

Newick Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 25th January 2022 at the Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road, Newick

Present: Councillors C. Armitage, B.Hodge, D. Marchant, V.Marchant, A. Sippets, M. Thew, C. Wickens.

In Attendance: Emma Reece (Clerk)
Matthew Milligan (County Councillor)

1. **Apologies for Absence** – apologies had been received from Cllrs. B and T Whitlock. Cllr. Wrench was not present.
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** – There were none.
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. **To agree author and content of monthly Social Media update** – Cllr. Wickens agreed to write this.
5. **Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – There were none.
6. **Co-option of up to one new councillor (if candidates have put themselves forward)** – There were none.
7. **Report from Lewes District Councillor Roy Burman** – Mr Burman was not present and there was no report. It was noted by the Councillors that there had not been any reports from the District Councillor for some time. Cllr. Armitage said that he had contacted Lewes Conservative Association to see if Mr Burman was still working as a Councillor. Cllr. Armitage asked Matthew Milligan if he had any insight and Mr Milligan recommended that the Council speak to District Council. Cllr. V Marchant asked about a scrutiny officer at District Council and Cllr. Armitage said that he would speak to them. Cllr. Thew asked about the LAA results and Cllr. Armitage confirmed that the document has not yet been sent to Parish Councils but it is expected soon.
8. **Report from County Councillor Matthew Milligan** – Mr Milligan reported that ESCC are considering a Council tax 4.49% increase for their portion of the precept. He stated that it is a balanced budget and a difficult decision but he was pleased there are no cuts to services. Cllr. Hodge commented that the Police Commissioner stated there would be an increase in precept in a questionnaire but no results of survey have been published. Cllr. Milligan agreed to look into the matter and would email the Clerk.
9. **Report from Member of Parliament Maria Caulfield** – Maria Caulfield MP had sent her apologies that she was unable to attend. Her written report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted.
10. **Approval of draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 30th November 2021** – These were considered and approved.
11. **To discuss climate change** – Cllr. V Marchant outlined some ideas on how the Parish Council can move this issue forward. She stated that the Council could make a statement that the PC are concerned about climate change. She suggested including an article in each Parish Council newsletter with practical advice and positive actions. A question about plastic was asked and Cllr. V Marchant confirmed that anything unsuitable would be incinerated for energy anyway. It

was agreed that the matter would be included in the Environment & Recreation Committee agenda every quarter and then reported at PC meetings. Cllr. V Marchant recommended that LDC attend the Annual Parish Meeting to discuss their strategy. Cllr. Thew suggested including it in the social media update where relevant.

12. Planning:

12.1 Approval of draft minutes of the Planning Committee meetings 14th December 2021 and 11th January 2022 – these were approved as an accurate record of the meetings.

12.2 Planning Applications (If plans available on LDC website)

<p>LW/21/1000 (Chailey)</p>	<p>Land West Of Oxbottom Lane Newick East Sussex ('Chagley Corner')</p> <p>Redevelopment of the site to provide 21 residential dwellings along with parking, open space and all necessary infrastructure</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed to object to this application on the following basis;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It will impact more upon Newick than North Chailey and is a significant site which will erode the green gap between the 2 villages. DM1 of the local plan part 2 (LLP2) recognises the importance of this. ○ PINS Inspectors have emphasised the need to retain open space between the two villages. Two examples of those decisions are APP/P1425/W/15/ and LW/19/0106. Both decisions highlighted the significance of maintaining the identity of individual settlements and maintaining the character of the countryside in accordance with NPPF ○ Environmental considerations. The proposal contravenes Core Policy 2. LDC has declared a climate emergency and has a strong environmental agenda that includes reducing car dependency and thus harmful emissions. This site is car dependent for travel. It has limited public transport, bus services although regular are infrequent on weekdays and do not operate at all on Sundays. The A272 (where the proposed site is situated and also the road which links North Chailey with Newick) is an extremely busy, single carriageway that does not encourage safe cycling or walking. Consequently, journeys for travel to and from school, to a medical centre and shops etc will be conducted largely by car, thereby increasing environmental harm. To develop a new car dependent site, particularly one contrary to the Local Plan cannot be justified, regardless of what mitigation might be argued by the Applicant. The fact that 55 cycle spaces have been allocated on the site is folly as bikes cannot safely be used and the design and access statement sections 2.2 and 2.3 are therefore incorrect. ○ The road safety audit is unfit for purpose. ○ The planned vehicular entrance is to be sited in a quiet narrow country lane. 78 car parking places are
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	<p>included in the proposal, suggesting a huge increase of vehicles which will either destroy the lane towards South Chailey or Barcombe, or increase the congestion of the A272 at peak times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The site is located outside the development boundary of Chailey and subject to Countryside Policies. No specific need for development outside that boundary has been demonstrated, nor has a need, sufficiently robust to override the policies and constraints relevant to Countryside development been established, to justify the proposed development. ○ It is disappointing to note that the application makes no reference to NPC having a highly regarded and robust Neighbourhood Plan (NP) made in 2015 and pays scant regard for Chailey also having a NP which was made in 2021. The proposal is contrary to DM1 of the LLP2 and is also contrary Core Policy 2.
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12.3 Approvals/Refusals etc.

It was noted that the following applications have been approved by Lewes District Council;

LW/21/0685	5 Woodbine Lane
LW/21/0752	5 Vernons Road
LW/21/0883	Farmleigh Fletching Lane Fletching Common
LW/21/0905	1 Vernons Road

12.4 Tree Works Applications – it was reported that there was one application which the tree warden felt needed no comment;

TW/22/0003/TCA - 75 Church Road, Newick, BN8 4JZ

12.5 To note letter sent to Thakeham homes regarding Woods Fruit Farm site on 12th January 2022 and subsequent reply – this was noted.

12.6 To consider letter to Michael Gove in response to a letter from Maria Caulfield (on the subject of housing allocation numbers). A draft letter was circulated prior to the meeting, and it was agreed to send this letter from the Chair of the Parish Council. It was agreed to copy in Maria Caulfield, Christopher Pincher, Stephen Gauntlet and Leigh Palmer.

13. Clerk’s Report – To note report from Clerks including correspondence received in December 2021 and January 2022.

This included:-

- The defibrillator that the PC borrowed for the Pavilion has now been returned.
- Clerk annual leave and early issue of February agenda pack
- Annual meeting of the Parish – The date for this has now been moved to the evening of Wednesday 18th May and the village hall has been confirmed for this date. The agenda for this will be agreed in the February PC meeting.
- Defib Pads have been replaced at Village Hall
- Memorial on Green – an ES Highways contractor parked next to the memorial stone on the Green and damaged the grass.
- The Pavilion CCTV has been upgraded
- The PC noticeboard next to Newick Drive shops
- Bar on the wall between the Community Centre and the Bakery car park to be fixed by village handyman

The following additional items were also reported;

- Damage to the grass on the south side of the Green
- Play equipment jet washing
- Use of contract finder, advice sought from ESALC
- Community centre no heating until further notice
- Change of date for May PC meeting to 24th May due to half term and Bank Holidays

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

15. Financial Matters:

- 15.1** To authorise Schedule of Payments for January 2022 and arrangements for approving payments – it was agreed that Cllr. Armitage and Cllr. Sippetts would authorise the payments.

The following payments were authorised;

List of Payments made between 01/01/2022 and 31/01/2022

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
31/01/2022	East Sussex Pension Fund	286416336	489.35		Pension contributions
31/01/2022	HM Revenue & Customs	727633135	385.04		Tax & NI
31/01/2022	Mrs E Reece	153410365	1,442.16		Clerk Salary
31/01/2022	Mr & Mrs Fuller	493772284	500.00		Allotment annual rent
31/01/2022	Newick Primary School	648690848	500.00	Stainces Dig	Grant
31/01/2022	Protect our Place	50904848	1,858.74		379129853
31/01/2022	Barcombe Landscapes Ltd	509935134	1,372.80		Grounds Maintenance
31/01/2022	Barcombe Landscapes Ltd	269801976	1,056.00		Mowing
31/01/2022	Surrey Hills Solicitors	497021631	330.00	Final Bill	Lease for Sports Pavilion
31/01/2022	Telefonica UK Ltd	DD	16.86		Mobile bill
31/01/2022	Lewes District Council	288017611	18.00		Play Inspection
31/01/2022	Peter Howes	590549628	385.00		Village Handyman
31/01/2022	Barclays Debit Card	Top up	249.20		Top up
Total Payments			<u>8,603.15</u>		

The following payments had already been made;

List of Payments made between 01/01/2022 and 31/01/2022

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
31/01/2022	Viking	DC	30.81		Envelopes, Paper, Diary
31/01/2022	Defib Warehouse	DC	198.00		Defib Warehouse
31/01/2022	Parish Map Company	DC	12.75		Newick & Barcombe Map
Total Payments			<u>241.56</u>		

The following payments were previously authorised in December, as agreed in the November PC meeting;

List of Payments made between 01/12/2021 and 31/12/2021

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
31/12/2021	East Sussex Pension Fund	827449172	489.35		Pension contributions
31/12/2021	Mrs E Reece	926392436	1,441.96		Clerk Salary
31/12/2021	HM Revenue & Customs	15211544	385.04		Tax & NI
31/12/2021	Telefonica UK Ltd	DD	16.86		Mobile phone
31/12/2021	SLCC Enterprises Ltd	141438938	215.00		Membership
31/12/2021	CPRE	171492685	36.00		Membership
31/12/2021	Peter Howes	461085843	231.00		Village Handyman
31/12/2021	Lewes District Council	371292460	108.58		Bin Empty x4 KGVPF
31/12/2021	Lewes District Council	991593318	18.00		Play area inspection
31/12/2021	Unity Trust Bank	SERVICE CH	18.00		Service Charge
Total Payments			2,959.79		

- 15.2** To receive statement of performance against budget as at end December 2021 – this was noted.
- 15.3** To note quarterly reconciliation of bank statement including receipt of annual interest from Cambridge & Counties bank and completion of VAT return – this was noted.
- 15.4** To consider grant applications received (S. 137 LGA 1972) – there were none.
- 15.5** To consider quotations received (if received) including quotation for repair to KGVPF pedestrian gate and replacement bollards on the Green/High Street

Quotes from Stephen Comber

Repairs to pedestrian gate at KGVPF;

*To replace the gate and gate post in the recreation ground is estimated to cost £385
Removal and disposal of the old gate and post.
Replaced with: 1x 4ft tanalized gate with hinges.
1x 6x6 tanalized gate post concreted in the ground.*

Repairs to bollards on the Green and High Street;

*Bollards on the green would require 4 at a cost of £305.
The bollards at frenches require 6 at a cost of £345.*

Newick Window Cleaning – Jet washing of play equipment at KGVPF at a cost of £275.

The above were agreed.

- 15.6** To discuss submission of C.I.L application to LDC including consideration of amount matched by Newick Parish Council.

Cllr. Thew reported that three contractors have been consulted and it is likely that the cost of replacing the ramp may be up to £100,000. It was proposed that an application for £50,000 would be made by Newick Parish Council to the District Council CIL pot, with the difference being funded by £1000 donation, £10,000 from Parish CIL and the balance to be funded by the capital held by the Parish Council. The Council resolved to proceed on this basis.

16. Environment & Recreation:

- 16.1 Skateboard Ramp project update from Cllr. Thew including discussion of submission of Pre-application planning submission to LDC and associated costs. The Council agreed to proceed with the Skate Ramp project and that the matter would also be added to the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting to share with residents of the village.
- 16.2 Outdoor Gym Equipment update from Cllr. Thew, it was outlined that this would be funded by Parish CIL and application for grants. Cllr. Thew consulted with the Cricket Club and they agreed that the location where the current youth shelter is was suitable as it was not in the eye line of the square.
- 16.3 Youth Shelter location – to consider alternative locations for current youth shelter. Cllr. Thew shared advice from Gravity Skate Parks that this type of shelter was now considered to be out of date. It was discussed that the current shelter was a magnet for anti social behaviour and it agreed to dispose of the current shelter as part of the outdoor gym equipment installation.
- 16.4 To discuss letter to Cllr. Armitage from Mr Cumberlege regarding paving on The Green – Cllr. Thew gave an outline of the history of the situation. Concerns over the safety of brick were discussed. Cllr. V Marchant stated she would like the Council to consider options as it is the centre of the village. Cllr. Armitage asked if there was a conservation officer at ESCC and Cllr. Milligan agreed to look into it. Cllr. V Marchant stated that there must be other villages with similar issues and that the Council may need to research modern materials. It was agreed to write to Mr Turk and Mr Cumberlege to update them. Cllr. Armitage agreed to lead this project.

17 Committees' and Councillors' Reports:

- 17.1 Newick Rootz – Cllr. Wickens. Cllr Armitage confirmed a workday was completed yesterday that it was very productive.
- 18 **To discuss letter from '20's Plenty for Us' campaign and agree actions** – A paper was circulated from the campaign prior to the meeting. Cllr Armitage asked Mr Milligan what was ESCC's view and Mr Milligan confirmed that ESCC was against the idea. Cllr. Armitage stated he didn't support reducing the speed limit on all roads. Cllr. Wickens stated that she would support it in parts of the village. Cllr. Hodge stated he was against the proposal. Cllr. V Marchant stated she was in favour, especially on Allington Road. Cllr. D Marchant agreed with Cllr. Hodge and he felt that the estate roads were slower now. Cllr. Sippetts asked if there was a lower speed limit policy outside or around schools. Mr Milligan said he would be in support of 20 MPH school zone. Cllr. Hodge stated that he had experience in Blackboys of trying to reduce the speed limit unsuccessfully. It was agreed to take no action on the campaign proposal but to take forward exploring a 20 MPH zone around the school. It was agreed to the next SLR meeting agenda
- 19 **To consider plans for Queen's platinum jubilee celebrations 2022** – Cllr. Thew reported that no further support or volunteers. Street parties to be encouraged.
- 20 **To consider request to erect a marquee outside the Sports Pavilion on Friday 5th August in the afternoon (to be dismantled on the morning of Saturday 6th August) for a private wedding reception** – Councillors discussed concerns about this proposal and the following motion was proposed;

To agree to the erection of the marquee on the following terms;

- That the Cricket Club support the hire
- That the hirers pay a rental fee of £150 to Newick Parish Council
- That evidence of a suitable temporary event licence and public liability insurance is received by the Clerk
- That any damage to the grass is repaired
- That the hirers write to the residents of Allington Place giving them notice of the event
- That no cars were parked on the playing fields

This motion was passed with 2 voting against and 5 in favour.

21 Items for next agenda

Allotment AGM update to be included on E&R committee agenda

The meeting closed at 9.06pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

Mrs E Reece, Clerk to the Council
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