

NEWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment and Recreation Committee of Newick Parish Council held at the Sports Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Allington Road, Newick on Tuesday 10th November 2015 at 6.47 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. C. Allen, B. Horsfall, R. Houghton, J Sheppard, J Smerdon (Chairman for this committee), M. Thew and C. Wickens.

In Attendance: Mrs. S. Berry (Clerk)
One member of the public

1. **Apologies for Absence** – There were no apologies
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** – No disclosures were made.
3. **Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – There were no questions or statements by members of the public.
4. **Environment Issues:-**
 - 4.1 An updated version of the inspection report for the Parish Council owned open spaces had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted.
 - 4.2 It was agreed that the quotation received from Lindsay Baker Fencing for various items of remedial work should be accepted and that he should also be asked to replace additional wooden posts on The Green that had been destroyed more recently. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the person who had damaged one of the posts and ask for a contribution towards the cost of replacement. It was agreed to accept the quotation received from Barcombe Landscapes for removal of overgrown shrubs in the Community Centre car park.
 - 4.3 It was agreed not to proceed with the proposed gateway feature at the present time.
5. **Playing Fields Issues:-**
 - 5.1 An updated version of the inspection report for the King George V Playing Field (KGVPF) and Manwaring Robertson Field had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. It had been reported that a seat had been removed from the picnic bench on KGVPF, the Clerk agreed to check on this and report back to the committee.
 - 5.2 It was agreed to accept the quotations received from Lindsay Baker Fencing for remedial work (all work agreed under item 4.2 above).
 - 5.3 It was noted that the monthly play area inspection report from Lewes District Council showed that some minor work was required to the skate park and the wet pour surface in the fenced play area. The Clerk was asked to obtain quotations for this work.
 - 5.4 The proposals for new signage in the recreation ground had not been finalized and the matter was deferred to the next meeting. It was agreed to recommend that the Council should adopt the design of a 'Dog Poo' sign used by Wealden District Council. The Clerk was asked to check with Wealden for any copyright issues and to obtain some costings.
 - 5.5 A letter from the residents of 5 Allington Place regarding the hedge at the bottom of their rear garden had been circulated prior to the meeting and photographs provided by the residents were circulated at the meeting. It was agreed that a letter should be sent advising that the Parish Council did not wish to remove the hedge altogether but that it had no problem with the residents cutting the hedge

back to their side of the metal boundary fence. The Council would arrange for its contractors to reduce the height of the hedge.

5.6 An email from the resident of 6 Allington Place regarding his proposal to cut back the hedge between his property and the playing field to the boundary fence was noted.

5.7 An invoice for £300 had been received from Barcombe Landscapes for work carried out in the previous financial year. The company had failed to send an invoice at the time and had only just noticed this error. It was agreed that the invoice should be paid.

6. Skate Ramp

6.1 It was noted that Cllr. Smerdon had sought advice from Lewes District Council regarding the setting up of a group to consider the future of the skate ramp facility. Information had been obtained on the project to provide a new skate ramp in Peacehaven which had cost £170k. It was noted that new guidance had been received from Fields in Trust regarding the recommended size and location of equipped play spaces and agreed that these recommendations should be taken into account. It was agreed that Cllr. Wickens would produce a map showing any potential sites for consideration at the next E&R committee meeting and that the formation of a working group would be delayed until a suitable site had been identified.

6.2 A letter from the residents of 7 Allington Place had been circulated in advance of the meeting and was noted. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to Mr and Mrs Balloch outlining what had been agreed in item 6.1 above and to confirm that they would be welcome to join the working group when it was set up.

7. Village Survey

A document outlining details of the proposed survey of the village had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was agreed to recommend that, subject to a few minor amendments, the Council should adopt this methodology for the village survey and that it should be carried out during the first two weeks in December. Cllr. Wickens agreed to collate the information produced and report to the Parish Council in January 2016.

8. Items for the next agenda

Display of bus timetables in the bus shelters

The meeting closed at 8.05 p.m.

Signed:

Dated:.....