

Minutes of the Meeting of Newington Parish Council held on Tuesday 31 March 2015 at 7.00pm in the Newington Room, Newington Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Tony Mould(Chair); Cllr Dean Coles; Cllr Debbie Haigh; Cllr Mel Harris; Cllr Stephen Harvey; Cllr Elaine Jackson; Cllr Eric Layer; Cllr Terry Martin-Young (Vice Chair); Cllr Richard Palmer; and Mrs C Fordham (Clerk).

Borough Councillors Gerry Lewin and John Wright: Community Warden Georgina Springall and PCSO Cork.

There were 2 members of the public present

Action

1. **Apologies for Absence** Cllr Paul Greene (*work*) Community Warden Georgina Springall and County Councillor Mike Baldock. All apologies were accepted.

2. **Minutes of the Meetings on 24 February and 12 March**

It was proposed by Cllr Harvey, seconded by Cllr Coles, that the minutes of the meeting of Newington Parish Council held on 24 February be accepted as a true record; all were in favour and the minutes were duly signed.

It was proposed by Cllr Harvey, seconded by Cllr Jackson that the minutes of the additional meeting of Newington parish Council held on Thursday 12 March be accepted as a true record; all were in favour and the minutes were duly signed.

3. **Matters Arising**

4. **Public Questions**

None

5. **a) Community Warden Report**

- i) Residents complaining about outside kennelled dogs barking during the day and night – Advised to report to S.B.C.
- ii) Vehicle being driven recklessly by two youths in Playstool Road/Bull Lane area – advised to report to police if seen again.
- iii) Stray dog in Denham road area – caught dog, found out who owners were and waited with it until they returned home.
- iv) Dog fouling again in Church Lane and Denham Road areas.
- v) Fly tipping in lay by in Bull Lane – Reported to S.B.C.
- vi) Bicycles stolen from front garden in Bull Lane – advised to report to Police.
- vii) Lifting straps stolen from builders merchants on Newington Industrial Estate – Police aware.
- viii) Successful bingo club afternoon.
- ix) Straying Jack Russell – Taken in by S.B.C. Dog Warden.
- x) Two garden statue ornaments stolen from front garden in Church Lane – police aware.
- xi) Co op front window broken during the early hours and cigarettes stolen – police aware.
- xii) Fly tipping in lay by Mill Lane – Reported to S.B.C.
- xiii) Graffiti throughout whole village – Police aware. Warden reported for cleansing to S.B.C. and Amicus Horizon. Warden also visited station where same graffiti was put in shelter and asked stationmaster to contact B.T.P. to see if they could download stills from cctv and forward to PCSO John Cork for recognition. PCSO Cork advised that he had not yet received the information. The Council expressed concern about the poor liaison with the BTP.
- xiv) Female residents feeling intimidated by male who is back in the village – Advised reporting incidents to Police.

Clerk

- xv) Garden planter stolen from front garden in Station Road – Advised reporting to police.
- xvi) Garden planters stolen from front garden in Dennis Willcocks Close – Police aware.
- xvii) Residents complaining again about large group of youths who are gathering and drinking – Police aware.
- xviii) Neighbour disputes regarding the residents of Church Lane and activities on land at rear of their properties.
- xix) Theft of tools from vehicle parked in Church Lane. – police aware.
- xx) Walkers and cyclist using rural lanes subjected to van deliberately swerving at them and driver being abusive – Police aware.
- xxi) Injured wild rabbit – Gave Swale wild life contact details to resident caring for it.
- xxii) Window of elderly residents bungalow smashed by youths – police and amicus Horizon aware.

b) PCSO Cork

PCSO Cork advised that some of the graffiti had been removed. He was regularly checking on the youths in the area, but had never found any alcohol or tools for graffiti. He would be visiting more possible culprits. He advised that there was a scheme to help protect vulnerable residents.

Cllr Coles reported that there had been problems with motorbikes in Bull Lane; PCSO Cork urged that all such incidents be reported to the Police.

PCSO Cork advised that ASB would be targeted over the coming weeks and Bull Lane would be part of the areas patrolled.

c) Borough Councillors

Cllr Wright advised that a further application would be submitted for Keycol farm as the current application did not contain all the necessary information.

Cllr Wright had been monitoring the issues with the village hall car park and the neighbouring property. The Police and the Planning Enforcement team had visited the site. The owner had been advised not to make any more works to the wall without seeking planning permission; it was considered that none of the trees which had been cut down would have been noteworthy enough to save.

The Council would be investigating the siting and use of the container in the garden, as the garden was no longer considered part of the house.

The Borough Council plan to re-instate the supporting wall for the village hall car park, but the cabinet were awaiting a report from a consultant.

The Council asked who they should contact about increased fly tipping in the area and Cllr Lewin advised the Council contact David Thomas and Cllr Simmons.

Clerk

Cllr Lewin advised that he had asked the Borough Council to ensure that enough funds be allocated to allow the car park issue to be resolved

Cllr Lewin thanked the Council for setting up the Pond Farm meeting. He would be meeting with Medway Council to discuss the cumulative effects of the proposed large developments around east Rainham, Upchurch and Newington.

Cllr Lewin advised that formal consideration of the Waste and Minerals plan would start on 13 April.

6. Correspondence

a) Set in Stone email of 27.2.15 – request for additional inscription on existing memorial. Approved

Clerk

b) KALC email of 2.3.15 – Councillor induction workshops. To be drawn to the attention of the new Council in May

Clerk

- c) Landscape Services email of 4.3.15 – Tree report. It was agreed that a formal quote from Landscape services be sought for the works at the Recreation Ground and that Mr Marshall be asked to quote for the works at the Churchyard. *Clerk*
- d) Resident email of 9.3.15 - complaint about litter in country lanes. The Council would seek anti littering signage from SBC. *Clerk*
- e) SAC of 11.3.15 – Minutes of March meeting.
- f) SBC of 12.3.15 – Swale Green Grid Partnership
- g) SBC email of 13.3.15 – Parliament in the Making Event
- h) SBC email of 17.3.15 – Draft Tree policy
- i) KALC email of 19.3.15 – Clerk’s conference on 17.6. The new Clerk would attend. *Clerk*
- j) KALC of 23.3.15 – Community Rights and questionnaire
- k) KALC of 26.3.15 – Parish News
- l) NHS of 26.3.15 – Easter Campaign
- m) R High and Sons, request for additional inscription for Stevens. Agreed *Clerk*
- n) Mid Kent Memorials of 28.2.2.15 Request for additional inscription Calvert. *Clerk*

Approved.

7. **Planning**

a) **Wienerberger Application** No update

b) **Pond Farm** No update

c) **Correspondence**

- i) Copy of letter from resident to Cllr Wright of 12.3.15 – Supporting Gladman development
- ii) Cllr Wright of 12.3.15 – response to resident’s email
- iii) KALC email of 12.3.15 – Summary of Rural Housing Policy.
- iv) SBC 15/501737 of 12.3 – Changes to dormers at 44 Church Lane. The Council had no comments provided that the application met the Conservation Area conditions. *Cllr Harris*
- v) SBC 15/501731 email of 17.3.15 – First floor extension at Greewade, Iwade Rd. The Council had no comments, provided that the application met the Conservation Area Conditions. *Cllr Harris*
- vi) SBC email of 14/501843 of 18.3.15 – Notification of appeal against refusal for works at 8 School Lane. The appeal was founded on non –determination. The Council would re-iterate their earlier comments. *Cllr Harris*
- vii) Mr Millard of 23.3.15 – Information on Hawes Wood.
- viii) SBC 15/502310 – application for extension and new roof over kitchen at 45 Church Lane. The Council were awaiting the application *Cllr Harris*
- ix) A question was raised about the change of use application for an industrial unit at Spade Lane. Cllr Wright advised that there would no significant increase in traffic resulting from this application.

x) Summaries dated 27.2, 6.3, 13.3, 20.3

8. **Clerk’s Report**

- a) An enquiry had been made about parking rules for the Recreation Ground – there is someone on the allotments telling dog walkers how they should park, saying that the

allotment committee insist cars are parked in a particular alignment. The Clerk had advised that as long as the gate wasn't blocked there were no other rules; Councillors concurred

- c) £1700 had been banked since the last meeting £1600 in burial fees and £100 in additional inscription fees.
- d) The burial took place of Molly Herbert on 10.3.15.
- e) The Clerk had received electronic copy documents from the Funfair people, but they were too indistinct and hard copies were needed. The Council's insurance only required that the Council see these documents and the Council take the decision on the fitness of the ground. C&J attractions wished to have access to water if possible. It was agreed Cllrs Harvey and Layer would liaise with C&J attractions to arrange a site meeting.

*Clerk/ Cllrs
Harvey and
Layer*

9. **Appointment of New Clerk**

Interviews had been held. It was proposed by the Chair, seconded by Cllr Harvey that Mrs Wendy Licence be appointed as the new Clerk; all were in favour. The handover would begin on 20 April.

Clerk

10. **Business of the Council**

a) **Amenities Committee Minutes and Recommendations**

It was proposed by Cllr Coles, seconded by Cllr Harvey that the minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 24 March be accepted as a true record; all were in favour. It was proposed by Cllr Haigh, seconded by Cllr Palmer that the budget for the Festival 15/16 be set at £2041; all were in favour. On further discussion it was proposed by Cllr Mould, seconded by Cllr Layer that a further budget allocation of £750 be made for contingencies; all were in favour.

Clerk

i) Recreation Ground Further quotes were being sought for the extensions to the Ball Court Lights. Cllrs Harvey and Layer would confirm with the Sports Club and Football Club that the Fair would not clash.

Chair

ii) Sports Club The Chair advised that he had nearly completed the accounts.

iii) Pavilion The Working Party had met and it had been decided that a local architect would produce a concept plan within the current footprint of the building, to make the building more of a resource for the whole community. The Assistant Clerk would be asked to investigate funding sources initially through the Prince's Trust.

*Amenities
Comm
Asst Clerk*

iv) Football

v) Footpaths and Bridleways.

vi) CCTV A meeting would be held with the owner of the building to discuss the terms and then a legal agreement would be drawn up.

*Cllrs Harvey
and Mould*

b) **Churchyard and Cemetery**

The Council expressed their thanks to Cllr Harris for organising the consecration of the extension. A note of thanks would be sent to the Church for hosting the event.

Clerk

c) **Roads, pavements and lighting**

The Clerk was asked to arrange a village walkabout with the Engineer. The light in the alleyway between the A2 and the Village Hall had still not been repaired; the clerk was asked to contact KCC again, copying in Cllr Baldock.

*Clerk
Clerk*

d) **Annual Assembly date and Agenda**

It was agreed that the Annual Assembly of the Parish would be held at 7.00pm on the 28 April, before the April Meeting of the Council. No additional items were needed for the agenda.

Clerk

e) **Cloud Storage**

It was proposed by Cllr Haigh, seconded by Cllr Coles that this item be deferred for discussion with the new Council and the new Clerk; all were in favour.

Clerk

f) **Village Voice**

A draft was circulated for consideration; it was agreed that an article be included to remind residents to report Anti Social Behaviour of any kind to 101.

Chair

g) **Reports from Members**

i) Village Hall Cllr Harris advised that the Committee wished to purchase a new sign and asked if the Council could help with the cost. The Hall Committee would be asked to submit a formal request with costings.

Cllr Harris

ii) School Governor The Parish Council appointment would now form part of the Community Governor allocation. OFSTED visit was expected in the summer term.

11. **Finance**

a) **Cheques**

Payee	Expenditure	Amount	£	Cheque No.
Mrs P Rowe	Litter Picking Recreation Ground and sight checking equipment March	Total	100.00	2290
Mr B Belcher	Street Cleaning Feb to Mar 31 hours	Total	201.50	2291
Mr M Marshall	Cemetery and Churchyard Cutting March	Total	400.00	2292
Mrs CD Fordham	Salary 17.2 to 26.3 37 hours plus 5 hrs holiday pay Advance for expenses Mar 15		455.30 40.00 Total 495.30	2293
Mrs K Julier	Salary 17.2.15 to 26.3.15 18 hrs Expenses Mar		142.27 5.00 Total 147.27	2294
Profile Business Supplies	Village Voice March	Total	60.00	2295
HMRC	PAYE	Total	29.60	2296
Commercial Services Trading	Tree inspection VAT		440.00 88.00 Total 528.00	2297
Safeplay Playground Services Ltd	Repairs and hopscotch VAT		482.70 96.54 Total 579.24	2298

Five Arrows Business Finance	Repairs to Lantern	330.00 66.00 Total 396.00	2299
Southern Water	Water supply to cemetery	Total 15.28	2300
KALC	Annual Subscription VAT	613.04 122.61 Total 735.65	2301
Triple A Events	Deposit for Stage for Festival VAT	264.87 52.97 Total 317.84	2302
Five Arrows Business Finance	Light Repairs	264.87 52.97 Total 455.20	2303

Under the Local Government Act 1972, (Sch 2) the signing of the cheques was proposed by Cllr Palmer seconded by the Chair. All Councillors present were in favour. The Pavilion electricity and Street lighting: £140 was due to paid out on 1.4.15 and £630 on 1.4.15 .

12. **Any other Business**

13. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Newington Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 28 April at approximately 7.30pm, this meeting will be preceded by the Annual Assembly at 7.00pm; both meetings will be held in the Wickham Room, Newington Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Date:

Signed:

Cllr T Mould
Chair