regarding the flooding in Boxted Lane, it is KCC's policy not to put drainage in.

ACTION: Clerk to respond to resident.

ii. Highways Improvement Plan

Cllr Harvey reported that there had been a very good meeting with Jennie Watson, KCC Highways, who has agreed to install 20mph repeater signs and will liaise with the Highways Steward regarding KEEP CLEAR road markings. There will be no work until the new financial year.

10. Lights

There was nothing to report.

11. Footpaths and Bridleways

Cllr Harvey said hopefully the walking group can be relied upon to report any issues of overgrown vegetation in Cranbrook Lane.

12. Village Voice and media

Cllr Mould gave an update on articles which will include a thank you to the volunteers who tend the garden around the village sign; the litter pick; the Fete; youth provision and contact numbers for any issues with bin collections.

Cllr Jackson reported some articles on the website need to be removed.

ACTION: Clerk.

13. Cemetery and Churchyard

It was agreed to sign the form for the licence for exhumation.

ACTION: Clerk.

14. Events

Village Fete 13 July 2024

Cllr Mould informed Members that the judge for the dog show has agreed to come back again and she will order the rosettes. The next meeting will be on 4 April at 4pm.

15. Any Other Business

No other matters were raised.

Date of Next Meeting: 23 April 2024

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Signed a true record of the meeting

Chairman
Date: 23 April 2024

DRAFT