

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Tuesday 20 February 2018 in the Wickham Room, Newington Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Elaine Jackson (Chair), Cllr Eric Layer (Vice Chair), Cllr Sue Brewster, Cllr Dean Coles, Cllr Ray Cuffley, Cllr Stephen Harvey and Cllr Tony Mould; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

Also present was one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Richard Palmer; apologies accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

None were declared

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Amenities Meeting on 23 January 2018

a). Church Lane vehicle damage- The Community Warden was off sick and the PCSO has said he will check it out although he need the dates.

ACTION: Clerk to contact PCSO for an update.

b). Pavilion Locks - The locksmith is waiting for the second barrel to come in

c). Recording incidents of fly tipping of tyres- the Clerk has not received any reports.

ACTION: Clerk to keep a record of incidents.

d). Quotations for the fascias/guttering – waiting to receive quotations,

e). Pavilion flooring will be fitted at the beginning of March, there may be an additional cost for the kitchen area and the contractor will contact the Pavilion Caretaker for access to measure the kitchen area.

Councillors **AGREED** to recommend to Full Council that flooring in the kitchen area should be laid up to an additional cost of £150.00

f). Light in Callaways Lane, as reported to the January Full Council meeting- This has been reported to PFL and has been chased up.

ACTION: Clerk to contact PFL again for a copy of the contract.

g). Reinstatement footpath ZR5841- Kent PROW have it listed as landowner action.

ACTION: Clerk to contact KCC PROW to inform them the landowner has not reinstated the footpath.

h). Village Hall Car Park light- Reported again to Swale Borough Council on 26 January 2018

i). Public toilets- The Clerk is waiting to hear back from Swale Borough Council

j). BT damage to water pipe- Having repudiated the claim, BT have now asked for a copy of the invoice.

4. Public Question Time

No matters were raised.

5. Anti-Social Behaviour

i. PCSO report

The PCSO was unable to attend the meeting and sent the following report for 1- 21 February 2018:

Criminal Damage- The Willows.

Theft from building site High Street,

Theft of pedal cycle outside the Co-op.

Motorcycles riding on Monkey Island. One rider warned and given a Section 59 warning.

ACTION: Clerk to invite Inspector Wade to a meeting prior to the April Committee meeting.

ii. Community Warden report

- 1) Dog fouling on pavement outside houses on High Street.
- 2) Fly tipping in Wickham Close, also only one of the two communal rubbish bins are being emptied – Reported to Swale Borough Council.
- 3) Quad bikes fitting through posts and churning up ground in picnic area in recreation ground – Reported to PCSO.
- 4) Contractors not emptying communal bin in Wickham Close due to tins of paint and electrical goods put in there – Spoke to head of cleansing at Swale Borough Council.
- 5) Kitchen knife found in recreation ground – Disposed of it and made PCSO aware.
- 6) Large amount of fly tipping in entrance to bridleway in Iwade Road, High oak Hill – Reported to Swale Borough Council.
- 7) Fridge/freezer fly tipped in entrance to byway (one that leads from track off Callaways Lane to Wormdale Farm) – Reported to Swale Borough Council.
- 8) Successful bingo club afternoon, discussed latest scams around and keeping safe.
- 9) Five bags of heavy clay type soil/garden refuse fly tipped in recreation ground – Reported to Swale Borough Council.
- 10) Three youths riding illegal motorbikes down track into recreation ground area and driving round and round wild area footpath for approximately forty-five minutes – Advised resident to ring PCSO or 101 in the future when this is happening.
- 11) Van broken into whilst parked in Playstool Road and work tools stolen – Police aware.
- 12) Brown lounge chair fly tipped in bus shelter on High Street – Reported to Swale Borough Council.
- 13) Several major tools, diesel, computer etc. stolen from a storage container situated on building site on High Street – Police aware.
- 14) Concerns from resident regarding possible abandoned car in St. Mary's View – Checked out, now gone.
- 15) Fly tipping in Mill Lane, car seat, tyres all up lane and glass frame – Reported to Swale Borough Council.
- 16) Overhanging conifers obstructing new pavement area in School Lane – Making responsible resident aware.

The new village art group will be called St. Mary's Art Group and the first session will be held on Friday morning, 6th April 10.00 – 12.00 midday at St. Mary's Church. It will run on the first and third Fridays of each month. Painting, drawing, textiles, photography all artists are welcome to bring their own kit with them. Donation of £2.00 towards tea/coffee.

6. Recreation Ground

i. Newington Community Sports Club

Cllr Jackson reported events are not running on the scheduled nights, the Council should have a programme of events for 2018 but it has not been received. The Club's lease is due for renewal on 1 April 2018.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the Sports Club to request programme of events.

ii. Fun Fair

Cllr Harvey reported that Smith's Fun Fair wants to visit again and would like to arrive on Tuesday 8 May: Friday evening 11 May the Fun Fair opens; Saturday 12 May afternoon and evening sessions; Sunday 13 May afternoon session and Monday 14 May Fun Fair leaves. The Fun Fair will pay £400 for the hire and £500 deposit. It will be mentioned in the Village Voice. The Fun Fair could be tied in with the opening ceremony of the refurbished Pavilion. Councillors **AGREED** for the Fun Fair to hire the recreation Ground.

ACTION: 1) Clerk to contact Smith's Funfair for the insurance details.

2) Clerk to notify Bredhurst Football Club and Allotment Association

3) Clerk to prepare the usual letter for distribution to Orchard Drive residents a week before the event.

Cllr Jackson thanked Cllr Harvey for liaising with the Fun Fair.

iii. To receive any other update

Cllr Harvey reported he had met with a fencing contractor to look at the Pavilion compound fence. The contractor suggested removing the barbed wire and overhang from the top of the fencing and just to replace the front section of the fence. A quotation is being drawn up.

ACTION: Item for Full Council.

Cllr Coles said there needs to be a notice board in the Pavilion.

Cllr Harvey reported that twenty blue plastic chairs may be available from a youth centre which is closing down. The additional chairs will supplement the chairs given by the Sports Club and Cllr Haigh has offered to arrange transport.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to donate £100 to Medway Youth Service for the chairs.

Cllr Jackson said an email has been received from a resident living by the oak tree on the Recreation Ground, stating a large branch has fallen off the tree.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Paul Hegley, Swale Borough Council, for advice and to inform the resident of the action being taken.

7. Allotments

Cllr layer reported the County Councillor has given a grant of £500 and the Ward Members have agreed to give £200. Five fence panels have been erected

8. Newington Festival 2018

Cllr Jackson reported there had been a meeting of the Festival Working Party and arrangements are progressing well. The prospective new Executive Head teacher of the school has shown a keen interest in community events and it is hoped she will be keen to help with the Festival. A quote had been received for the toilets and the price has increased by 5%. The cost of the Festival programme has also increased and Cllr Mould will approach Swale Borough Council for a quotation. Cllr Mould and Cllr Brewster are selling space in the programme. The Bull has agreed to run the beer tent. Cllr Brewster is making progress with the raffle and the main prize will be a barrow of booze. Cllr Coles has sent over fifty emails to previous stall holders and forms, insurance and payment will be sent direct to the Clerk. The bands have been booked.

The next Festival meeting will be on 20 March at 8.30pm.

8. Lights

Cllr Jackson reported a survey of the lights is being carried out and the contractor has found thirteen street lights out.

Cllr Coles said that three or four lights have been reported but only one have been repaired.

Cllr Mould said there needs to be an article in the Village Voice to show the Council has been proactive in trying to get the contractor to repair the lights and is now looking at the contractor's contract.

Cllr Cuffley asked if there was an update regarding the contract.

Cllr Jackson said Cllr Haigh is asking for the specification and contract from the current contractor.

9. Footpaths and Bridleways

There was nothing else to report.

10. Village Voice

Cllr Mould said there would be articles on the lighting issues, planning and anti-social behaviour.

Cllr Brewster said the Co-op Community Fund would be of interest to organisations and could be included.

ACTION: Cllr Brewster to send details of the scheme to Cllr Mould.

11. Any Other Business

Cllr Cuffley said that when there were road works on the A2 near Playstool Road, there was a severe lack of welfare facilities for the workmen. One worker was there for the two weeks and worked from 6.30am- 5pm and used the bushes as a toilet.

ACTION: Clerk to contact SGN and KCC about the problem with copy to KCCllr Whiting.

Cllr Cuffley said there is a lot of mud on the road by the development on the former Working Men's Club.

Cllr Layer said the road is being washed down.

Cllr Harvey said developers only have to clean the road if it is part of the planning conditions.

Cllr Layer said the zig zag lines and yellow lines outside the school have been refreshed.

Date of Next Meeting: 20 March 2018

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15pm.