

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

Also present was Mr Bob Jackson, Pavilion Caretaker

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Michael Barlow (holiday) and Cllr Chris Palmer (at another meeting); apologies accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2023

Cllr Jackson reported that Upchurch Colts Football Club is using Upchurch Recreation Ground.

4. Public Question Time

No members of the public were present.

5. Anti-Social Behaviour

Cllr Jackson reported that there had been a response from PC Chittim regarding cold callers. Newington is a Cold Calling Controlled Zone; the Police can intercept cold callers as could be possible harassment. PC Chittim had reported there have been a few parking issues with vehicles parking on the pavement.

Cllr Harvey said there had been an issue where cold callers were telling residents that the Police and Trading Standards had said they were permitted to cold call. PC Chittim should be informed of the Police surgeries held by his predecessors.

The Clerk informed Members that she has already advised him of this.

6. Recreation Ground and green spaces

Cllr Jackson said the overhanging trees, behind Orchard Drive, have been reported but they want photos.

Cllr Layer said the large bush is on the Recreation Ground.

Cllr Harvey reported that he will source *No quad bike* signs.

Cllr Jackson said there is a gap in the hedge where quad bikes are gaining access to the orchard.

Cllr Harvey said the fence has been trampled on and the hedge flattened.

ACTION: Clerk to research.

Cllr Jackson reported that the garage mural has been completed.

ACTION: Clerk to write letter of thanks.

Cllr Jackson reported that two more keys have been obtained for the top gate; further keys will be obtained for the garage and padlocks.

ACTION: Councillors to inform the Clerk of which keys they hold.

Cllr Harvey said there is the possibility of S106 money.

ACTION: Clerk to request meeting with rep to discuss options.

Cllr Jackson said the UKPN padlock has been cut off the gate. The old telegraph poles have not been removed.

ACTION: Clerk to contact UKPC.

7. Pavilion

i. To receive an update

Cllr Jackson reported that the baby shower went well and deposit has been returned. The Parish Room has been booked for the school leavers party and also for a birthday party.

Cllr Harvey said the leak around the soil stack has not been repaired yet.

ii. To consider quotations for roof repairs

Waiting for quotes

8. Allotments

Cllr Layer reported that there were no issues.

ACTION: Clerk to chase contractor for quote to repair fence.

9. Highways

There was nothing to report.

10. Lights

Cllr Jackson informed Members that the alleyway light has been reported to Swale Borough Council.

The Clerk reported that the light under the bridge is not Network Rails responsibility but National Rail's and this has been reported to them.

11. Footpaths and Bridleways

Cllr Harvey said the footpath from Mill Hill to Boxted Lane is overgrown with nettles.

Cllr Jackson said the stile near Persimmon is in a poor condition.

ACTION: Councillors to report.

12. Village Voice and media

i. To receive an update

Cllr Mould said the Village Voice will include an article and photos of the fete. Inconsiderate parking and cold calling articles will be included.

ii. To consider commercial leaflet inclusion

Councillors considered a request from a business regarding the inclusion of a leaflet with the next printed edition of the Village Voice.

Item deferred to Full Council.

13. Cemetery and Churchyard

Cllr Layer reported that the Cemetery is looking good at the moment.

14. Restoration of Commemorative Plaques on Coronation Bus Stop

Waiting to receive quotations, deferred to Full Council.

15. Events

Cllr Jackson reported that the coconut shy raised £51.60, the remaining coconuts were taken to the school for the children to have; the dog show raised £10 and the tea tent £43.50.

ACTION: Fete Working Group to have a debriefing meeting.

16. Any Other Business

Cllr Jackson reported that more 20mph bin stickers have been distributed.

Cllr Harvey said KCC Highways will want to have their banners returned.
ACTION: Clerk to contact KCC Highways.

Wicksteed invoice- it was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to approve payment of the invoice.

Cllr Jackson reported that she and Cllr Harvey had contacted Vibe regarding the Summer treasure hunt.

Date of Next Meeting: 19 September 2023

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.06pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chairman
Date: 25 July 2023