

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Tuesday 21 February 2017 in the Wickham Room, Newington Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Elaine Jackson (Chair), Cllr Eric Layer (Vice Chair), Cllr Sue Brewster, Cllr Dean Coles, Cllr Stephen Harvey and Cllr Tony Mould; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

1. Apologies for Absence

All Members were present.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Coles declared an interest in item 6.i as he is known to the builders and signed the Members' Declaration of Interests book.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Amenities Meeting on 24 January 2017

Cllr Jackson informed members the Sports Club PAT test failures were taken away by tester on the day.

Cllr Mould said there is a certificate for the pavilion electrics and also for equipment.

ACTION: Clerk to contact predecessor for information.

Cllr Jackson reported the intention is to replace the existing light fitting in the same location at Parsonage Farm. The developer understands the neighbour's concern and has requested that a deflector be added to the fitting to avoid light spill into the property.

ACTION 1: Clerk to send details to Paul Gregory, Planning Officer.

ACTION 2: Clerk to ask developer of completion date.

4. Public Question Time

There were no members of the public in attendance.

5. Anti-Social Behaviour

Apologies had been received from PCSO John Cork and Community Warden Georgina Springall.

i. PCSO Report 01/02/2017 -16/02/2017

TAZA Tandoori and Mings Takeaway broken into and the till money taken, this happened overnight on the 11-12 February.

Anti-Social Behaviour - no reports from residents or to Kent Police.

Nuisance bikes- no reports.

The village has been quiet.

ii. Community Warden Report

1) Two untaxed vehicles parked in car park area back of Pear Tree Walk – Reported to Amicus Horizon.

2) Burst water main in Bull Lane – Reported to Southern Water.

3) Two duster sellers knocking on doors in Playstool Road, Orchard Drive and estate area – Called PCSO John Cork, who attended and we both looked for them but they had gone.

4) Concerns for welfare of dog shut out in shed/kennel and disturbing residents due to it crying all night – Reported to Amicus Horizon who made visit.

5) Abandoned 'Giant' adults mountain bike thrown in bushes in London Road, suspect stolen – Reported to Police, PCSO Cork collected it.

6) Bull Lane filthy due to thick sandy mud not cleared up after burst water main – Reported to KCC Highways who readily attended and cleaned road.

7) Dog fouling on verges and pavement in Bull Lane.

- 8) Dog being walked on lead jumped up at male resident as he was passing and put his jaws around his arm, the dog didn't break the skin.
- 9) Concerns for welfare of two/three small dogs left shut in a medium sized cage all day and night in rear garden. They have been disturbing residents by crying and howling – Reported to Amicus Horizon and RSPCA.
- 10) Suspicious white transit van with no tax or MOT the male driver and passenger were wearing high viz 'courier' jackets but were not couriers. They took away cooker that was on pavement outside house that is having work done – Reported to Police.
- 11) Two lamp shades broken by BB gun on lamp post on railway station platform.
- 12) Two youths doing wheelies/antics on full size orange quad bike in Church Lane during busy school time – PCSO Cork aware.
- 13) Small dog getting out of garden on High Street and running across road – Visited owner.
- 14) Successful Bingo club afternoon, discussed recent scams with members.
- 15) Joint welfare visits with colleague to potential 'scam' victims in the Sittingbourne area.
- 16) Dog fouling on pavements and verges in Playstool Road.
- 17) Residents complaining about the quality of workmanship regarding the 'edging up' of verge on pavement in London Road/High Street. Pieces of turf left on the sides and mud on the pavement.

Cllr Harvey said that he had been informed this has previously been carried out but Parish Council volunteers,

ACTION: Clerk to ask the Highways Steward about the matter.

- 18) Roundabout/give way sign next to mini roundabout in Playstool Road/Orchard Drive knocked and now leaning – Reported to KCC Highways.
- 19) Checked out adult bicycle left chained to telegraph pole in Station Road for three days – Now removed.
- 20) Large pile of shrub cuttings fly tipped in between fenced area, Pear Tree Walk and orchard area. Spoke to suspect who denied it.
- 21) Litter in lay by, entrance to orchards, top of Bull Lane – Reported to SBC cleansing team.
- 22) Residents filling up SBC litter bins in Church Lane and village hall area with rabbit hutch clearings including dirty wood shavings.
- 23) Several nitrous oxide capsules and balloons found in railway station car park – PCSO Cork aware.

Cllr Harvey said there has been a similar incident previously.

Cllr Coles informed Members a carrier bag of capsules had been found in Keycol Hill.

Cllr Jackson said incidents 11, lamp damage at the station, and 23, nitrous oxide capsules and balloons found in railway station car park, may be on the station CCTV.

ACTION: Clerk to ask PCSO Cork to make enquiries.

- 24) Checked out vehicle suspected of being abandoned in Callaways Lane. Turned out to be taxed, insured and belonging to nearby resident.
 - 25) Loose small black dog seen by dog walker on footpaths towards Monkey Island/Callaways Lane. Checked out, could not find it.
 - 26) Children throwing lumps of tarmac/stones at dogs in garden next to Church car park. They do this after school whilst their parents are chatting to each other in car park - I will monitor area when school returns.
 - 27) Again, report of large building supply lorries travelling down Church Lane.
 - 28) Burglary at Chinese takeaway, till stolen – police aware.
 - 29) Burglary at Indian takeaway, till stolen – Police aware.
- Cllr Mould said ASB incidents can be reported in the Village Voice.
- ACTION: Cllr Jackson to write report.*

iii. To receive an update on any other ASB matter

Cllr Jackson informed Members that Matthew Scott, the Police & Crime Commissioner, will be at the KALC Area Committee in June.

6. Recreation Ground

i. Pavilion Working Party- to receive an update and consider recommendation for Pavilion refurbishment

Cllr Coles had declared an interest at the beginning of the meeting in this item and also added that one of the builders subcontracted for him.

Cllr Jackson informed Members that, in accordance with the authority given by Full Council, a Working Group of herself, Cllr Harvey and local expert, Mr Fagg, met with the contractors with the Clerk in attendance. Both contractors were excellent and after much discussion the Working Party decided to appoint RJ Barnes as contractors for the Pavilion refurbishment. The contractor is well-known and long established; it is a family firm with family members and employees working for them; the contractor was transparent and declared a link with a member of the Sports Club; and the site would be cleared on a daily basis so there would be no skip which could attract rubbish from residents. It is anticipated the work will start in mid-March. The specification needs to be tightened and this is being done in conjunction with the local expert. The Sports Club has been requested to move out completely to ensure a safe working environment for the builders and also the parish Council cannot be responsible for any equipment in the Pavilion during the refurbishment.

Cllr Harvey said there needs to be a meeting of the Pavilion Working Party to consider the management of the project, the main room, alarm, locks and also letting charges.

ii. Additional gate update

Cllr Mould informed Members the contractor is currently on holiday.

Cllr Coles said the neighbouring properties need to be informed.

ACTION: Clerk to draft letter to be delivered with the Village Voice informing residents of the Pavilion refurbishment and installation of the gate.

iii. Fun Fair

Cllr Jackson informed Members the Fun Fair will arrive on Tuesday 2 May to setup and then open on Friday evening 5 May, daytime and evening Saturday 6 May, afternoon Sunday 7 May and will depart on Monday 8 May. The finance is as before £500 deposit and £400 hire fee. The Football Club has been informed.

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** the hire fee should be earmarked for pavilion associated work; **SECONDED** by Cllr Mould: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

iv. To receive any other update

Cllr Jackson said a complaint has been received from a resident concerning bad language from adults watching children play football on Sunday morning.

Cllr Coles said the Football Club has a charter which applies to children, coaches and parents concerning this so the Club will deal with the matter.

Cllr Jackson said Sittingbourne Lions Football Club have asked if they can use the playing field in the summer on Thursdays 6-7pm and Saturday morning. Bredhurst Football Club have use of the field on Saturday mornings in their lease but there is no reason why Sittingbourne Lions cannot use it during the week.

Cllr Coles said that when Bredhurst Football Club use the pitch they erect goals, Sittingbourne Lions will use off pitch. There could be a problem with parking.

ACTION 1: Clerk to invite Sittingbourne Lions Football Club Secretary to next meeting

ACTION 2: Clerk to liaise with Bredhurst Football Club.

Cllr Harvey informed Members that Southern Water will be replacing the meter and they can use a computer to test the pipe to detect the location of the leak.

ACTION: Clerk to request Southern Water to test for the leak.

Cllr Jackson said that Amicus Horizon had been contacted about the tree on the Recreation Ground.

ACTION: Clerk to follow up.

Cllr Coles reported to Councillors he had received a quotation for the grilles on the Pavilion windows.

Cllr Jackson said this will be considered by the pavilion Working Group.

7. Newington Festival 2017

Cllr Jackson informed Members that Cllr Coles has booked twenty stalls for the festival and Cllr Mould and Cllr Brewster are selling advertising in the programme. There will be a good community area at the Festival and acts have been booked. Cllr Jackson **PROPOSED** to accept the quote of £90 for generator hire from Brandon Hire; Parking Marshalls/ First Aiders £50 donation to EMUS; twenty hi-vis jackets at £4 each; bands expenses £15-£20 per act; money bags £16.06; and magician £100: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Cllr Mould said a rota for volunteers is being drawn up.

Cllr Jackson said prizes are needed for the Grand Draw. There will be fifteen to twenty classic cars

8. Lights

i. To receive an update on Lights

The Village Hall car park light has been reported to Swale Borough Council.

Lights reported to PFL:

66 Bull Lane - about 1.30 a.m. starts going on and off every 30 second

76 Bull Lane - does not illuminate fully

104/102 Church Lane- not working.

between 64-66 Pear Tree Walk- light not working

21 Playstool Close, two lights by the new bungalows- both out

ACTION 1: Faulty light previously reported to be chased up with PFL.

ACTION 2: Clerk to find out when contract ends.

9. Footpaths and Bridleways

Cllr Harvey said there are vans parking on the bridge again.

Cllr Brewster said the boulder by the bridge has been moved and there has been flytipping by the vans.

ACTION: Clerk to report to PROW

10. Village Voice

Cllr Mould said the next edition will feature an expanded article on the Festival, Parish Council report, ASB report, Choral Society concert, Murder Mystery play, allotment vacancies.

11. Any Other Business

Councillors asked about the allotments lease.

ACTION: Clerk to check lease and whether rent has been paid.

Cllr Brewster said a car had been driving around the field behind her house.

Cllr Coles advised it should be reported to PCSO Cork or 101.

Cllr Brewster said there were problem with the Festival website.

Cllr Coles said this needs to be reported to the website manager.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Date of Next Meeting: 21 March 2017

Signed as a true record of the proceedings:

Chair

Dated: 28 February 2017