

## Newick Parish Council

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

**Present:** Councillors C. Armitage (Chairman), B. Hodge, D. Marchant, V, Marchant, A. Sippetts, M. Thew, C. Wickens and K. Wrench.

**In Attendance:** Emma Reece (Clerk)  
Sue Berry (Locum Clerk)  
East Sussex County Councillor Matthew Milligan

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Apologies had been received from Cllrs. B and T Whitlock. Apologies had also been received from Maria Caulfield MP. Cllr. Penfold 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** – Cllr. Hodge declared a personal interest in agenda item 11.2 (LW/22/0625 1 Hunters View)
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** – It was agreed that Cllr. Wickens would write this, items to include external lighting of residential properties and a reminder about the small grants scheme.
5. **Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – There were no members of the public present at the meeting.
6. **Report from Lewes District Councillor Roy Burman** –. Cllr. Roy Burman was not present.
7. **Report from County Councillor Matthew Milligan** – Cllr. Matthew Milligan reported that a new seven year highways contract with Balfour Beatty would commence in April 2023.
8. **Report from Member of Parliament Maria Caulfield** - Maria Caulfield was not present at the meeting, however, her written report had been circulated prior to the meeting.
9. **Approval of draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022** – These were considered and approved.
10. **To discuss climate change** – Cllr. V Marchant reported that she has been in touch with OVESCO and would be inviting them to a future event. The dark skies policy was discussed and it was agreed that residents would be advised to check that any bulbs used for external lighting were energy efficient. **Action Cllr. Wickens – Social Media Update**
11. **Planning:**
  - 11.1 Approval of Draft Minutes from Planning Committee held 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – these were considered and approved.
  - 11.2 Planning Applications (If plans available on LDC website)

LW/22/0625	1 Hunters View Western Road Erection of a rear single storey infill extension to connect garage to main dwelling, additional single storey rear infill extension, installation of rear external staircase, alterations to fenestration on all elevations and addition of car port to side.
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	<p><i>It was unanimously agreed to make <b>no comment</b> on this application</i></p> <p>Having previously declared an interest in this item, Councillor Hodge did not vote.</p>
<b>LW/22/0666</b>	<p><b>59 Allington Road</b></p> <p>Erection of single storey rear and side wrap around extension, infill front porch extension and erection of outbuilding to rear</p> <p><i>It was unanimously agreed to make <b>no comment</b></i></p>

**11.3** Approvals/Refusals etc. – There were none

**11.4** Tree Works Applications – There were none

**12 Clerk’s Report** – To note report from Clerks including correspondence received in August/September 2022.

This included:

- Mobile phone bill
- Scout hut lease
- ESCC grass cutting
- 55 Allington Road
- Cross country event
- Manwaring Robertson Field gate
- Grants
- The Green after the Fun Fair

**13 Report by Clerk on any action taken under Delegated Powers in consultation with Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman** – It was reported Shaylers Funfair had been given permission to use The Green Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> October following consultation with the Chairman.

The Scouts had been given permission to put signs on The Green to advertise their Jumble Sale following informal consultation with Councillors at the previous PC meeting.

**14 Financial Matters:**

**14.1** To authorise Schedule of Payments for October 2022. It was agreed that Cllrs. Sippetts and D. Marchant would authorise the following payments:-

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**List of Payments made between 01/10/2022 and 31/10/2022**

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
31/10/2022	Telefonica UK Ltd	DD	11.89		Mobile Phone
31/10/2022	HM Revenue & Customs	67974273	369.69		Tax & NI
31/10/2022	Mrs E Reece	900467592	1,480.58		Clerk Salary
31/10/2022	East Sussex Pension Fund	656975224	490.29		Pension Fund
31/10/2022	Lewes District Council	584514168	18.00		Monthly play inspection
31/10/2022	Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd	252528703	154.80		Annual Software Licence
31/10/2022	Peter Howes	897879576	396.00		Handyman
<b>Total Payments</b>			<b>2,921.25</b>		

It was noted that the following payments had also been made;

**List of Payments made between 01/10/2022 and 31/10/2022**

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
31/10/2022	Shell	DC	9.50		Clerk Training expenses
31/10/2022	McAfee	DC	99.99		McAfee anti virus
<b>Total Payments</b>			<b>109.49</b>		

**14.1 To receive statement of performance against budget as at September 2022** – this was noted.

**14.3 To receive end of quarter bank reconciliation and note VAT refund** – this was noted and the Clerk clarified a query regarding the Unity Trust bank statement.

**14.4 To consider grant applications received** (S. 137 LGA 1972) – there were none, however, it was agreed that a reminder about the small grants scheme would be included in the monthly social media update. **Action Cllr. Wickens**

**14.5 To consider quotations (if received)** – A quotation was considered from Stephen Comber Landscape and Fencing for replacement gate posts. It was agreed to proceed with this quote.

**15 Environment & Recreation:**

**15.1 Skateboard Ramp project including final agreement to proceed with Gravity Skate Parks** – Cllr. Thew reported that a site meeting would held with the contractors, Gravity Skate Parks, at the start of November. She also reported that, as the rugby season ends in March, there would be further discussions with the rugby club regarding the start date for installation of the new Skate Park. Cllr. Wrench advised the Council that there was only one home game per month at present. It was reported that conversations had been held with Jackson Fencing on acoustic fencing and that they had advised to wait until the project had been built to assess the noise levels and fencing requirements. It was unanimously agreed to proceed with Gravity Skate Parks as the specialist contractor to install the new Skate Park.

**15.2 Litter picking and ‘donate a morning’ with Newick Primary School** - Cllr. Thew reported that Cllr. Armitage joined her and the Clerk for a morning of litter picking with some year 6 pupils from Newick CE Primary School. It was thought to have been a successful event.

**15.3 Outdoor Gym Equipment update** – Cllr. Thew reported that there would be a meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> November with Fresh Air Fitness to move this project forward.

**15.4 Pavilion Redevelopment update from Cllr. Penfold** – Cllr. Penfold was not present, however, Cllr. Thew reported that there would be a meeting of the Sports Pavilion Trust on 1<sup>st</sup> November and that Cllr. Thew and the Clerk would meet before then to further discuss the funding options.

**15.5 Update on paving on The Green from Cllr. Armitage** – Cllr. Armitage reported that he was awaiting the forthcoming Council open morning to progress consultation on this matter.

**15.6 To consider request by Mr Collard for a sign to be put on the gate from Allington Road into Manwaring Robertson Field stating that the track is not a public right of way** – It was unanimously agreed to proceed with a sign as requested. The Clerk would obtain quotes and contact Mr Collard. **Action Clerk**

**15.7 To review policy for Signs on The Green** – the proposed updated policy document had been circulated in advance of the meeting. This was agreed subject to one amendment regarding the number of Councillors required to approve a request (item 1).

**16 Committees’ and Councillors’ Reports:**

**16.1 Newick Rootz** – Cllr. Wickens reported that a recent workday was completed on Newick Common. Cllr. V Marchant noted that the diverse wildlife area would benefit from an interpretation board giving details of what can be found on the Common.

**16.2 Village Hall Management Committee** – Cllr. B Whitlock was not present. Cllr. Armitage reported that Mike Berry was stepping down from helping to organise Newick Cinema

and that volunteers were being sought to take over from him. It was agreed that this would be included in the monthly social media update. **Action Cllr. Wickens**

- 17 To agree article for November edition of the Parish News (submission deadline 7th November)** – It was agreed to use an edited version of the social media update.
- 18 To agree terms of Scout Hut lease which expires December 2022 and consideration of how legal fees will be funded** – the history and the current condition of the Scout Hut lease were discussed. It was agreed to offer a 7 year lease on the same basis as existing, without break terms. It was agreed to transfer £1000 from the small grants budget into the administration budget to help cover the Council's legal costs. It was noted that these costs would result in the administration budget being exceeded in the current financial year.
- 19 To consider arrangements for tender process and specification of grounds maintenance contract commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023** – Cllr. D Marchant had previously circulated a report on the matter, having worked with Gary Marshall and Cllr. V Marchant on a proposal to reduce the number of cuts. It was proposed to designate four PC owned green areas (Leveller Road, Marbles Road, Powell Road and Growers End) as wildflower meadows to be cut once a year in September (subject to a survey in June) with arisings removed. Nearby residents to be kept fully informed. Highway verges within the contract to continue to be cut 12 times per year, with the exception of the small verge near to the Church (once a year). This was agreed subject to confirmation from ESCC Highways that it would be permitted to reduce the number of cuts for the area near to the Church. **Action Clerk**
- 20 To consider offering a donation towards the cost of electricity for the Christmas Tree on The Green for December 2022** – It was agreed to offer a contribution of £150 towards the cost of powering the lights on the Christmas Tree on The Green during December 2022. Owing to concern about energy usage, the Clerk was asked to contact Southern Events to check what type of lights would be used. **Action Clerk**
- 21 To consider request from Karl Luckhurst to use the Playing Fields on the 1st February or 22nd February 2023 for a multi primary school cross country running event** – It was agreed to give permission for this event to take place subject to proper coordination of parking within the village and due consideration for any work which might be taking place on the new Skate Park.
- 22 To consider request from Newick Primary School to erect a banner on the Green advertising Open Morning week commencing 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022** – This was agreed.

**23 Items for next agenda**

- Newick common noticeboard
- Update on grass cutting contract

*The meeting closed at 8.27pm*

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

Mrs E Reece, Clerk to the Council  
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