

# NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held in the Parish Room, Newington Pavilion on 21 March 2023

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

Also present was Mr Jackson, Pavilion Caretaker.

### **1. Apologies for Absence None**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Ruth Brown (unwell); apologies accepted.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

None were declared.

### **3. Matters Arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2023**

Cllr Jackson reported that the wheelie bin stickers had been purchased and consideration needs to be given to the distribution of them.

Cllr Harvey said the bins needs to be visible.

Cllr Jackson informed Members that currently the pavilion electricity costs 17.73p per kWh, the Council is in a fixed term contract.

Cllr Jackson said an application for a grant for the Coronation event needs to be submitted twelve weeks before the event. A grant application for £2,000 will be submitted to cover the costs of decorations, a magician and entertainment.

*ACTION: Clerk.*

### **4. Public Question Time**

No matters were raised.

### **5. Anti-Social Behaviour**

#### i. PCSO report

Cllr Harvey said that it is unclear as to the status of PCSOs and that he had requested that the Council be kept informed.

Cllr Mould said the PCSO will be replaced by a designated Officer who will cover the Ward.

#### ii. Community Warden report

Community Warden Georgina Springall was unable to attend the meeting and sent the following report:

- 1) Regular welfare visits to elderly/vulnerable residents
- 2) Arranged for scrap metal to be collected from Wickham Close.
- 3) More large bones being found in Orchard area behind Recreation Ground through to top of Orchard Drive. These could be left to poison foxes that have been found dead in this area.
- 4) 'No Caller' front door stickers left in Pharmacy for residents to pick up as required.
- 5) Booked in volunteer taxi for elderly resident attending hospital appointment.
- 6) Green rubbish bin stolen from house in Bull Lane.

- 7) Cold caller attempted to charge vulnerable resident £200 to remove fridge and other rubbish from her front garden. He fly tipped these items in neighbouring areas. He then escorted her to post office to withdraw the money. Fortunately, lady at the post office suspected what his intentions were and refused to let resident withdraw money. He then quickly went away – Police aware and CCTV gained.
- 8) Car transporter stolen from Playstool Road – Police aware.
- 9) Frames and signage stolen from set of traffic lights in High Street. – Police aware.

Cllr Mould said cold calling has been an issue and this will be an item in the Village Voice.  
Cllr Layer said he has the fixings for the Cold Calling Controlled sign and will put the sign up.  
Cllr Mould said Ms Springall is retiring.

*ACTION 1: Clerk to purchase card.*

*ACTION 2: Cllr Mould to purchase flowers.*

## **6. Recreation Ground and green spaces**

### i. To receive an update

Cllr Jackson said the grass cutters have been.

Mr Jackson said the contractor wants a second key for the top gate.

The Clerk reported that she had asked for a deposit but has not has a response.

*ACTION: Clerk to chase.*

Cllr Jackson reported that Cllr Palmer, Cllr Harvey and Cllr Layer will meet with GRAHAM tomorrow to discuss community projects in the village.

### ii. To consider hedging options for Recreation Ground

It was agreed to consult with the local expert regarding the best type of hedging.

*ACTION: Cllr Harvey to liaise.*

### iii. To consider litter bin quotation

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** to recommend to Full Council that the quotation from Swale Borough Council for £450, including installation be accepted; **SECONDED** by Cllr Layer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### iv. To consider quotation for play area inspection

Cllr Harvey said the new exercise equipment will be inspected after installation and only the existing items need to be inspected.

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** to accept the quotation from The Play Inspection Company for £150.00 plus £45.00 accompanied site visit: **SECONDED** by Cllr Mould: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **7. Pavilion**

### i. To receive an update

Mr Jackson said the outside light needs a new light bulb.

*ACTION: Mr Jackson.*

### ii. To consider quotations to clean Pavilion roof

The Council accepted a quote from Watson Electrical Services to survey the pavilion roof, however, this was on condition of the roof being cleaned at an extra cost of £2565. 4 companies asked for quotes, 3 quotes received. They will also clean gutters

Councillors considered the quotations.

Cllr Jackson **PROPOSED** to recommend to Full Council that the quotation from JBCS for £595 be accepted: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### iii. To consider quotation to repaint Pavilion

Cllr Jackson said it had previously been discussed that the Parish Room should be redecorated to keep it in good condition for hirers.

Cllr Jackson **PROPOSED** to recommend to Full Council that the quotation from R Moss Ltd For £930 to decorate the Parish Room, changing room and toilet be accepted, being a trusted supplier: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Cllr Harvey said the sealing around the soil stack in the chair store needs repairing and the dates for the work needs to be negotiated to ensure there is no disruption to hirers.

## **8. Allotments**

Cllr Layer reported there had been a delivery of manure. There are no issues at the site.

## **9. Community Woodland**

Cllr Layer reported that everything is fine in the woodland. The bug hotel signs are still in place but may need replacing from time to time.

Cllr Mould asked if the other side of the garage will be painted.

*ACTION: Clerk to contact student.*

## **10. Highways**

There was nothing to report.

## **11. Lights**

Cllr Harvey said concern had been raised about a light in Orchard Drive.

Cllr Layer reported that he had inspected it and the column is solid although the tarmac is pitted.

*ACTION: Clerk to seek further details.*

## **12. Footpaths and Bridleways**

There was nothing to report.

## **13. Village Voice and media**

Cllr Mould reported that there will be articles on cold calling; Amenities Committee; bin stickers and planning. It has been suggested that there be a What's On in the village hall.

Cllr Harvey said that this could be What's on in the village.

## **14. Cemetery and Churchyard**

Cllr Layer reported the grass has been cut in the churchyard and the cemetery looks fine. The first memorial tablet has been laid in the new ashes area.

## **15. Events**

Cllr Jackson said that stalls for the fete are being booked and village groups, charities and businesses have been contacted. An ice cream seller has asked if they would be the only van and only a seller who will commit to the who event will be accepted.

It was agreed that duplicates of other stalls be permitted and that the event be posted on stall finder websites.

*ACTION: Clerk to give the fun fair updates on the fete.*

## **16. Any Other Business**

No other matters were raised.

**Date of Next Meeting: 18 April 2023**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.56pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chairman  
Date: 28 February 2023