

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 31 October 2023 in the Newington Room, Newington Village Hall

Present: Cllr Tony Mould (Vice Chairman), Cllr Ruth Brown, Cllr Ray Cuffley, Cllr Steve Godmon, Cllr Stephen Harvey and Cllr Chris Palmer;
and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk)

Also present were PC Jez Chittim and two members of public.

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Mould took the Chair.

1. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

No applications have been received yet

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Richard Palmer (at another meeting), Cllr Eric Layer (personal) and Cllr Michael Barlow. (work); apologies accepted.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2023

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

Cllr C Palmer **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2023 as a true record of the meeting; **SECONDED** by Cllr Harvey: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.
Cllr Mould duly signed the minutes as a true record.

ii. Matters arising from the minutes

Cllr Mould reported that Network Rail is still maintaining that the bridge light is not their light and is trying to arrange a meeting with KCC Highways and Newington Parish Council.
Cllr Harvey said the light in the alley to the car park has not been repaired, it has now been out for eighteen months.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No matters were raised.

7.05pm Cllr Brown arrived

6. VISITORS

i. Police

PC Chittim reported that there had been several incidents in the village and the response and outcomes have been positive. Police surgeries at the school for parents and students have been successful and surgeries may also be held at Corner Café. It is hoped that the Police will attend the Village Fete with a car or van.

Cllr Mould thanked PC Chittim for attending the meeting and for his report.

ii. Borough Councillors

SBCllr C Palmer reported that she had been busy helping residents with their GP and health issues. Three organisations had been contacted and residents are being sign posted to the correct one for help.

iii. County Councillor

There was no report from the County Councillor.

7. PLANNING

i. To receive an update

Application: 23/501853/FULL 19 High Street, Newington ME9 7JR

Proposal: Change of use of ground floor from a residential letting agency to a hot food takeaway and restaurant (fish and chip shop service) including installation of external ventilation ducting.

Cllr Harvey informed Members that a decision is yet to be made.

Application: 23/503792/FULL Moat View, Church Lane, Newington ME9 7JX

Proposal: Erection of a detached dwelling for a disabled person with associated parking and minor landscaping works (Resubmission 22/504968/FULL).

Cllr Harvey reported that a decision is yet to be made.

Application: 22/501005/FULL 77 High Street, Newington ME9 7JJ

Proposal: Erection of 10 no. detached C3 dwellinghouses with repositioned vehicular access from public highway.

Cllr Harvey said a decision is yet to be made.

Application: 23/503580/FULL 21 London Road, Newington ME9 7NP

Proposal: Garage conversion to bedroom.

Cllr Harvey reported that the application has been permitted.

Application: 23/501222/LBC 55-57 High Street, Newington ME9 7JJ

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for the internal alterations including removal walls, doors, two set of stairs, external alterations including erection of a first floor north elevation extension, insertion of balcony, roof lights and changes to fenestration including conversion of outbuilding.

Cllr Harvey reported that a decision is yet to be made.

Application: 23/501221/FULL 55-57 High Street, Newington ME9 7JJ

Proposal: Conversion of restaurant and existing two residential flats into a 6no. two bedroom and 1no. one bedroom residential flats including erection of a first floor north elevation extension, insertion of balconies and changes to fenestration. Conversion of existing outbuilding to an office.

Cllr Harvey said a decision is yet to be made.

Application: 22/503654/EIOUT Land To The West Of Bobbing, ME9 8QL

Proposal: Outline application (all matters reserved except for access) for a mixed used development comprising up to 2,500 dwellings, a 4.99ha commercial employment zone including doctors surgery, a 4.2ha sports hub, primary school, community facilities, local retail provision, public open space, children's play areas and associated parking, servicing, utilities, footpath and cycle links, drainage, ground and other infrastructure.

Cllr Harvey reported that a decision is yet to be made.

Appeal to the Planning Inspectorate

Application: 21/504028/FULL Land At School Lane, Newington ME9 7JU

Proposal: Erection of 25no. residential dwellings and the provision of a 20 space staff car park and 20 space pupil pick-up/drop-off area for Newington C of E Primary School, together with associated access, landscaping, drainage and infrastructure works.

Planning Inspectorate PINS reference APP/V2255/W/22/3312284

Cllr Harvey informed Members that the appeal has been allowed.

ii. Ref: 23/504502/FULL

Address: Woodland Farm High Oak Hill Iwade Road Newington, Kent ME9 7HY

Proposal: Erection of a permanent agricultural dwelling with associated parking (Resubmission 21/504388/FULL).

Councillors considered the application and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to object to the proposal.

Cllr Mould thanked Cllr Harvey for his report.

8. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

i. To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 24 October 2023 and consider the recommendations

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2023 as a true record of the meeting; **SECONDED** by Cllr Mould: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Cllr Jackson duly signed the minutes as a true record.

Cllr Jackson reported that, following an incident at the Recreation Ground, the claim is currently with the insurers who will carry out an investigation. Cllr Layer will meet with UKPN's contractors regarding the damage to the allotments fence. There is an ongoing issue regarding the light under the bridge and a meeting is being arranged with Network Rail and KCC Highways. The Village Fete will be held on 13 July 2024. Help is needed to install the Christmas lights.

Cllr Mould reported that he had contacted the Newington History Group regarding the Anniversary of the D Day landings, they will be lighting the beacon.

Cllr Harvey said the Parish Council could organise a village picnic.

Cllr Mould thanked Cllr Jackson for her report.

ii. To consider quotations for repairs to Pavilion roof

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** to accept the quote of £1800 from JTF Roofing; **SECONDED** by Cllr Jackson: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

iii. To consider quotation for signage at Recreation Ground

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** purchasing three signs at £21.10 each: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

iv. To consider options for removal of spoil at the Cemetery

Cllr Jackson said that there is an issue regarding the removal of the Hippobag.

ACTION: Cllr Mould to contact contractor for assistance.

Cllr Godmon asked for permission to purchase paint for the garage; agreed.

9. SWALE BOROUGH COUNCIL LAND

Cllr Mould said the matter is progressing and the legal fees will be £1,400.

10. VILLAGE VOICE AND MEDIA

Cllr Mould reported that the Village Voice is being finalised and a draft will be circulated.

11. FINANCE

i. Cheque list: to consider invoices for payment

Payee	Reason	Amount
Swale Borough Council	Election costs- 04.05.23	£258.01
Business Stream	Cemetery water	£21.59
Mazars LLP	External audit	£426.00
DCK Accounting	Payroll fees – October	£36.00
Mr R Jackson	Pavilion expenses	£12.60
Mrs W Licence	Salary	£921.57
HMRC	PAYE & NI	£123.56
Mrs W Licence	Expenses	£60.70
Mrs E Jackson	Graham thank you event expenses	£12.10
Mrs W Licence	Hippowaste reimbursement	£175.98
Mr R Malone	Litter Picking Recreation Ground - Oct Litter Picking	£527.00
Mr MJ Marshall	Cemetery and Churchyard maintenance - Oct	£625.00
Mr R Burrows	Track gate keeper- Oct	£100.00
Kent County Playing Fields Association	Subscription	£20.00
Mrs W Licence:	reimbursement of signage	£119.38
Business Stream	Pavilion and Recreation Ground Water	£211.63

Cllr Godmon **PROPOSED** to make the payments; **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ii. Finance report

No questions or comments were raised.

iii. External auditor's report

Cllr Godmon said the report was fine.

iv. To consider donation to Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for poppy wreath

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to make a donation of £75 for the poppy wreath (chq no 30005)

v. Any other finance matter received by 31 October 2023

NatWest:- 30.09.23 £46,462.42

Nationwide:- 31.03.23 £46,034.40

Unity Trust:- 30.09.23 £25,051.41

Payments

19.09.23	DRAX	Electricity	£442.57
25.09.23	NEST	Pension	£224.51

Receipts

18.09.23	Doddington Parish Council	Share of SLCC fees	£55.80
18.09.23	Detling Parish Council	Share of SLCC fees	£55.80
25.09.23	Eastling Parish Council	Share of SLCC fees	£55.80
29.09.23	Swans Fitness Clun	Community Sports Hall hire and deposit	£20.00

12. SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Cuffley reported that last week, a member of the Speedwatch Police had attended a session and carried out independent checks with his own equipment, there were a lot of speeding vehicles. This week Alan Watson, Community Speedwatch Manager, and a colleague have attended a session. Newington has a high number of speeding vehicles compared to other areas in the county and details are reported to the Police. Cllr Mould thanked Cllr Cuffley for his report.

13. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

There were no reports.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

- C1. 27.09.23- Bredgar Parish Councillor: 20mph scheme
- C2. 28.09.23- NALC CEO bulletin
- C3. 29.09.23- National Highways: work in Kent for the week ahead
- C4. 02.10.23- Swale Borough Council: Policy Round-Up
- C5. 02.10.23- Kent Police: attendance at meetings
- C6. 02.10.23- KCC Highways: Emergency Road Closure - Church Lane & Bull Lane- 2nd October 2023
- C7. 02.10.23- KCC Highways: Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd - Temporary Road Closure - Church Lane, Newington - 7th November
- C8. 04.10.23- NALC newsletter
- C9. 04.10.23- KALC newsletter
- C10. 04.10.23- KALC events
- C11. 05.09.23- NALC CEO bulletin
- C12. 06.10.23- National Highways roadworks in Kent
- C13. 09.10.23- Swale Borough Council: Policy Round-Up
- C14. 11.10.23- NALC newsletter
- C15. 12.10.23- NALC: CEO bulletin
- C16. 12.10.23- KCC Highways: temporary road closure Bull Lane
- C17. 13.10.23- National Highways: work in Kent for the week ahead
- C18. 16.10.23- Swale Borough Council: Policy Round-Up
- C19. 16.10.23- Friends of Citizens Advice Swale newsletter
- C20. 18.10.23- NALC newsletter
- C21. 18.10.23- KCC Highways: urgent road closure - Church Lane 26 October
- C22. 18.10.23- National Highways work in Kent for the week ahead
- C23. 18.10.23- National Highways: M2 junction 5 improvement scheme – update
- C24. 19.10.23- NALC CEO bulletin
- C25. 23.10.23- Swale Borough Council: Policy Round-Up
- C26. NALC CEO bulletin
- C27. 27.10.23- National Highways work in Kent for the week ahead

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Mould informed Members that he will lay a wreath on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Godmon said the census figures for 2021 have been published and asked if the website could be updated.

ACTION: Clerk

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 28 November 2023 at 7pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.59pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 28 November 2023