

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 14 May 2019 in the Newington Room, Newington Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Debbie Haigh (Chair), Cllr Tony Mould (Vice Chairman), Cllr Steve Godmon, Cllr Stephen Harvey, Cllr Eric Layer, Cllr Elaine Jackson and Cllr Richard Palmer (Ward Member); and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

Also present were two members of the public.

All members signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Jackson **PROPOSED** Cllr Haigh for the office of Chairman; **SECONDED** by Cllr Palmer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. Cllr Haigh was duly elected Chairman and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** Cllr Mould for the office of Vice Chairman; **SECONDED** by Cllr Layer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. Cllr Mould was duly elected Vice Chairman and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Dean Coles: apology accepted.

Apologies had also been received from KCCllr Mike Whiting (at another meeting) and SBCllr Alan Horton (at another meeting): apologies noted.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

5. TO APPOINT COMMITTEES, COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

AMENITIES COMMITTEE- Cllr Jackson, Cllr Layer, Cllr Coles, Cllr Harvey and Cllr Mould.

Cllr Haigh **PROPOSED** Cllr Jackson as Chair; **SECONDED** by Cllr Layer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Cllr Haigh **PROPOSED** Cllr Layer as Vice Chairman; **SECONDED** by Cllr Harvey: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

PLANNING COMMITTEE: Cllr Harvey, Cllr Palmer, Cllr Godmon and Cllr Haigh.

Cllr Haigh **PROPOSED** Cllr Harvey as Chairman; **SECONDED** by Cllr Palmer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Cllr Haigh **PROPOSED** Cllr Palmer as Vice Chairman; **SECONDED** by Cllr Jackson: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

FINANCE WORKING PARTY: Cllr Godmon, Cllr Haigh and the Clerk.

Cllr Haigh **PROPOSED** Cllr Godmon as Chairman; **SECONDED** by Cllr Harvey: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ASB WORKING PARTY:

Cllr Haigh said matters concerning anti-social behaviour are currently dealt with by the Amenities Committee.

It was agreed not to have an ASB Working Party.

CEMETERY WORKING PARTY: Cllr Haigh, Cllr Layer and Cllr Mould.
Cllr Mould **PROPOSED** Cllr Layer as Chairman; **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.
It was agreed to appoint Mr Mel Harris to the Working Party.

HR WORKING PARTY: Cllr Haigh, Cllr Jackson and Cllr Layer.
It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that the Chair of the Parish Council be the Chair of the HR Working Party.

6. TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO EXTERNAL BODIES

i. To confirm - Representatives at KALC Swale Committee Meetings

It was agreed that Cllr Harvey and Cllr Palmer be the Parish Council's representative at KALC meetings.

ii. To confirm and update - Councillors areas of Interest

It was **AGREED** to confirm Councillors areas of interest:

School Governors- Cllr Mould

Village Hall: Cllr Palmer

Roads and Pavements: Cllr Haigh, Cllr Harvey and Cllr Layer

Grants and external funding: Cllr Palmer.

Allotments: Cllr Layer

Friends of Newington Recreation Ground: Cllr Harvey and Cllr Layer.

Defibrillator: Pavilion- Mr R Jackson; High Street- Cllr Palmer.

7. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

Cllr Haigh **PROPOSED** that Newington Parish Council, having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, adopts the General Power of Competence until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Parish Council; **SECONDED** by Cllr Palmer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

8. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 23 APRIL 2019

Cllr Mould **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting; **SECONDED** by Cllr Jackson: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

9. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Moles at cemetery

Cllr Haigh said Cllr Layer had taken photos to be sent to contractors and that she had visited the cemetery and found the grass has not been cut for two weeks and the mole hills were more visible. There were hardly any. Recently a stone mason had maintained the cemetery is infested but this is not the case. A Risk Assessment has been carried out and there is no immediate risk.

It was agreed not to take action regarding the moles.

Tree on Rec

Cllr Haigh said there was no response from the resident when asked to contribute towards the tree work. The tree surgeon has been approved and has indicated he is able to carry out the work on 11 June.

The Clerk said the resident has not responded to a request for permission for the tree surgeon to enter her garden to carry out the work. A letter was sent recorded delivery and an email was also sent.

Cllr Haigh said another letter should be sent and if no response the work will be cancelled.

Cllr Jackson said the Tree Officer said deadwood needs to be removed.

Cllr Harvey said the matter can be discussed

ACTION: Clerk to write to the resident again,

10. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Question Time

A resident raised concern about inconsiderate parking by the school and also the minutes of meetings were not on the website.

Cllr Mould said the School Governors are hoping the new parking area will be available soon, there needs to be a footpath from the car park to the school.

Cllr Haigh said the Clerk has reported the issue to the Community Warden, the PCSO and Swale Parking Enforcement Team.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Parking Enforcement for Cllr Palmer to talk to them after half term.

11. VISITORS

i. Borough Councillors

Cllr Palmer said Upchurch has a similar problem with inconsiderate parking at the school.

The Borough Council will be led by a coalition details of which will be announce shortly.

Cllr Haigh thanked Cllr Palmer for his report.

ACTION: Clerk to write letter of thanks to John Wright and Gerry Lewin.

ii. County Councillor

KCCllr Whiting was unable to attend but informed the Clerk the grant fund is available.

Cllr Harvey said a grant could be requested for the fencing for the new cableway.

12. PLANNING

Application: 19/501514/FULL Delucy House 2 Blaxland Grange Newington ME9 7FG

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

Application: 19/501671/FULL Throwley,, Keycol Hill, Bobbing, ME9 8NA

Proposal: Erection of a new garage/carriage house at the front of the property

Cllr Harvey reported a decision is yet to be made.

Application: 19/501805/FULL The Vallance, Callaways Lane, Newington ME9 7LU

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension, alterations to the existing adjoining single storey rear projection roof. Conversion of existing integral garage into habitable space, along with internal alterations and changes to fenestration (Revised scheme to 18/501887/FULL)

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

Application: 18/506309/FULL Land Adjacent to Cromas, Callaways Lane, Newington ME9 7LX

Proposal: Construction of a detached, single residential dwelling (resubmission of 17/503997/FULL).

Cllr Harvey reported to Members that the Parish Council has withdrawn its objection and a decision is yet to be made.

Application: 18/506309/FULL Cromas, Callaways Lane, Newington ME9 7LX

Proposal: Construction of a detached, single residential dwelling (resubmission of 17/503997/FULL).

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

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

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

Cllr Harvey said a decision is yet to be made.

Application: MC/19/0188 Orchard Kennels, Meresborough Road, Rainham

Proposal: Outline planning application with some matters reserved (access, appearance and scale) for the development of up to 130 residential dwellings with associated parking and open space

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

Application Number SW/16/507594/RVAR (KCC/SW/0526/2018)

Application: 16/507594/COUNTY Paradise Farm, Lower Hartlip Road, Hartlip ME9 7SU

Cllr Harvey said the Clerk has contacted Kent County Council and has been told the Parish Council will now receive feedback.

(Retrospective works to 16/503414/FULL)

Application: 18/502775/FULL 61 Playstool Road, Newington ME9 7NL

Proposal: Erection of a large shed at the end of rear garden (Retrospective)

Cllr Harvey said the application has been permitted.

Application: 17/504813/FULL Car Wash, 67 High Street, Newington ME9 7JJ

Proposal: Part change of use from car wash to residential for one studio

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

Application: 18/505060/ADJ (Alternative reference: 18/504836/EIOUT) 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 informed Councillors that a decision is yet to be made.

Application 18/502834/FULL Lodge Farm, Old House Lane, Hartlip ME9 &SN

Proposal: Removal of condition 2 of application reference SW/98/0796 (Agricultural dwelling) PINS reference APP/V2255/W/19/3221958

Cllr Harvey informed Members that the appeal is yet to be determined.

Application: 17/504342/FULL Newington Working Mens Club

Proposal: Retrospective demolition of former Working Mens Club and erection of 9no. dwellings and 1no. maisonette together with carports for garaging of cars (Revised

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.)

PINS reference: APP/V2255/W/18/3209727

Cllr Harvey informed Members that the appeal is yet to be determined.

Application: 18/505431/FULL : Ashfield Court Farm, School Lane, Newington .

Proposal: Conversion and single storey rear extension of existing triple garage together with ramped access to create an annexe for a dependent elderly relative.

Planning Inspectorate Appeal Reference Number: APP/V2255/D/19/3223271

Cllr Harvey informed Members that the appeal has been upheld.

Order made by the Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Lindblom

'On consideration of the appellant's notice and accompanying documents, but without an oral hearing, in respect of an application for permission to appeal, against the refusal of the High Court to apply for a planning statutory review'

Reasons: 'The applicant's grounds are properly arguable and have a sufficient prospect of success to justify permission to appeal being granted'

Gladman Developments Limited – and – The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government – and – Swale Borough Council – and – CPRE Kent.

Cllr Harvey said the appeal has been decided and waiting to be published.

Cllr Harvey said an application has been lodged for the golf course and the Clerk will request an extension.

Cllr Haigh thanked Cllr Harvey for his report.

13. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

i. To receive an update

Cllr Jackson said the cablewire has been ordered. Representatives from the Friends of Newington Recreation Ground gave a report to the Annual Parish Meeting and are very engaged in the project.

A new youth club started on 1 May and there were twenty-four young people. The organisers said they might hold a village picnic.

Cllr Harvey said the Friends of Newington Recreation Group might organise an event in the summer.

ACTION: Cllr Harvey to talk to the Friends Group.

ACTION: Item for Amenities Committee agenda

ii. Facilities Management Annual Risk Assessment

Cllr Haigh said new dates for the alarm renewal and PAT Testing need to be included in the schedule. The defibrillator has been included.

Cllr Layer said the Swans Fitness Group has requested coat hook. The gym room needs new flooring.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotations and apply for grants.

Cllr Mould said consideration could be given to install a storage cupboard in the changing room.

ACTION: To be considered by Amenities Committee.

14. VILLAGE VOICE AND MEDIA

Cllr Mould said the next defibrillator training will be publicised in the Village Voice. Village Groups could be listed showing the village is a vibrant community.

ACTION: Clerk to ascertain correct contact details from groups.

Cllr Haigh said groups can be listed on the website and events can be promoted on the calendar on the website.

Cllr Mould said there is need for another distributor and also another for the Persimmon development.

15. FINANCE

i. To receive end of year finance report

Cllr Godmon said Salix will make an initial payment of 80% of the loan with the balance on completion.

Cllr Layer said the lights in St Marys View have been replaced with fiberglass columns, there were previously a period design.

Cllr Harvey said the lights in Allsworth Close have been replaced with the standard lights, the contractor had said the pineapple lights could be replaced with something similar.

Cllr Layer said the vegetation has been cleared from the light in Boxted Lane although the light does not work.

Cllr Haigh said the light has been added to the schedule to be upgraded. The Clerk arranged for UKPN to clear the foliage.

ii. Annual Governance Statement

Councillors considered the Annual Governance Statement and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept it. The statement was duly signed by Cllr Haigh and the Clerk.

ACTION: Clerk to check Risk Assessment.

iii. Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

Councillors considered the Accounting Statements end of year return 2018/19 and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept it. The statement was duly signed by Cllr Haigh and the Clerk.

iv. Cheque list: to consider invoices for payment

Payee	Expenditure	Amount £	Cheque No.
Maylow Construction Ltd <small>Paid out of meeting</small>	Balance of quotation (swing seats)	£489.60	2980
Profile Business Supplies	Village Voice- May 2019	£60.00	2981
Mrs P Rowe	Litter Picking Recreation Ground and sight check equipment May	£110.00	2982
Mr MJ Marshall	Cemetery and Churchyard maintenance May 2019	£490.00	2983
Ms L Wright <i>For A Heavey</i>	Litter picking May 2019	£280.50	2984
Mrs W Licence	Salary and expenses	£595.35	2985
HMRC	PAYE	£31.20	2986
Streetlights	Street light maintenance contract quarter 4	£575.82	2987
Information Commissioner	Registration fee	£40.00	2988
DCK Accounting Solutions	Payroll fees	£30.00	2989
Came & Co	Insurance		2990

Councillors consider the cheques raised and Cllr Haigh **PROPOSED** the signing of the cheques; **SECONDED** by Cllr Godmon: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Receipts

24.06.19 £26,106 Swale Borough Council Precept & lighting grant

Payments

18.04.19: £141.68- NEST
01.05.19- £212.00- Haven Power
03.05.19- £702.00- Haven Power

v. Insurance renewal

The Clerk said that she had not received the quotation.

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** that the Finance Committee be given delegated authority to agree the quotation and a cheque be signed up to the value of £1350, for the Clerk to complete; **SECONDED** by Cllr Palmer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

vi. Any other finance matter received by 14 May 2019

Cllr Haigh said the signatories need to be updated on all accounts.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to add Cllr Layer to the Nationwide account.

ACTION: Cllr Godmon to write to NatWest to update signatories and also to Nationwide to add Cllr Layer to the account.

16. CHURCHYARD AND CEMETERY

i. To receive an update of the Churchyard and Cemetery

Cllr Haigh reported she had surveyed the Cemetery and ascertained that there is not a mole infestation. The contractor had been unable to cut the grass due to technical issues and this will be resolved by the end of the week. The driveway does not need repairing. Cllr Coles and Cllr Harris have removed the padlock from the shed.

Cllr Mould asked if there needs to be a working party to tidy the cemetery.

ACTION: Cllr Layer to arrange the Working Party.

Cllr Layer said there is not a problem with needing a bigger bin and this can be monitored.

ii. Annual Risk Assessment

Cllr Haigh reported there were no issues with the trees or kerbs and no problems with roots under the footpath. The monuments have been checked.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotations to install a bollard.

17. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Haigh said Alan Blackburn, KCC Highways, has a schedule of works for the village.

Cllr Harvey said the manhole cover in the High Street is bad.

18. STREET LIGHTING

There was nothing further to report.

19. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Palmer said the next KALC Swale Area Committee meeting will be the AGM on 1 June, James Freeman, Head of Planning Swale Borough Council, will be speaking. The Kent, Sussex and Surrey Air Ambulance Trust and Kent Police will also be at the meeting.

Cllr Mould reported the school is currently undergoing an Ofsted inspection, following Lower Halstow's inspection Newington School was prepared.

20. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 26.04.19- KALC Newsletter-
 2. 29.04.19- Resident report of street light in Church Lane
 3. 02.05.19- KCC Trading Standards Cold Callers Alert- added to website
 4. 02.05.19- Came & Co newsletter
 5. 02.05.19- KCPFA AGM
 6. 03.05.19- Resident complaint about the bench on the green
- Cllr Layer said the resident has been to a Parish Council.

Cllr Harvey said that in April 2016, the Parish Council made a policy to encourage benches around the village including on the green and this was the type of bench agreed.

Cllr Palmer said the bench is not the Parish Council's responsibility but Kent County Council.

Cllr Harvey said it was agreed to review this after a year.

Cllr Haigh said the only course of action for the Parish Council is to monitor it and give feedback to Kent County Council and Swale Borough Council.

7. 10.05.19-KCC: Kent Mineral Sites Plan and Early Partial Review of the KMWLP: Submission Notification

8. 10.05.19: UpARA Newsletter

21. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Haigh said the current four-year tenure for one of the Parish Council's nominative Trustees has come to an end. The Wickham Trust has indicated that it would like Mr Cliff Curtis to be re-appointed.

It was **AGREED** to ascertain if Mr Curtis is willing to continue and for the decision to be ratified at the next meeting.

Cllr Jackson said Cllr Milburn had worked hard making cakes and coffee for the Annual Parish Meeting and declined to submit an expenses claim.

It was **AGREED** to purchase flowers up to the value of £30 as Mrs Milburn had not accepted reimbursement for the refreshments she provided for the Annual Parish Meeting, which was open to all residents, and the budget was not spent.

ACTION: Cllr Mould to purchase flowers.

Cllr Jackson said the Newington Festival has a Facebook account and the administrator is unable to change his details to another user.

It was **AGREED** to delete the account.

Cllr Jackson said Mr Thompstone wants to continue with the Tug-of-War competition and hold it at the Sittingbourne Rugby Club.

ACTION: Clerk to inform Mr Thompstone that there is no indemnity through the Parish Council.

Cllr Palmer said there has been lots of positive posts on Facebook regarding the new goal posts at the Recreation Ground.

Cllr Mould said British Rail has offered a commercial artist to paint a mural based on designs by the school children.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 25 June 2019

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 20.43pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chair

Date 25 June 2019