

Newick Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 26th March 2019 in the Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road, Newick.

Present: Councillors C. Armitage, G. Clothier, I. Nesbitt, B. Horsfall, J. Smerdon (Chairman), M. Thew, J. White, C. Wickens and K. Wrench.

In Attendance: Mrs S. Berry (Clerk)
Five members of the public (for part of the meeting)

An audio recording was made of the meeting

- 1. Apologies for Absence:-** Apologies had been received from Cllrs. M. Halsey and J. Sheppard.
- 2. Disclosure by Members of personal interest in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct:** - The following disclosures of personal interest were made:- Cllr. Thew (agenda item 6.2 – 96 Allington Road), Cllr. Armitage (agenda item 6.2 – Hazel Wood), Cllr White (agenda items 6.2 – Sharpsbridge Farm and agenda item 9.5).
- 3. Exclusion of the press and public** – It was agreed that members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting for agenda items 14 (existing Clerk salary review) and 15 (Vernons Road/The Rough) because of the confidential nature of these items (employment matter and confidential commercial matter respectively). *Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 S.1 (2)*.

4. Questions or statements by Members of the Public

Mrs Bone spoke in connection with her planning application LW/19/0171 (Sharpsbridge Farm). She gave background information about previous applications for change of use and development at the property and explained that the dwelling proposed in the current application was intended as a retirement home for herself and her husband. Mrs Bone stated that the land could not be returned for agricultural use and that the business use for which permission had previously been granted was not practical because of access problems. She advised that about 50 trees had recently been planted on the land and that, if permission were to be granted for the proposed development, more trees would be planted which would enhance the view from the adjacent public footpath. In response to a question asked by a member of the Parish Council, Mrs Bone confirmed that there is currently a small holiday let being operated from Sharpsbridge Farm but that this would cease to operate once the proposed dwelling had been built.

Mr Palczewski spoke in connection with his planning application LW/19/0140 (Hazel Wood). He stated that running the camp site was his full time occupation and his only source of income. The site had been running for the past three years with no complaints and he believed that it worked well with other businesses in the village. Mr Palczewski circulated copies of letters from two local businesses which were in support of his camp site.

- 5. Approval of draft minutes of Parish Council meeting held 26th February 2019** – It was agreed that the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 26th February 2019 could be signed as a true record.

6. Planning:

- 6.1 Approval of draft minutes of Planning Committee meeting held 12th March 2019** – It was agreed that the draft minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held 12th March 2019 could be signed as a true record.

6.2 Consideration of Planning Applications

Newick
LW/19/0140
Case Officer
Andrew Kubiak

Hazel Wood, Jackies Lane
Continued change of use to campsite with yurts (pre-erected) or tents up to a maximum of nine pitches until October 31st 2021. It was agreed to **support** this application for continued change of use as it was considered to be in accordance with Newick Neighbourhood Plan policy LE1 'small scale expansion of retail and other business premises in the Parish will be supported, subject to it respecting the established sense of place and local character of the existing buildings in the

area of the development and the surrounding countryside'.
Having declared an interest in this application Cllr. Armitage did not vote.

Newick
LW/19/0171
Case Officer
Danielle Durham

Sharpsbridge Farm, Sharpsbridge Lane
Demolition of existing chicken shed and erection of detached dwelling
It was agreed to **object** to this planning application on the grounds that the proposed development would be outside the agreed planning boundary and therefore would be contrary to Lewes District saved policy CT1 and to Newick's Neighbourhood Plan which moved the previously agreed planning boundary only in respect of development described in policies H02, H03 and H04.
5 Members voted to object to the application and 3 abstained. Having previously declared an interest, Cllr. White did not vote.

Two members of the public left the meeting at 7.20 p.m.

Newick
LW/19/0130
Case Officer
James Emery

Orchards End, Woodbine Lane
Ground floor reconfiguration and extension. It was agreed to make **no comment** on this planning application.

Newick
LW/19/0147
Case Officer:
Robin Hirschfeld

96 Allington Road
Demolition of garage with rear and side extensions to dwelling with alterations to roof and elevations and associated works. It was agreed to make **no comment** on this planning application.
Having previously declared an interest, Cllr. Thew did not vote.

Newick
LW/19/0177
Case Officer
James Emery

45 Cricketfield
Proposed side extensions and associated internal alterations. It was agreed to make **no comment** on this planning application.
At the time of considering this application Cllrs Clothier and White both declared that they had a personal interest and did not vote.

Newick
LW/19/0182
Case Officer
Sam Larke

March House, The Green
Removal of existing rear conservatory, construction of new single storey rear extension, installation of new bay window in east side wall.
Concern was expressed that work had already commenced on this property, which is situated in the Newick Green Conservation Area (conservatory removed and aperture for new window made in east side wall). In view of this, the Clerk was asked to request that the Lewes DC Enforcement Officer should make an urgent site visit. It was agreed to defer consideration of the application until the Planning Committee meeting on 9th April.

Newick
LW/19/0203
Case Officer
Sarah Sullivan

Little Mackerells, Newick Park Road
Proposed new front dormer to existing dwelling. It was agreed to make **no comment** on this planning application.

6.3 Approvals/Refusals etc. It was noted that the following planning application had been **approved** by Lewes District Council:-

LW/19/0005 25 High Hurst Close, Newick – Planning application for erection of rear ground floor extension and construction of additional first floor accommodation to include raising ridge height and erection of replacement front porch.

6.4 Tree works applications – It was noted that the following tree works application had been **approved** by Lewes District Council:-

TW/19/0019/TCA 20 High Street, Newick – Ash tree – Pollard by reducing height by 75%

- 6.5 Approval of draft minutes of Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting held 5th March 2019** – It was agreed that the draft minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting held 5th March 2019 could be signed as a true record.
- 6.6 Recommendation from Neighbourhood Plan Committee that Neighbourhood Plan should not be reviewed at the present time** – It was agreed to accept the Neighbourhood Plan Committee's recommendation that a review of the Newick Neighbourhood Plan should not be undertaken at the present time but that the possibility of a review at some time in the future should not be ruled out.
- 6.7 Lewes District Local Plan Part 2 Examination Hearings** – It was noted that the Local Plan Part 2 Examination Hearings would commence on Tuesday 2nd April 2019 and that Newick Parish Council had been granted permission to participate in several of the planned sessions. It was agreed that the detail of who should attend each session on behalf of the Parish Council would be delegated to the Neighbourhood Plan Committee.

Two members of the public left the meeting at 7.40 p.m.

One member of the public left the meeting at 7.45 p.m.

- 7. Clerk's Report** – The Clerk's report, which included Clerk's absence, arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting and for the forthcoming Parish Council Elections, had been circulated prior to the meeting along with a list of correspondence received since the last meeting. It was confirmed that a locum Clerk would not be required to attend the Planning and Neighbourhood Plan Committee meetings on 9th April 2019. Several members of the Council offered to assist at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 8. Report by Clerk on any action taken under Delegated Powers in consultation with Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman** – It was noted that some hedging work had been carried out at the Cricketfield Allotment site.
- 9. Financial Matters:**

- 9.1 To approve schedule of payments for March 2019** – It was agreed to approve the schedule of payments for March 2019. Cllrs. Thew and Nesbitt were appointed to authorise the payments this month. The Clerk detailed action already taken following the receipt of an unexpectedly high water bill and the proposed monitoring of water consumption at the Sports Pavilion. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Newick Cricket Club to advise them that consumption was to be closely monitored and that a contribution may be required if an excessive amount of water was used to water the cricket pitch. It was agreed that permission should be given to the Clerk to pay invoices for maintenance work already ordered if they arrived before the end of the financial year.

Payments Schedule March 2019

Payee	Item	Invoice Amount	Cheque Number
SE Berry, HMRC & East Sussex Pension Fund	Clerk's Salary, Tax & NI contributions and Pension Contributions	£1644.68	Electronic pmts
NACCA	Hire of Community Centre room	£300.00	Electronic pmt
Surrey Hills Solicitors	Legal services re land disposal	£1198.80	Electronic pmt
Mrs LM Farmer	Locum Clerk work	£123.88	Electronic pmt
Castle Water	Sports Pavilion Water supply	£707.17	Electronic pmt
D. Sankey Ltd	Routine mole treatment KGVPF	£100.80	Electronic pmt
SLCC Enterprises Ltd	Training webinar 20/03/19	£36.00	Electronic pmt
Mrs SE Berry	Reimbursement of Clerk's expenses	£16.75	Electronic pmt
Village Handy Person	Village Maintenance	£294.00	Electronic pmt

Total		£4422.08	
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- 9.2 To note statement of performance against budget as at end February 2019** – The statement of performance against budget as at the end of February 2019 had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. .
- 9.3 To consider request to submit revised precept demand to Lewes DC** – A report from the Clerk giving the reasons as to why a revised precept demand had been requested by Lewes District Council had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was understood that the revised demand would leave the parish in a neutral position and that the Council Tax bills would remain unchanged. The Clerk was authorised to submit a revised precept demand for £62,861.
- 9.4 To consider report on purchase of reconditioned mobile phone and sim card** – It was agreed that the Clerk should be authorised to proceed with the purchase of a reconditioned mobile phone and to subscribe to a low cost monthly payment plan. **Action Clerk**
- 9.5 To consider quotation for replacement of external case for Sports Pavilion defibrillator** – A quotation for the replacement of the external cabinet which houses the defibrillator at the Sports Pavilion had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed to purchase a replacement case similar to the model quoted for but without a lock at a lower cost of £499 + VAT. It was noted that Cllr. White had kindly agreed to waive his fee for the installation of the cabinet.

10. Committees' and Councillors' Reports

- 10.1 Approval of draft minutes of Environment & Recreation Committee meeting held 12th March 2019**
It was agreed that the draft minutes of the Environment & Recreation Committee meeting held 12th March 2019 could be signed as a true record.

- 10.2 Outdoor Gym Equipment Project** – Cllr. Smerdon reported that she had obtained three quotations for the provision of five pieces of outdoor gym equipment at the recreation ground and that she had been in contact with Newick Cricket Club to discuss any concerns that they might have over the proposed location of the equipment. It was agreed that a report would be prepared for consideration at the next meeting. **Action Cllr. Smerdon**

In order to assist Cllr. Nesbitt item 10.5 was brought forward

10.5 Speed Indicator Device (SID) – Cllr Nesbitt reported on the meeting that he and the Clerk had attended with Cllr. Neil Macleod of Danehill Parish Council. Cllr. Macleod had given details of the process followed and some of the problems encountered by Danehill Parish Council over the three years that it had taken to put a SID into operation. It was agreed to recommend to the next Parish Council that this project should be taken forward and implemented in Newick. It was noted that as speed surveys would have to be undertaken for all potential SID sites and that ESCC would give a discount for carrying out several surveys at the same time, the agreed speed survey for Western Road should be delayed and carried out as part of the bigger project.

Cllr. Nesbitt left the meeting at 8.35 p.m.

- 10.3 Newick Village Hall Management Committee (NVHMC)** – Cllr Smerdon reported that NVMHC had been in consultation with Action in rural Sussex over the hosting of a possible event to showcase village activities.

- 10.4 Newick Rootz** – Cllr. Wickens reported the following:-
Rootz members had carried out further hedge laying near to Mill Wood, the shelving at the storage shed had not yet been installed (Clerk to investigate), it had been confirmed that Newick Common meets the criteria for designation as a Local Wildlife Site but it still needs to go through a formal adoption process, Reedens Meadows had not yet been handed over to Lewes District Council.

- 10.5 Speed Indicator Device** – This item had been brought forward and dealt with earlier in the meeting.

- 10.6 Lewes District Association of Local Councils (LDALC)** – The minutes of the LDALC meeting held 4th March 2019 had been circulated by email prior to the meeting. Cllr. Smerdon reported that the meeting had centred mainly on planning and neighbourhood plan matters and that several local councils had reported having problems with the process of licencing for Speed Indicator Devices.

11. Request from Newick Horticultural Society for permission to hold Annual Show and Family Fun Dog Show on The Green 7th September 2019 – It was agreed that permission could be given to Newick Horticultural Society to hold the Annual Show and Family Fun Dog Show (including the erection of a marquee and advertising banner) on The Green 7th September 2019 subject to the usual conditions concerning risk assessment and insurance.

12. To note LDC new licencing conditions for release of Chinese lanterns and helium filled balloons – An email from Lewes District Council regarding the newly agreed licencing conditions to curb the release of Chinese lanterns and helium filled balloons on LDC owned land had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. It was agreed that a similar policy concerning the release of Chinese lanterns and helium filled balloons from NPC land should be drafted for consideration along with recommendations as to how to publicise it. The Clerk was asked to check Fields in Trust rules to see if this matter was addressed. **Action Clerk**

13. Annual Parish Meeting 17th April 2019 – Arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting had been dealt with earlier in the meeting as part of the Clerk’s report (agenda item 7).

In accordance with the resolution made under agenda item 3 above the following items were dealt with in a confidential session with no members of the press or public present.

14. Existing Clerk salary review – A report detailing the hourly rate for both the existing and new Clerk had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the hourly rate for the new Clerk should be increased to the same level as the new Clerk during the new Clerk’s training period.

15. Vernons Road/The Rough – It was agreed that authority should be delegated to Cllrs. Armitage and Wrench to sign land sale documents on behalf of the Parish Council when required and that Cllr. Wickens would be authorised to sign if either Cllr Armitage or Cllr Wrench were not available.

16. Items for the next agenda – Requests were made for the following items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting:-

- Follow up from Annual Parish Meeting
- Information regarding new post office facility
- Newick Food Fair and request to display banners

The meeting closed at 8.57 p.m.

Signed:.....Chairman

Date:.....

The Clerk: Mrs SE Berry, 18 Newlands Park Way, Newick, BN8 4PG
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