

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held virtually on 25 August 2020

Present: Cllr Tony Mould (Chairman), Cllr Richard Palmer (Vice Chairman), Cllr Ryan Condron, Cllr Richard Geldard, Cllr Stephen Harvey, Cllr Elaine Jackson, Cllr Eric Layer and Cllr James Morgan; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

Also present was Ward Member Alan Horton and one member of the public

Cllr Mould welcomed everyone to the meeting.

SBCllr Horton said that it had been quiet in the village during August except for the issues in Tulip Mews. Further sanitiser can be purchased to be included in the grant to the Parish Council.

Cllr Mould said Swale will not process the Members Grants from SBCllr Horton or SBCllr Palmer until the Festive and Environment Grants have been spent.

The Clerk reported that she had explained the reasons why the Council had been unable to spend the grant money but Swale Borough Council will not process other grants.

1. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr Mould informed Members that there has been no election has been no call for an election and no applications have been received. There are two vacancies which will be advertised in the Village Voice.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All Members were present.

Apologies had been received from KCCllr Whiting (holiday); apologies noted.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28 JULY 2020 AND THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 11 AUGUST 2020

Cllr Layer **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 28 July as a true record; **SECONDED** by Cllr Jackson: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

The minutes of the meeting will be signed at the next physical Council meeting.

Cllr Condron **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 11 August and the confidential minutes of that meeting as a true record; **SECONDED** by Cllr Layer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

The minutes of the meeting will be signed at the next physical Council meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES 29 JULY

Repairs to play area

Cllr Harvey reported that he had met with the contractor who hopes to repair the sputnik soon. The contractor said that the swing chains should be replaced. This might be an additional item for the preferred bidder. SBCllr Palmer's grant will go towards the repair of the Sputnik and the chains

Bull Lane light insurance claim

Cllr Mould said details of the witness have been passed to the insurers

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING ON 11 AUGUST

Cllr Harvey said that there is nothing on Contracts Finder regarding the awarding of the tender. The Clerk said that she was waiting for the appropriate wording and that she had spoken to the winning bidder.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No matters were raised.

7. VISITORS

i. Borough Councillors

Cllr Mould said SBCllr Horton's report was given at the beginning of the meeting.

SBCllr Palmer said that it has been a quiet month and that he has dealt with a couple of local issues. A tractor hit the bridge last Friday and SBCllr Palmer had spoken to the Police. There has been concern from residents regarding the Travel Saver bus pass as they feel they have been unfairly treated being given a refund of £50 for five months off. This has been taken up with the KCC Cabinet Member. The Government website says there should be extensions or refunds and this should be the same with Kent County Council.

Cllr Condron said that KCC has taken three different approaches; if the pass was paid in full there was a £50 refund; those who were eligible for a reduced cost pass received £15 refund and if paid monthly the payments were not collected

Cllr Palmer said people have not received refunds.

ii. County Councillor

KCCllr Whiting had sent the following report for July:

Often July can be a quiet month, however, this has been particularly busy.

I'll start with the Key Street roundabout. Phase 1 work has now almost finished to improve flows of traffic. This was a prerequisite of the current local plan. Phase two will be more substantial and final designs have to be agreed between KCC and Highways England. This will involve a new slip road off Chestnut Street. There will also be major improvements at the Grovehurst roundabout. Both of these projects, totalling some £38m, will be paid for by Government.

My main focus for the month has been to stop the burning at Raspberry Hill Lane, Iwade, which I feel has been a public health issue as much as anything else. I have been liaising with various agencies, including the Director of Public Health and Public Health England to achieve this, and am grateful for the support of all agencies.

I have distributed hand sanitiser and face masks to each parish to deliver to their vulnerable residents and volunteers. I am very grateful for the Parishes in their help in ensuring these reach the right people.

I continue to promote Parish Highways Improvement Plans as a way to make the roads in our villages safer for all users. KCC sees this as the best way forward, and we have seen improvements in many areas, including Upchurch recently, which is testament to their hard work.

I am working with parishes to introduce 20mph zones, as I have in The Meads and in Munsgore Lane, Borden, and have used my Member grant to pay for speed surveys to assist parishes in making their case. I am happy to engage with all parishes to help ensure we get the highways improvements that really matter to our residents.

I have made grants from my Member funds to a variety of good causes, and welcome further bids. Please email me.

KCC is working with Government on its cycling and walking aspirations, and with Swale on its town centre plans. Clearly, moving forward, town centres have a tough road ahead and I want to do what we can to help ensure they remain viable and vibrant.

Once the final works at Key Street and at Newington are complete I hope to see the remainder of the A2 resurfaced, meaning the stretch between the Medway border and Key Street should be, at last, fit for purpose for some years to come - if the utilities don't dig it up again!

There have been a range of local issues including overgrown hedges, potholes, school places etc, which I continue to deal with.

Finally, I would congratulate all of you on the work you have done during this terrible pandemic crisis to support your communities and please remember, I am always here to assist where I can.

I hope this is helpful, however, please let me know if you require assistance with any other issue. I look forward to seeing you, virtually or otherwise, soon.

8. PLANNING

i. To receive an update

Ref: 20/502607/FULL London Road Café, 1 Hartlip Hill, Hartlip ME9 7NZ

Proposal: Erection of a single storey side extension to create a new takeaway (Class A5).

Cllr Harvey reported that the application has been refused.

Appeal to the Planning Inspectorate

Ref: 19/503203/FULL Land At 6 Ellens Place, Boyces Hill, Newington ME9 7JG

Proposal: Erection of a chalet bungalow with detached garage. Creation of new vehicular access and erection of a detached garage to serve no. 6.

PINS reference: APP/V2255/W/20/3250073

Cllr Harvey said a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 19/500029/FULL Land Rear Of 132 High Street, Newington ME9 7JH

Proposal: Erection of a 4 bedroom detached dwelling and associated carport/garage.

PINS Reference: APP/V2255/W/20/3247555

Cllr Harvey said a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 19/505596/FULL Land Rear Of 148 High Street High Street, ME9 7JH

Proposal: Conversion of former agricultural barn and associated lightweight structure to a dwelling house with furniture restoration workshop and home office, associated storage, car parking and access driveway (Resubmission of 19/504153/FULL).

PINS reference: APP/V2255/W/20/3245359

Cllr Harvey reported the Appeal has been dismissed. The proposal is outside the built-up area of the village.

Ref: 18/500767/FULL Newington Working Mens Club, High Street, ME9 7JL

Proposal: Variation of Condition 2 and removal of Condition 11 of application 17/504342/FULL (Retrospective demolition of former Working Mens Club and erection of 9no. dwellings and 1no. maisonette together with carports for garaging of cars (Revised scheme). (Vary Condition 2 to include reference to 'Titan-Sonair' ventilation system to bedrooms and dining room fronting the high street.)

Cllr Harvey said there is no further update regarding enforcement.

Ref: 19/502206/FULL 61 Playstool Road, Newington ME9 7NL

Proposal: Retrospective application for the erection of a first floor rear extension, loft extension and lean to roof at front and side of dwelling (resubmission of 18/502531/FULL).

PINS reference: APP/V2255/D/19/3240474

Cllr Harvey said the applicant has found another builder to demolish the extension.

Ref: 20/502218/OUT Home Farm, Breach Lane, Lower Halstow ME9 7DB

Proposal: Outline Application with all matters reserved for the proposed development of six houses and three bungalows.

Cllr Harvey said a decision is yet to be made.

Ref: 20/502513/FULL Bell House 125 Bull Lane, Newington ME9 7NB

Proposal: Revision of planning application SW/11/0028 for the erection of an outbuilding to provide gym, annexe and swimming pool. (Works started)

Cllr Harvey said the application has been permitted.

SHLAA for Newington

Parish Council discussion for Autumn 2020, to fit with consultation timetable.

Cllr Harvey reported that he had been contacted by resident of The Tracies regarding being unable to observe two-minutes silence for VJ Day as the contractors were working at 2.45pm on the Saturday. The developers have said that this was gas works. The developers have said that they will resurface the road when the work is finished and that he would have the road swept that afternoon. Residents have notified that the road had not been swept and that work was continuing on the Saturday. A resident has emailed the Parish Council regarding lorries using Bull Lane. The Parish Council had asked that construction traffic should use Playstool Road, unfortunately, the Planning Officer did not make this a condition in the planning permission, only an advisory note. George Mynehan, Swale Borough Council Senior Planning Enforcement Investigator, is going to speak with the contractor to remedy the issues. Cllr Jackson said there is a 7 ½ ton weight limit on Playstool Road. A trailer was left at the beginning of Playstool Road and the Police are trying to track the owner.

SBCllr Horton said there is a 7 ½ ton weight limit on all lanes except for access, so sometimes HGVs have a legitimate need to use them.

Ref: 20/501475/FULL Land Rear Of Eden Meadow, High Street Newington ME9 7JH

Proposal: Erection of 40 No. residential dwellings including affordable housing and associated car parking, hardstanding, landscaping and open spaces, infrastructure including SuDs and earthworks accessed from the existing junction serving Eden Meadow from the A2 High Street

Cllr Harvey said there was nothing to report.

Ref: SW/16/507594/RVAR (KCC/SW/0526/2018)

Paradise Farm, Lower Hartlip Road, Hartlip, Sittingbourne ME9 7SR

Cllr Harvey said there was nothing to report.

Ref: 17/505711/HYBRID Land at Wises Lane Borden Kent ME10 1GD

Hybrid planning application with outline planning permission (all matters reserved except for access) sought for up to 595 dwellings including affordable housing; a two-form entry primary school with associated outdoor space and vehicle parking; local facilities comprising a Class A1 retail store of up to 480 sq m GIA and up to 560sqm GIA of "flexible use" floorspace that can be used for one or more of the following uses - A1 (retail), A2 (financial and professional services), A3 (restaurants and cafes), D1 (non-residential institutions); a rugby clubhouse / community building of up to 375 sq m GIA, three standard RFU sports pitches and associated vehicle parking; a link road between Borden Lane and Chestnut Street / A249; allotments; and formal and informal open space incorporating SuDS, new planting / landscaping and ecological enhancement works. Full planning permission is sought for the erection of 80 dwellings including affordable housing, open space, associated access / roads, vehicle parking, associated services, infrastructure, landscaping and associated SuDS.

For clarity - the total number of dwellings proposed across the site is up to 675 -

Cllr Harvey said there was nothing to report.

Ref: 18/505060/ADJ (Alternative reference: 18/504836/EIOU) Binbury Park, Detling Hill, Detling, Maidstone, Kent

Proposal: Adjoining Authority Consultation from Maidstone Borough Council for Outline application (with all matters reserved apart from access) for the erection of up to 1,750 dwellings including affordable housing, 46,000 sq.m of commercial space, a hotel, a local centre, a new primary school, a park and ride facility, strategic highways improvements including new Kent Showground access/egress, accesses/roads including a new bridleway bridge, parking, associated open space, landscaping, services, and Sustainable Drainage Systems. In addition the proposals include a publicly-accessible country park including the Binbury Motte and Bailey Castle Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Cllr Harvey said there was nothing to report.

ii. Ref: 20/503356/FULL

Address: Cherrymere, Keycol Hill, Bobbing ME9 7LG

Proposal: Demolition of existing outbuilding. Erection of rear and side single storey pitched roof extensions

Councillors considered the application.

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** that if there were no neighbour objections, the Parish Council would respond that it has no comments save that neighbours' views be taken into account; **SECONDED** by Cllr Jackson: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

iii. Ref: 20/503210/FULL

Address: 19 The Willows Newington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7LS

Proposal: Demolition of existing garage and erection of part single storey, part two storey side and rear extension, with new vehicular crossover (resubmission of 20/500540/FULL).

Councillors considered the application and had no comment to make save that neighbours' views be taken into account.

iv. Swale Borough Council call for sites to be submitted as proposed Local Green Spaces

Cllr Harvey said that Robert Jenrick, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, has proposed a triage of all land: land for development with minimum checking, renewal areas with much quicker development and thirdly land with no development. It is in Newington's interest to get as much as possible in category three, failing that category two. Submitting green spaces, and last month hedgerows, would be extremely helpful. There will be a Planning Committee to review the SHLAA.

Cllr Mould thanked Cllr Harvey for his report.

9. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

i. To receive the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 21 July 2020 and consider the recommendations

Cllr Jackson reported that the Committee has suggested asking if the neighbour would be willing to open the track gate at 7am and close at 5pm and has suggested a payment of £20 per week could be made. The neighbour is willing to do this but has asked for £25 per week as it is a commitment for seven days a week.

Cllr Palmer **PROPOSED** to pay someone to open and lock the track gate at £25 per week; **SECONDED** by Cllr Mould: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Cllr Jackson said the Football Club has asked twice to play games, they need to ask the Clerk. Quotations are being obtained for work so that there is an idea of potential spend of the s106 money. The fire extinguisher has been delivered and the caretaker has installed it. The track hedge has been cut back.

The Clerk said the allotments site manager cut the hedge.

Cllr Jackson reported that the light on the traffic island on the A2/ Playstool Road junction has been replaced thanks to the work of KCCllr Whiting, this has made it much safer. The Festive

Grants and the Environment grant need to be spent. The Committee has agreed to purchase planters for outside the Pavilion and also bulbs and plants. The Clerk is writing to see if The Bull and Car Wash would have a Christmas trees on site.

Cllr Mould said KCC Highways have said that a permit to attach solar or battery lights to street light columns costs £102.

Cllr Harvey said if there are Christmas trees there would be no need.

Cllr Mould said he has received quotes to clear and to screed the car park from a contractor. Contractor.

Cllr Harvey said three more quotations need to be obtained. If the Council is going to convert the ball court lights to LEDs, lights on the posts for the rest of the Recreation ground would be better for the car park.

Cllr Layer said the gate will be shut at 5pm so the car park will not generally be used.

ACTION: Cllr Mould to send specification for the car park work to the Clerk to obtain further quotations.

SBCllr Horton said he still has grant money available. The Swale Borough Council Area Committee meeting will be on 1 September and Councillors can join funding to help projects. SBCllr Palmer said the Area Committees are a good thing, they might look at green spaces in the area and they might be able to get street lights across the area. The Area Committees have £40,000 to spend. Parish Councillors can put ideas forward via Ward Members and can listen in.

Cllr Mould said that he will obtain details of mesh to be put on the garage to deter graffiti.

Cllr Harvey said quotations need to be obtained for tree cutting.

The Clerk said she needed details of the specific trees.

Cllr Harvey said he is willing to meet contractors, the Forestry Commission will mark the trees to be felled.

Cllr Jackson said KCCllr Whiting may be able to help with a grant.

Cllr Mould said it would be easier for the Forestry Commission to mark the trees and then get quotes.

ii. Facilities Management Annual Risk Assessment

A new fire extinguisher has been purchased.

iii. Play Area project- to receive an update

The Evaluation Panel has met again to consider relevant information and has agreed the decision stands.

The Council needs written confirmation from the Friends Group that it will give the money to the Council.

10. VILLAGE VOICE AND MEDIA

Cllr Mould said there would be a cursory mention of the play area project, also an article regarding the Local Green Spaces.

Cllr Palmer said it should be mentioned that Councillors have worked hard on the play area project and the Friends should be thanked for their work.

Cllr Mould said

11. FINANCE

i. Cheque list: to consider invoices for payment

Chq no	Payee	Reason	Amount
3151	Mr R Malone	Litter Picking Recreation Ground	189.00
		Litter Picking August	270.00

		Total	£459.00
3152	Mr MJ Marshall	Cemetery and Churchyard maintenance August 2020	£550.00
3153	Mrs W Licence	Salary and expenses Reimbursement for fire extinguisher	731.39 26.39 Total
			£757.78
3154	DCK Accounting Solutions	Payroll fees August	£30.00
3155	Business Stream	Recreation Ground water	£9.21
3156	SLCC	Membership fees	£254.00
3157	Mr R Jackson	Pavilion expenses	£23.35
3158	Mrs E Jackson	Social distancing stickers for Pavilion	£9.51

Councillors consider the invoices and cheques raised.

Cllr Godmon **PROPOSED** the signing of the cheques; **SECONDED** by Cllr Jackson: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ii. Any other finance matter received by 28 July 2020

NatWest accounts:- 05.08.20 £41,951.88
Nationwide accounts:- £45,722.80

Payments

07.07.20	Haven Power	Street lighting	193.49
15.07.20	Haven Power	Street lighting	14.39
16.07.20	Haven Power	Street lighting	£84.40
18.05.20	NEST	Pension	£120.69
03.08.20	Salix	Loan repayment	£3,055.00

Receipts

Eastling PC	Clerks Conference share	£10.00
HMRC	VAT reclaim	£937.59
KCC	Grant for hand sanitiser	£375.00

Cllr Mould informed Members that the Clerk has obtained a grant of £10,000.

The Clerk reported that the grant is from the Coronavirus Small Business Grant Scheme for the Cemetery.

Cllr Palmer said Village Halls had also been in receipt of the grant, the money comes from Central Government and Borough Councils distribute it to businesses in receipt of rate relief. There are no conditions to the grant.

Cllr Layer said the money could be used towards repairing the church wall.

Cllr Harvey said it needs to be ascertained who is responsible for the church wall first.

Cllr Palmer said the money could be ring fenced for the Cemetery.

Cllr Mould said the matter needs to be considered by the Amenities Committee and thanked the Clerk for obtaining the grant.

12. POLICIES

i. To consider adding the following to Standing Orders:

Cllr Mould said the Council has to consider adding the following to Standing Orders:

Where the engagement of a consultant or advisor is required to support a procurement process or related project, the consultant or advisor should sign a confidentiality agreement and be bound by the confidentiality requirements as members are unless the terms of their contract agreement with the Council already binds them in this regard (it should be noted that a consultant or advisor could be paid or unpaid).

Cllr Mould said the proposed amendment to Standing Orders has been put forward by Cllr Palmer.

Cllr Palmer said that as the Council is receiving more money from different sources, sometimes the Council might need to seek more support from people outside the Council. If the Council is to progress with the car park and does not get the specification right there could be problems in the future. Sometimes there might need to be help and support from someone who actually has more experience than Councillors in a specific area, they might be quite willing to give advice free of charge. I used it loosely as an advisor and consultant because if you are building a nuclear submarine you might have a highly skilled and paid consultant to give you advice. If you are building a playground or car park then you get people who can give advice on what the structure should be; how it should be laid and what sort of materials it should be used. It will make it easier for the Council going forward to get a better deal or better value for money.

The Clerk said the Council has previously involved experts in a procurement process, when the Pavilion was being refurbished a local expert was used to check details.

Cllr Palmer said that it is great that this has been done in the past but it is great to have it written down in case someone objects. Also, because there might be confidential information which might be provided, it would be wise to say that within the contracts standing order you must sign this. If we are doing this already it is just an addition to Standing Orders.

SBCllr Horton said that he supported the suggestion and recognises that the Council has done this before. It is not about appointing contractors; it is about if you appoint contractors, they will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement and there is no reason why you would not want that additional security.

Cllr Condon said that he wanted to check the understanding, that it does not force the Council to but it just adds confidentiality, it does not change anything else.

Cllr Harvey said that he liked the principle, when the Council was looking at the Pavilion a local expert was asked for advice as none of the Councillors had the experience. None of the Councillors signed a confidentiality agreement at that stage and it would have been unfair to expect the expert to. If there is a situation where Councillors are required to sign an explicit confidentiality agreement then someone else advising the Councillors should do as well. Line 2 should read “.. *the consultant or advisor should sign a confidentiality agreement and be bound by it as members are..*”

Cllr Palmer said that Members are governed by the Nolan Principles (The Seven Principles of Public Life) and confidentiality is all part of that structure but it is really good at times to re-enforce this by having some kind of an agreement.

Cllr Palmer **PROPOSED** making the addition to Standing Orders, as amended; **SECONDED** by Cllr Layer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ii. Lone Worker Policy

Cllr Mould said that he had been through the policy, is there a first aid box at the Pavilion? If so it needs to be checked and kept up to date. If the Clerk needs to go to the Cemetery on her own, she will inform me when she goes and when she has returned. Another Councillor might be the contact if necessary.

Cllr Mould **PROPOSED** to adopt the Lone Worker Policy; **SECONDED** by Cllr Palmer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

13. CHURCHYARD AND CEMETERY

i. To receive an update of the Churchyard and Cemetery

Cllr Layer said the Council will need to have the wall surveyed if it is responsible for it and the vegetation growth needs to be removed. The grass is quite neat.

ii. Cemetery Risk Assessment

Cllr Layer said the document has been updated as the gate is not closed. There are trip hazards but this is a low risk, the ground is uneven because of the rabbits. The rabbits dig at the edge and they do not dig the graves.

Cllr Mould said there is a pot hole at the entrance to the Cemetery.

ACTION: Cllr Mould to contact a contractor for a quote.

Cllr Mould said a substantial repair was made to the church about twenty years ago and this was paid for by the church; this means that the church was taking responsibility for the wall. This possibly creates a precedent.

Cllr Harvey said that a member of Newington History Group works at County Archives and may be able to assist with further research.

Cllr Jackson said a local historian has also carried out some research but the information was not completely clear.

Cllr Condron said the existing controls in the Risk Assessment states that the cemetery gates are locked but the Controls says the gate is not locked.

ACTION: Clerk to remove reference to the gates being locked.

Cllr Mould thanked Cllr Layer for his report.

14. HIGHWAYS

i. To receive an update of roads and pavements

ii. Parish Highway Improvement Plan

Cllr Mould reported that he has taken over the Parish Highways Improvement Plan. There are various options the Council has: 1- to enter into a Highways Improvement Plan with KCC and accept that to progress the schemes, the Council will have to fully or partially fund that for any action to be taken. This would be contrary to the view expressed by Members, that KCC should fund all highways schemes. 2- To enter into a Highways Improvement Plan with KCC in order to identify schemes in the parish area but indicate right at the outset that the Council would expect KCC to fund the scheme in total and that there would be no funding from the Parish Council. The down side of this approach is that the scheme might not progress and the Parish Council might get tarnished for KCC's non-delivery of those schemes. 3- To not enter into a Highways Improvement Plan with KCC and raise any issues with them on an individual basis, for example, the Council would ask KCC to undertake a traffic survey. In these cases, it is very likely that KCC would decide to take no action and it would clearly be seen that it was their decision not to take any action.

SBCllr Horton said KCC Highways receives about ten thousand highways applications per annum, where someone suggests a change on the highways. To progress any matter there has to be road traffic collision data to justify the change, the things Upchurch wanted done to improve the village are the things which do not feature on any road traffic collision data. Upchurch Parish Council understood from the beginning that to get improvements there would be a spend from parish funds. It has been very successful and matters are progressed further than before. The Council consulted on a Highways Improvement Plan and having support from the village on suggestions carried greater weight with KCC Highways.

Cllr Mould said it would be good to enter into an agreement and have a Highways Improvement Plan for Newington.

Cllr Palmer said that sometimes there is a tendency to engage and ask people what they would like. Residents want a reduced speed limit on the A2 but KCC Highways will not agree. Somethings will not be achievable so there is a need to have things which will improve the village but this is not for major issues.

SBCllr Horton said that it is a combination of both; Upchurch Parish Council identified problems in the village and suggested remedies, the residents were asked to prioritise the problems.

Cllr Jackson said there has been a consultation.

Cllr Harvey said that this was just before COVID-19.

Cllr Mould said the Council needs to look at this and be realistic with achievable things.

Cllr Mould, Cllr Harvey and Cllr Palmer to be on a Working Party.

Cllr Harvey said he attended a webinar on air quality which discussed reducing speed, electric cars, charging residents to use their car and car sharing schemes but at no stage was restricting the number of houses being built an option.

15. STREET LIGHTING

i. To receive an update

ii. To consider quotations for street light repairs

The Clerk said a recent survey highlighted doors that needed to be repaired.

Cllr Harvey said Tespar bands have also been discussed and this would be better.

Cllr Palmer said if the door is intact it does not need to be replaced just banded.

ACTION: Clerk to ask Kent County Council and Swale Borough Council for advice

16. TO CONSIDER WHETHER TO HOLD LIVE MEETINGS

Cllr Mould said the Village Hall Committee has informed him that the main hall is currently available to the Council at no extra cost.

Cllr Palmer said the Parish Council should meet in the main hall as soon as possible until it is no longer available.

Cllr Mould said the advice from NALC and SLCC is that meetings should continue remotely.

Cllr Palmer asked when the advice had been given.

The Clerk said the advice was given when lockdown had started easing and the advice has not changed.

ACTION: Clerk to ascertain advice from NALC regarding meetings after restrictions were lifted further on 1 August.

Councillors to agree the form of the meeting the week before the September agenda is posted.

Cllr Morgan said advice need to be sought and also guidance on safe working practice.

Cllr Harvey asked if has been ascertained from Wicksteed whether details of the tender documents can be shared.

The Clerk said that she had received an order confirmation before the end of the stand-still period finished and that she had informed the company that there would be minor adjustments to the scheme.

Cllr Condon said that it would be permissible to request a catalogue now the stand-still period has finished.

Cllr Mould said the essence is that the bid is not the contract and the company must understand that.

It was agreed that the Contracts Team be Cllr Mould, Cllr Harvey and Cllr Layer with support from Cllr Condon.

Cllr Horton left the meeting.

17. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Mould said the school is expecting to open again in September. The school is concerned about the possibility of the car park being sold for development.

18. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 29.07.20: Swale Borough Council Economic Improvement Plan 2020-2023

2. 29.07.20: Newington History Group- request to meet with PROW

Cllr Mould said Newington History Group needs to liaise directly with KCC PROW and the Parish Council needs to see a proof of the sign which it is going to purchase.

ACTION: Cllr Mould to contact the History Group.

3. 29.07.20: Swale Borough Council Community Engagement & Social Inclusion Officer request to meet with the Council
4. 03.08.20: KALC News
5. 06.08.20- Swale Borough Council: consultation on changes to the current Housing Allocations Policy.
6. 06.08.20- KCC Highways: Temporary Road Closure – Bull Lane, Newington – 2 September 2020
7. 07.08.20- NALC CEO Bulletin
8. 10.08.20- Swale Borough Council: Call for Sites to be submitted as proposed Local Green Spaces
9. 10.08.20- Kent Police: Fraud alerts
10. 11.08.20- NALC policy briefing papers regarding the Government’s 3 consultations on reform of the planning system
11. 12.08.20: KCC Highways- pothole update
12. 14.08.20: NALC CEO Bulletin
13. 17.08.20: Resident's concerns regarding vegetation
Cllr Mould said this is concerning Bull Lane between the top of Playstool road and Denis Willcocks Close and needs to be reported to Swale
14. 17.08.20: resident's concerns about waste collections
Cllr Mould said SBCllr Palmer has been dealing the issues.
SBCllr Palmer said the situation has been so bad that Swale Borough Council is monitoring the issue in Newington for the next few weeks.
15. 21.08.20: KCC Highways- pothole update
16. 24.08.20: Email from Dean regarding lorries in Bull Lane
Cllr Mould said Cllr Harvey has responded to the resident.
17. 24.08.20: email from Thelma regarding footpath ZR45
Cllr Mould said the demarcation fence is insecure, allowing access for the travellers’ dogs to get on the path. The footpath is part of a route for a linear walk designed by Newington History Group.
ACTION: Clerk to report to KCC PROW

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No further matters were raised.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 29 September 2020

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 9.11pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chairman
Date: 29 September 2020