

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 22 July 2025 in the Parish Room, Newington Pavilion

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 R Jackson, Pavilion Caretaker

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Jackson read out the meeting statement of respect:

The Council reminds all present that we are required to treat each other with courtesy and respect, in accordance with the Nolan Principles and the Council's Code of Conduct. Harassment, personal attacks or disruptive behaviour will not be tolerated.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Ruth Brown (medical) and Cllr Barbara Weight (medical): apologies accepted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR LOBBYING

None were declared.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 JUNE 2025

All matters on the agenda.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No matters were raised.

5. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Cllr Jackson said there will be a Police report for next week's Full Council meeting. PC Chittim has reported that the Fete was well run.

6. RECREATION GROUND AND GREEN SPACES

Saplings- Cllr Jackson reported that there had been no response from the contractor.

Woodland barrier- Cllr Jackson informed Members that the barrier will be repaired by 1 August.

Bluebell sponsorship- Cllr Jackson said pledges had been collected at the Fete.

Wood chippings- Cllr Jackson said the school was unable to fit it in this term.

7. PAVILION

i. To receive an update

Mr Jackson reported that there had been a slight leak and the pipes had been pushed back together.

Cllr Jackson **PROPOSED** that the Pavilion have a deep clean and the Parish Room be painted to the wall protection rail, with higher areas being touched in as necessary including the entrance hall; **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotations.

Cllr Jackson said there needs to be an external tap at the Pavilion.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotations.

Cllr Jackson said there needs to be an external socket on the far side of the Pavilion.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotations.

Cllr Jackson reported that the window shutter has been repaired and a quotation for shutter maintenance has been requested.

ii. To consider installing solar panels or a heat pump

Cllr Jackson said one contractor has recommended a heat source pump, the Council's aim is to generate electricity for a revenue stream. A heat source pump gives a constant low-level heat which is not what is required. The project would be dependent on grant funding.

ACTION: Clerk to seek grant funding for twenty-six photovoltaic panels.

8. YOUTH CLUB

Cllr Jackson informed members that the Summer holiday activities start on Monday 28 July. Details have been posted on the village Facebook page and the website.

9. ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Layer reported that there are a few plots available. The Association had a successful stall at the Fete.

10. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Jackson requested an update on the High Street railings.

The Clerk reported that KCC Highways had advised on 2 May that it would take up to twelve weeks for the railings to be made.

Cllr Harvey reported that PC Chittim has suggested speed cushions to help resolve the issues in Callaways Lane as there are no pavements. KCC Highways has advised that the cost would be in the region of £30,000 and the parish would have to fund this. Another solution might be to install signs.

11. FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

Cllr Jackson informed members that KCCllr R Palmer has contacted the officer regarding PROW ZR61. The portal states "*Fault awaiting processing*".

12. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

Cllr Jackson said the quote to repaint bus stop and planters has yet to be received.

ACTION: Clerk to chase for Full Council.

Cllr Jackson said the lettering on the bus stop plaque had been repainted and looks good.

13. VILLAGE VOICE AND MEDIA

Cllr Mould said the front page will be dedicated to the Fete and include photos and a thank you to sponsors and volunteers. The draft is ready for proof-reading and will be distributed on 1 August.

Cllr Jackson thanked Cllr Mould for his work on the Village Voice.

14. CEMETERY AND CHURCHYARD

Cllr Layer reported that everything was OK at the Cemetery and Churchyard.

15. STREET LIGHTS

Cllr Mould said a tree is covering one of the lights in Bull Lane.

Cllr Barlow asked for an update on the other lights in Bull Lane.

The Clerk reported that they will be repaired next week.

16. EVENTS

i. Summer Fete 2025

Cllr Mould informed Councillors that Newington History Group has emailed with suggestions for the 2026 Fete.

Cllr Jackson said the 2025 Fete was successful with thanks from Newington WI, stall holders and residents. The Police commented that the Fete was well-run. The Fete made a loss reducing the Fete contingency fund to £1400.

Cllr Harvey said there was some investment outlay. Next year's Fete will be on 11 July.

ii. Christmas lights

Cllr Jackson said the existing lights will be checked and replaced if necessary; some may be installed in the tree near The Bull bus stop.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Jackson asked for an update on the installation of the village sign.

The Clerk reported that she is waiting to hear from the contractor.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 23 September 2025

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.58pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 29 July 2025