

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held in the Parish Room, Newington Pavilion on 18 October 2022

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

Also present was Mt Jackson, Pavilion Caretaker

1. Apologies for Absence

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

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Mould declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8ii, being an acquaintance of one of the contractors.

3. Minutes of the Extraordinary Amenities Committee meeting held on 4 October 2022

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes as a true record. Cllr Jackson duly signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 23 August 2022

All items covered on the agenda.

5. Public Question Time

No matters were raised.

6. Anti-Social Behaviour

i. PCSO report

PCSO Lorraine Holmes was unable to attend and had submitted the following report:

Crimes of note (23/08/22 – 14/10/22):

- No Burglary offences reported
- Vehicle Crime offences reported: 28/08/22 – Pear Tree Walk – tyres let down. 03/10/22 – Newington Enterprise Centre – vehicle stolen.

- No Criminal Damage offences reported

- No Fraud offences reported.

Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:

- Ongoing issue of antisocial behaviour around Watling Drive – Steve Paine from Optivo has an ASB case open and is investigating.

- 04/09/22 – report of nuisance bikes around Bramley close, officers attended, area search no trace.

- 04/09/22 – theft of handbag, named suspect, currently under investigation.

Other items of note:

Due to the ongoing neighbourhood review and numerous staff departures, there has been another change to ward ownership. This will be my last ward update as I have been moved to cover Murston & Roman wards. Your new PCSO is Kirsty LINGE and she will be making contact with you shortly to introduce herself.

Updates of previous reported issues-:

- I have asked for local assistance with speed checks around Newington from PC Platt who is currently on a secondment to Speedwatch.

The Clerk reported that PCSO is Kirsty Linge was unable to attend the meeting and is looking into surgery dates for the village.

ii. Community Warden report

- 1) Regular welfare visits to elderly/vulnerable residents.
- 2) Mobile phone found in Station Road area – Returned to pupil of Newington School.
- 3) Bank notes found in London Road area- Donated to charity.
- 4) Anti-social behaviour Watling Drive area – Police aware.
- 5) Ongoing neighbour dispute – Optivo aware.
- 6) Neighbour dispute regarding children falling out – Police/Optivo aware.
- 7) Concerns regarding hedgerow pulled out that runs alongside narrow lane (Mill Lane) which is off School Lane.

Cllr Jackson said there had been a response from Mike Hill, KCC Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services, regarding Community Wardens.

ACTION: Clerk to contact KCCllr Hill to request there be a proper hand-over when current Community Warden retires.

7. Recreation Ground and green spaces

i. To receive an update

Cllr Jackson reported that the play area inspection will be carried out in November and Cllr Layer will attend.

Councillors agreed conditions for installation of Adult Fitness Equipment

ii. To consider Litter picking tenders

Cllr Jackson reported that only one quotation had been received.

Cllr Mould **PROPOSED** to recommend to Full Council acceptance of the quotation from Mr R Mallone to litter pick the streets for the National Living Wage, currently £10.90 per hour, to increase annually, and the Recreation Ground for £200 per month: **SECONDED** by Cllr Layer:

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

ACTION: Clerk to re-iterate bus shelters need attention.

The Clerk informed Members that the litter picker had raised that the dog waste bag station did not hold the bags.

Cllr Layer said the dog bin near the woodland is in a poor state of repair.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotes for dog waste bag station and litter bin for Full Council.

8. Pavilion

i. To receive an update

Cllr Jackson said the ceiling plates have been installed.

ii. To consider quotations for Pavilion roof repair

Cllr Mould did not take part in the discussion of this item.

Councillors considered the quotations and requested the contractors be contacted to obtain quotes to re-use the existing tiles.

ACTION: Clerk.

9. Allotments

There was nothing to report.

10. Community Woodland

Cllr Jackson informed Members that the contractor will mark the trees to be felled at the weekend and will be able to do the work at the beginning of November. The cost will be £450 per day.

11. Highways

Cllr Harvey reported that there will be a Highways meeting on Friday.

Cllr Layer said the 20mph roundel by the school is wearing out.

ACTION: Clerk to report.

Cllr Layer said the scaffolding at The Inglenook has been blocked off, there is a license in place until October.

Cllr Jackson said the tree on the verge in Church Lane/ School Lane will be felled within two months, a Fell Notice will be published. The tree will be replaced, although this will be planted next year as the trees are ordered in May.

12. Lights

Cllr Jackson said there is still no date to replace the Station Road column

13. Footpaths and Bridleways

Cllr Harvey said the footpath next to the Solar Farm needs to be watched, concerns have been lodged regarding protocols of the CCTV.

Cllr Layer said there have been no reports of vandalism at the site.

14. Village Voice and media

Cllr Mould said the next edition will be a paper copy for Autumn, rather than dated. It will be A4 folded with an A5 information insert and the Church is paying for an insert. Articles will include highways, Church Lane trees, the School, planning, Mill Lane hedgerow, restoration of Church, Parish Council, and parish room hire.

Cllr Jackson thanked Cllr Mould for his sterling work.

15. Cemetery and Churchyard

i. To receive an update

Cllr Layer said previously an area with a seat for a new ashes section was envisaged, but this had not been maintained. There will be an interment shortly.

ACTION: Clerk to request contractor tidies the area prior to the interment.

Date of next Cemetery Working Party- Friday 21 October at 2pm.

ii. To consider maintenance quotations

Four contractors had been invited to tender, one decline and two quotations received.

Councillors considered the quotations.

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** to recommend to Full Council acceptance of the quotation of £7,500 per annum from Mr Marshall: **SECONDED** by Cllr Mould: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

16. Events

Cllr Jackson said the Village Fete will be on 15 July 2023 and the Fun Fair will attend that weekend.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to charge the Fun Fair £400 plus £400 deposit.

The King's Coronation, Saturday 6 May, will be on the Full Council agenda.

17. Any Other Business

No other matter was raised.

Date of Next Meeting: 22 November 2022

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 8.10pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 25 October 2022