

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on Tuesday 20 January 2015 at 7.00pm in the Wickham Room, Newington Village Hall

Present: Cllr T Mould (Acting Chair), Cllr D Coles, Cllr S Harvey, Cllr E Jackson, and Mrs K Julier (Asst Clerk). Absent: Cllr E Layer

1. Apologies

Cllr P Greene (work; accepted)

2. Election of Chair for the Meeting

Cllr T Mould agreed to chair the meeting; all agreed.

3. November Meeting -- Matters Arising

Regarding the flooding at the bottom of Church Lane, Cllr Coles believes that the construction of a cess pit near The Cloisters will go forward at some point.

The Asst Clerk reported that she had received an email from Kent County Council Libraries regarding the Mobile Library, stating that they had not been informed by their drivers of any problems with access at the Village Hall, and that they had no plans to change service to Newington. It was decided that no further action regarding access in general would need to be taken, but that the Mobile Library should be warned of the impending works to be done in the car park that might impact access for the van over the next few weeks. The Committee asked if the exact schedule for the Mobile Library could be obtained for inclusion in the Village Voice, after the completion of repairs to the car park.

Asst Clerk

Asst Clerk

4. Newington Festival - 2015 Working Party

Cllr Coles reported on the brief meeting held last week. All the suppliers of equipment for last year's Festival have been contacted. The Working Party has set the date for the Festival for 18 July at the school. The Working Party would like to recommend a charitable donation to the Friends of Newington School.

Advertising space in the programme will be offered in return for a donation to raise funds. A BBQ will be held, with a picnic area designated. The bar that catered last year has closed down, and The Bull has been approached – but has not yet obtained an off-premises catering license. Richard has been asked to provide contact information for last year's participants for performing groups. The raffle will be minimized. The Working Party is coordinating and conferring with Greg Fest to provide mutual support and to share some events (part of the tug-of-war rounds). The Working Party next needs to sort a budget to present to the Parish Council for approval. The next meeting has been set for 10 February at the Village Hall. Cllr Coles will contact Rector Julian Staniforth to invite him to the next meeting.

Cllr Coles

5. Recreation Ground

a) Pavilion Working Party

Cllr Coles reported that the Working Party had been somewhat dormant over the holidays. A meeting needs to be set to get things moving again. The Committee decided to request authorization from the Full Council to pay for meetings at the Village Hall.

Asst Clerk

Cllr Coles requested that the Asst Clerk research how the Community Woodland came to be such, and some of the details about how the Sports Field obtained Fields in Trust status.

Asst Clerk

b) Facilities

Upon the advice from the Clerk that it was acceptable to go forward with the BGL quote of £210 + vat for repairs to the Pavilion as an urgent matter, Cllr Mould proposed, Cllr Coles seconded, that the Committee accept the same. All were in

favour.

Cllr Mould proposed, Cllr seconded, that the Committee ask the Clerks to obtain quotes for repairing the ball park lights and providing vandal proof cages for them. All were in favour.

*Clerk
Clerk*

Cllr Mould reported that he had requested that the grass be cut again, and that this should be accomplished before the next football match.

Clerk

c) Sports Club

Cllr Coles reported that the Sports Club had held their Christmas events with good success. There had been no new vandalism to report. He requested that Mrs Gamble organize a date for the next SC Committee meeting. Cllr Mould reported that he had volunteered to do the books for the SC, and that he was now in possession of their receipts.

d) Football

Cllr Mould reported that the Council would be providing a set of keys for the Pavilion and gate to the Football Club, and that these would be given sometime next week. Cllr Mould will inform the Sports Club that the Football Club will now have their own set of keys and remind them to secure their supplies accordingly.

Cllr Mould

e) Other Matters

None.

6. General Village Amenities

It was noted that work on the Village Hall carpark will begin 23 January and that the parking bays along the retaining wall had been suspended.

Cllr Coles reported that a bin had been installed on Bull Lane at Playstool Road, and that lights on Bull Lane appeared to be working. The Asst Clerk requested that Cllr Coles confirm that all the lights were now working or to note if any were still out, as he lives nearby.

Cllr Coles

The Asst Clerk noted that fault reporting (lights, potholes, etc.) were not in the Committee's Terms of Reference. Cllr Harvey proposed that the Committee ask the Full Council to consider amending the Committee's terms of reference to include fault reporting and the cctv oversight, Cllr Mould seconded; all were in favour.

Full Council

It was noted that Mr Underwood was not able to continue street sweeping. Cllr Mould suggested that the question be put to the Full Council as to consider the following options: the Council save the expenditure and not fill the position; ask Mr Belcher to take on the work; or to advertise for a replacement to take on the work (and possibly for a reserve to take up any of the work should one or both be temporarily unable to do so).

Full Council

7. Footpaths and Bridleways

Nothing to report.

8. Village Voice

The Community Warden requested that an item be included asking residents to not put household rubbish in the street litter bins.

Cllr Mould

The Committee decided that an item detailing what the Parish Council has done for the community be included, especially regarding the expansion and improvements to the cemetery and Pavilion.

An item about the Festival Working Party, soliciting volunteers for planning.

An item regarding the upcoming consecration of the expansion to the cemetery, improvements, and new rules.

An item about the upcoming elections and "what it is to be a parish councilor".

An item about the Village Car Park repairs.

An item about the new Community Cohesion Committee.

An item about the upcoming book launch of “Newington Remembers” – Cllr Coles to ask Thelma Dudley for an article.

Cllr Coles

9. E-News

None.

10. Expenditure

£210 + vat for urgent repairs to the Pavilion, per item 5b, *supra*.

11. Any Other Business

None.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 17th February, 7:00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8:15pm.

Date:

Signed:

Cllr Tony Mould
Acting Chair