

## Newick Parish Council

**Minutes** of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021. This meeting was held virtually using Zoom software.

**Present:** Councillors C. Armitage, B. Deacon, B.Hodge, D. Marchant, V. Marchant, M. Thew, B. Whitlock, C. Wickens and K.Wrench

**In Attendance:** Mrs E Reece (Clerk)  
Members of Councillor's families were in the same room as those participating in the meeting for brief periods  
One member of the public

An audio and visual recording was made of the meeting

The meeting commenced at 7.01pm

- 1. Apologies for Absence** – None were received but Cllr. B Hodge and V. Marchant joined after the start. Cllr. T Whitlock was not present.

Cllr. V Marchant and one member of the public joined at 7.02pm

- 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** – Cllr. D Marchant declared an interest in item 9.7
- 3. Exclusion of the Press and Public** – There was no reason to exclude the Press or members of the public from any part of the meeting.
- 4. Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – None
- 5. Co-option of up to one new councillor (if candidates have put themselves forward)** – No candidates had put themselves forward for co-option.
- 6. To agree author and content of monthly Social Media update** – It was agreed that Cllr. Wrench would write the update for this month.
- 7. Report from Lewes District Councillor Roy Burman** – District Councillor Roy Burman was not present.
- 8. Approval of draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 26th January 2021** – It was agreed that the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021 could be signed as a true record.
- 9. Planning:**

**9.1 Consideration of Planning Applications: (if any)**

<b>LW/21/0033</b>	<b>36 High Hurst Close</b> Proposed ground floor and first floor side extensions, new front entrance canopy. Re-roof in slate. Render walls. Increase off road parking and internal alterations.  Cllr. Hodge joined at 7.08pm  It was unanimously agreed to make <b>no comment</b> .
-------------------	--

- 9.2 Approvals/Refusals etc.** – It was noted that Lewes District Council had granted permission for the following application:

LW/20/0816 1 High Hurst Close Newick - Planning Application for Proposed two storey front extension

- 9.3 Tree Works Applications** – TW/21/0014/TCA It was agreed to make no comment

- 9.4 Update on **Woods Fruit Farm** appeal – There was nothing to report.
- 9.5 Update on **Mitchelswood Farm** Inquiry – It was reported that the inquiry result was published on 16<sup>th</sup> February, that the appeal was dismissed and therefore the planning application refused.
- 9.6 Update on **55 Allington Road** – There was nothing to report.
- 9.7 Update on **Vernons Road/The Rough Appeal (LW/20/0124)** – It was reported that the applicants appeal was successful and permission to build a pair of semi-detached houses has been granted with conditions.
- 9.8 Chagley Common development consultation from Reside Developments (land submitted for approx 20 homes on the corner of Oxbottom Lane/Station Road) – to agree a response (if any) – The objections from May 2015 were circulated before the meeting alongside Chailey Parish Council’s comments in 2015 and their comments this year on the latest proposal.

It was agreed to make the following comments to Lewes District Council and Chailey Parish Council;

- LDC has committed to policy DM1, with its aim of avoiding coalescence of villages by maintaining gaps between them. It is clear that the proposal would cause irrevocable harm to the gap between - the two villages.
- The site is unsustainable as it is car dependent. Although there is a bus route along the road adjacent to the site this is an infrequent service and cannot be sustainable for 20 dwellings.
- Newick Primary school which is the closest to the site is only for Newick children at present because it is full. Therefore, the children would need to go to either Fletching or Chailey primary school which are both car dependent. There is no footpath which goes south along the A275.
- The site would run alongside Oxbottom which is a very rural and narrow road

Cllr. Wickens lost internet connection and left the meeting at 7.18pm

- 9.9 To agree response to Lewes District Council's Land Availability Assessment results and actions to be taken by Newick Parish Council (deadline for comment 12th March 2021) – It was confirmed that the comments would be finalised in the March Planning Committee Meeting and that the result would be published when finalised.
- 9.10 To agree comments to Lewes District Council's Land Availability Assessment Methodology (deadline 12th March 2021) - It was confirmed that the comments would be finalised in the March Planning Committee Meeting

Cllr. Wickens re-joined at 7.26pm

Sharing the details of the LDC LAA with the village was discussed. It was agreed to include this in the social media update with an explanation of what the Land Availability is.

- 9.11 Lewes District Association of Local Councils – report from Cllr. Armitage regarding planning issues including Plumpton Parish Council's response to 89 additional homes proposed at the Nolans Farm site – Cllr. Armitage and Wickens attended an LDALC meeting and the notes from that meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 were circulated before the meeting. Cllr. Armitage stated that one participant in the LDALC meeting stated that just because a district plan isn't *in date* doesn't mean it is *out of date*. It was agreed that Cllr. Armitage would write a letter to Member of Parliament, Maria Caulfield about the LAA and the actions from the LDALC meeting. The interim policy statement was also discussed in the LDALC meeting and whether the approach is appropriate. The LDALC meeting reported that in the future a neighbourhood plan may become a neighbourhood street map.

## 10. Clerk's Report –

- 10.1 To note report from Clerk including correspondence received in January/February 2021 – The correspondence report was circulated and noted. The Clerks report included;
  - Rent from the Scouts is now overdue
  - Progress on the Sports Pavilion Lease
  - Change to pc.gov website address
  - General power of Competence benefits

**10.2** To note the Clerk's attainment of Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) and a contractual increase of one point (to spinal column point 30 of the National Joint Council's Job and Salary scale) from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 – this was noted and Cllr. Armitage congratulated the Clerk

**11. Report by Clerk on any action taken under Delegated Powers in consultation with Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman.** – There were none

**12. Financial Matters:**

**12.1** To authorise Schedule of Payments for February 2021 and arrangements for approving payments  
It was agreed that the following payments should be made and that signatories Cllrs. Armitage and Thew should authorise them.

Time: 09:50

**Unity Trust Bank**

**List of Payments made between 01/02/2021 and 28/02/2021**

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
28/02/2021	HM Revenue & Customs	382363729	346.40		Tax and NI
28/02/2021	East Sussex Pension Fund	88201348	472.61		Pension contributions
28/02/2021	Mrs E Reece	85900041	1,382.11		Clerk Salary
28/02/2021	Barclays Debit Card	482077948	211.39		Top up
28/02/2021	Telefonica UK Ltd	DD	16.63		Mobile phone
28/02/2021	Peter Howes	652336590	294.00		Village Handyman
28/02/2021	Lewes District Council	453738426	18.00		Play Inspections
28/02/2021	Mrs E Reece	5889	5.99	Paper	Expenses
28/02/2021	Surrey Hills Solicitors	633024281	1,290.00		Sports Pavilion Lease
<b>Total Payments</b>			<u>4,037.13</u>		

The following payments have already been made and were reported to the Council;

Time: 10:47

**Barclays Debit Card**

**List of Payments made between 01/02/2021 and 28/02/2021**

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
28/02/2021	Telefonica UK Ltd	DD	16.63		Mobile phone
28/02/2021	SLCC Enterprises Ltd	DC	185.00		SLCC Enterprises Ltd
28/02/2021	Zoom Video Communications	DD	14.39		Zoom software
28/02/2021	Telefonica UK Ltd	DD	-16.63	Incorrect cashbook	CORRECTION
28/02/2021	SLCC Enterprises Ltd	DC	12.00		Joining fee
<b>Total Payments</b>			<u>211.39</u>		

**12.2** To receive statement of performance against budget as at end January 2021 – this was received and noted.

**12.3** To consider grant applications received (S. 137 LGA 1972) – none had been received.

**12.4** To consider additional cost of purchase of speed gun, to be lent to Newick Speedwatch, at the cost of £61.37 plus the £487.80 agreed in January PC meeting - The additional cost is for delivery, handling set up cost. This was unanimously agreed.

**12.5** To consider quotes (if received) – none had been received.

**13. Environment & Recreation;**

**13.1 Skate Ramp** – report from Cllr. Thew on meeting with Clerk and Kent, Fearless, Maverick and alternative options – it was agreed that Cllr. Thew would write a letter to Allington Place residents with details of what the options being considered are and that a public consultation would be undertaken when Covid restrictions allow. Cllr. Thew reported that all three providers offered different options. A pump track style is unlikely to be suitable due to size of site available. Maverick looked at relocation options but were more expensive. Fearless ramps produced plans for a ramp for beginners/younger users and more advanced users and recommended investigating acoustic fencing. Cllr. Deacon highlighted that Soundproof fencing could be placed so that access could not be gained behind the fencing. Cllr. Armitage asked for clarification around location and drainage. Cllr. Thew discussed drainage in the MUGA area. Cllr. Hodge asked about noise implications and acoustics. Cllr. B Whitlock asked about location and funding. Cllr. Armitage discussed advantages of moving the ramp and the history of noise issues close to neighbours in Allington Place. Cllr. Wrench noted that the skate ramp positioning may be affected by a new Pavilion site. Cllr. Deacon suggested fencing like the children’s play area, to restrict access. Cllr. Thew stated that the design of the ramps was the initial focus from the contractors. Cllr. Thew agreed to research acoustic fencing.

Cllr. D Marchant left and rejoined during the item 13.1 at 7.59pm due to poor internet connection

**13.2 Litter picking in Newick** – Cllr. Thew – Cllr. Thew reported that a resident had contacted Cllr. Thew saying they had been litter picking along with others. The resident has suggested that the makers of cups, bottles etc include a message of ‘dispose of wisely’ and has approached manufacturers accordingly.

**13.3 Newick Sports Pavilion Charitable Trust** – report from Cllr. Thew on meeting held 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 – The minutes of the meeting were circulated, and a drainage issue was reported by the Football Club. Cllr. Thew stated that the issue needed to be looked into once the water table has gone down.

**13.4 Future of the Sports Pavilion including update on progress on/lease for existing building** – Cllr. Thew reported that the draft lease has gone to Andy Penfold for consideration by the trustees.

**13.5 To agree action on the abandoned car in the Community Centre Car Park** – Cllr. Thew reported that the car is still in place. Cllr. Deacon asked who owned the land and the Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council is responsible for the land as leasee. It was agreed that Cllr. Armitage would look at parking options.

8.20pm The member of the public left the meeting.

**14. Newick Village Hall Management Committee – Report from Cllr. B Whitlock** - Cllr. B Whitlock reported that Cllr. T Whitlock is now Vice Chair of the VHMC and that the roof repairs will be undertaken in 2021 if possible.

**15. Community Speed Watch – Cllr. Armitage** – Cllr. Armitage reported that Speedwatch would be fully started when restrictions allow. Cllr. V Marchant asked if the 30 mph zone could be extended to include the Reedens Meadow entrance. Cllr. Armitage asked it to be noted for the SLR meetings when they restart.

**16. To discuss continued approach to COVID-19 outbreak** - including the expiry of legislation allowing virtual meetings from 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021, consideration on moving the annual meeting of the Parish Council to a date in May prior to 7<sup>th</sup> and what contingencies (if any) may be required if legislation is not extended/amended to allow the continuation of virtual/start of hybrid PC meetings. It was agreed to pencil in the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 for the annual meeting of the Parish Council if the legislation is unchanged on virtual meetings.

**17. Items for next agenda**

- Neighbourhood watch – Cllr. D Marchant
- Rights of way and permissive footpaths – Cllr. V Marchant

*The meeting closed at 8.41pm*

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

Mrs E Reece, Clerk to the Council  
[newickpc@newick.net](mailto:newickpc@newick.net) – 07521 511643