

Minutes of the Meeting of Newington Parish Council held on Tuesday 27 January 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).

County Councillor Mike Baldock; Community Warden Georgina Springall

There were 2 members of the public present

1. **Apologies for Absence** Cllr Paul Greene (*work*); Borough Councillors Gerry Lewin and John Wright; PCSO John Cork; All apologies were accepted.

2. **Minutes of the December Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr Haigh, seconded by Cllr Martin-Young, that the minutes of the December meeting of Newington Parish Council be accepted as a true record; all were in favour and the minutes were duly signed.

3. **Matters Arising**

There had been no further contact from KCC Highways about the bus stop.

4. **Public Questions**

The owner of Hawes Wood explained to the Council that he had a container on the site, together with a mobile home , as well as the new caravan. He advised that everything had now been cleared by Peter Hincksman, SBC enforcement officer. When asked whether it was a commercial shoot he advised that it was just a group of like-minded friends. He advised that the hardcore which had been delivered was to make a track into the woodland. He stated that the siting of caravans in woodland had different planning regulations. The owner also advised that he was coppicing the woodland.

5. **Visitors**

a) **Community Warden Report**

- i. Suspicious youth seen attempting to get down side of house during early evening – Police aware.
- ii. Dead cat in Orchard Drive, found owner who dealt with it.
- iii. Complaints regarding dog not on lead entering gardens and wandering etc. – Visited resident responsible for dog.
- iv. Assisting in re homing of pet dog due to residents moving which was successful.
- v. Diesel siphoned from vehicle parked on Newington Industrial Estate – Police aware.
- vi. Wing mirrors vandalised on cars parked over night in Callaways Lane – Police aware.
- vii. Excessive rubbish in communal bin in Wickham Close, suspect missed on round. Fly tipping at side of bin – Reported to S.B.C.
- viii. Finger prints found on outside windows of house by residents when they returned in the New Year – Police attended.
- ix. Large commercial vehicle frequently parks on pavement at end of Callaways Lane causing visual obstruction – Advised to report to 101 when occurring.
- x. Youths congregating in picnic area off recreation ground, lighting fires and vandalising picnic benches – Reported to PCSO John Cork.
- xi. Dog fouling in Wickham Close – Monitoring area.
- xii. Fly tipping in Wickham Close – Reported to S.B.C.
- xiii. Diesel stolen from three vehicles parked in industrial estate, London Road – Police aware.
- xiv. Lamp post not working in Wickham close – Reported to Clerk.
- xv. SBC road side bins overflowing as residents filling them up with household waste – Requested Chair to put small article regarding this in ‘The Voice’.

- xvi. Untaxed vehicle in Bull Lane – Reported to DVLA.
- xvii. Trees down due to high winds – Reported to KCC Highways.
- xviii. Theft from vehicle parked over night in Wickham Close; expensive coat stolen.
- xix. Several bins of horse feed stolen from stables in Bull Lane – Police aware.
- xx. Underage youths riding off road motorcycles – Police aware.
- xxi. Dog fouling still occurring in Church Lane – monitoring area.

b) **PCSO Cork** (Report sent)

There had been a number of incidents with motorbikes, theft from a stud farm and vehicles, shoplifting in the Co-op and fight in Bull Lane. There were also issues with youths congregating in Bull Lane play area and the Willows although there had not been any incidents of problems

c) **Borough Councillors**

Cllr Wright wished all Councillors a happy new year. He advised that the Borough Council hoped to maintain the same level of Council tax for 15/16. He understood that the problems on the A2 were caused by drainage problems.

He had been dealing with some planning issues. He asked the Council to support the housing numbers in the draft Plan; this had been prepared to reflect the issues with infrastructure in the area. Cllr Haigh raised concerns about Newington being identified as a Tier 4 village, particularly as village transport links were deteriorating.

Cllr Wright advised that the plans for the village Hall car park would be considered by the Cabinet.

*Council*

**6. Correspondence**

- a) SBC email of 16.12.14 and 17.12 – Consultation on draft statement of intent.
- b) SBC email of 16.1.14 – JTB minutes of 8.12.15.
- c) KALC of 17.12.14 – Nominations for New Years Honours.
- d) Landscape services email of 17.12.15 – quote of £440 for annual tree inspection. A previous quote had been £695. It was proposed by Cllr Harris, seconded by Cllr Jackson that the quote from Landscape Services be accepted; all were in favour.
- e) KALC of 18.12.14 – Parish News Dec 14
- f) KALC of 18.12.14, 7.1.15 – Comments on Government Finance statement
- g) KALC Of 22.12.14 – Kent Electoral boundary review consultation
- h) SBC of 22.12.14 – Update on village hall car park.
- i) Cane and Company of 24.12.14 – conditions for insurance of volunteers clearing paths. It was agreed that in view of the insurance implications for using volunteers to help clear snow and ice the Council would merely advertise the availability of the grit for residents to use if required.
- j) KALC of 5.1.15 – Trees in the village competition.
- k) KALC email of 6.1.15 – Financial and Audit updates.
- l) KALC email of 7.1.15 – Flood training
- m) SBC email of 8.1.15 – Items for LEF agenda
- n) KALC email of 8.1.15 – Petition against funding cuts for ARC
- o) SBC email of 9.1.15 – Draft SBC social media policy for consultation
- p) KALC email of 9.1.15 – Consultation on Library and Archive services. It was agreed that this item would be taken at the March Meeting to enable Councillors to consider the consultation.

*Clerk*

*Council*

- q) KALC email of 12.1.15 and J Wright of 16.1.15 – election awareness event
- r) SBC email of 12.1.15 – Kent Rural Forum agenda, inclusion of items requested.
- s) KALC of 13.1.15 – views sought on Traffic Commissioner and Operator licensing
- t) KALC of 13.1.15 - Local Council Award Scheme
- u) CPRE of 14.1.15 – Flooding Conference
- v) KALC of 15.1.15 – Update on Local Government Finance Settlement.
- w) KALC of 16.1.15 – Lorry parking problems
- x) Village Hall Committee of 18.1.15 – Next meeting on 23.2.15
- y) Mr B Underdown of 18.12.14 – Cessation of contract. Clerk to write to Mr Underdown thanking him for his services. An advert would be placed in the village Voice seeking new contractors. *Clerk*
- z) Lord Lieutenant of 16.12.14 – Invitation to Annual Service
- aa) Cllr Baldock email of 21.1.15 – Swale West Parishes to meet on 23.2.15. Cllr Palmer and Vice Chair to attend. *Cllrs Palmer and Cllr TMY*
- bb) Swale Area Committee email of 26.1.15 – Minutes of last meeting.
- cc) KCC Highways – Notification of closure of Church Lane on 14 February for up to 3 days. Information to be included in Village Voice. *Chair*

## **7.Planning**

### **a) Weinerberger Application**

The full application had not yet been submitted. KCC Minerals and waste plan was due to go for inspection in March.

b) **Pond Farm** No update.

### **c) Response to Borough Local Plan**

The Council wished to obtain the Nitrogen Dioxide figure for the AQMA zone. Cllr Jackson agreed to approach Greenwich University to find out whether they could provide figures. Cllr Haigh briefed the Council on the Plan. The Council agreed they would support traffic management scheme in the village. There had been slight extensions in the built up boundaries around the village, including School Lane and High Oak Hill. The Council did not feel that the classification of a community hub serving other local villages. The requirement to include affordable housing has risen to 40% for any development of more than 10 houses; this would mean that the development in School Lane might be subject to review.

The designation as a Tier 4 community would also make the village vulnerable to further development. The hills to the north had been designated as an area of outstanding landscape value. The Recreation Ground including the woodland and allotments had been included in Green Spaces register. *Cllr Harris*

### **d) Correspondence**

- i. SBC email of 17.12.14 and 22.12– update on Hawes Wood Caravan. Cllr Harris would clarify the issues surrounding the difference between woodland and agricultural land planning rules. *Cllr Harris.*
- ii. KALC email of 18.12.14 – Report on NPF
- iii. SBC email of 18.12.14 – Opening of Consultation on Swale Local Plan

- iv. Resident email of 19.12.14 – Confirmation of his opinion that development should be encouraged in the village.
  - v. Resident of 31.12.14 – update caravan at Hawes Wood.
  - vi. Resident of 6.1.15 – objections to outline planning permission for housing at Harbex Site. The Council felt that consideration should be given to the designation of the area as High Landscape value and the site is outside the built up area boundary. *Cllr Harris*
  - vii. SBC Planning email of 14.1.15 – SBC considering insisting on site adjacent to Moat Cottage being re-instated
  - viii. SBC email of 21.1.15 – 14/506862 application to extend permission for mobile home at Woodland Farm for another 3 years. The Council considered that proof of the viability of the business should be seen before permission is given. *Cllr Harris*
  - ix. SBC email of 21.1.15 – invitation to planning briefing on 5.3.15
  - x. Resident emails of 21.1.15 – complaints about the planning department’s action on Hawes Wood developments
  - xi. Resident of 25.1.15 (Via Chair of Planning) – disappointed in Council’s response to his Planning application. The Clerk was asked to contact the resident assuring him that the Council considers all planning applications impartially. *Clerk*
  - xii. SBC email of 27.1.15 – application for 4 caravans at Keycol Farm, Keycol Hill, Bobbing. The documents had not been posted on the site and so the Council were unable to consider the application.
  - xiii. Cllr Lewin email of 26.1.15 – requesting support for the outline planning application at the Harbex Site.
  - xiv. Summaries dated 22.12., 31.12, 9.1,16., 23.1
- 8. Clerk’s Report**
- a) The Clerk advised that the new Council must meet within 14 days of the election (on 7 May). It was agreed that the Amenities Committee meeting would be cancelled and the first meeting of the new Council would take place on Tues 19<sup>th</sup>. *Asst Clerk*
  - b) The Assistant Clerk had reported 11 faulty lights and two highways problems since the last meeting.
  - c) The last gifts made to the volunteers opening and closing the gates was in May 2012. The Clerk would arrange for payment at the next meeting/ *Clerk*
  - d) The bin had arrived in Bull Lane.
  - e) The grass contractor had asked for the date of the consecration so that he can ensure that the cemetery is tidy – this was set for 28 February *Clerk*
  - f) The Clerk advised that she would be resigning at the end of May. It was agreed that the vacancy would be advertised. *Clerk*
- 9. New Committee**
- It was proposed by Cllr Haigh, seconded by Cllr Coles that the terms of reference and the title of the Community Cohesion Committee be accepted;\_ all were in favour. *Clerk*

10. **Business of the Council**

a) **Amenities Committee Minutes and Recommendations**

It was proposed by Cllr Harvey, seconded by Cllr Jackson that the minutes of the January meeting of the Amenities Committee be accepted; all members of the Committee present were in favour

It was proposed by Cllr Harvey, seconded by Cllr Harris that the Amenities Committee take on the responsibility for the CCTV; all were in favour.

*Asst. Clerk*

It was proposed by Cllr Harvey, seconded by Cllr Coles that the Amenities Committee take on responsibility for the Street Lights; all were in favour.

*Asst Clerk*

The Council had received quotes for the CCTV upgrade:

Sabre Security £11991.90 Plus VAT for 9 cameras plus recorder

Medway CCTV Control £5000 per annum for a minimum of 5 years, but including 24hr monitoring

ADT £6693.81 Plus an additional camera if required plus VAT or £1916.60 per annum if the system is leased (plus the cost of an additional camera)

Cllr Mould proposed that the Council actively pursue the quote from ADT; this was seconded by Cllr Haigh, all were in favour.

*Chair/ Cllr Harvey*

- i. Recreation Ground
- ii. Sports Club
- iii. Pavilion
- iv. Football – a key will be issued to the club this week; a deposit will be required.
- v. Footpaths and Bridleways

*Chair*

b) **Churchyard and Cemetery**

c) **Roads, pavements and lighting**

d) **Village voice, E-News/Website**

Road closure, Litter bins, festival details cemetery consecration, Litter picker vacancy and Clerk vacancy. *Chair*

e) **Reports from Members**

11, **Finance**

a) **Cheques**

Payee	Expenditure	Amount	£	Cheque No.
Mrs P Rowe	Litter Picking Recreation Ground and sight checking equipment January	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	2263
Mr B Belcher	Street Cleaning Dec to Jan 26 hrs	<b>Total</b>	<b>234.00</b>	2264
Mr M Marshall	Cemetery and Churchyard Cutting December	<b>Total</b>	<b>400.00</b>	2265
Five Arrows Business Finance	Repairs to lamps in Bull Lane and The Willows VAT		112.00 22.40 <b>Total</b>	2266
			<b>134.40</b>	

Mrs CD Fordham	Salary 19.11. to 18.12, 48 hrs Salary 19.12 to 22.1 38 hrs (28 hrs plus 10 hrs holiday pay) Advance for expenses Dec 14 and Jan 2015	501.21 418.51 <b>80.00</b> <b>Total 999.72</b>	2267
Mrs K Julier	Salary 19.11 to 18.12, 9.5hrs Salary 19.12 to 22.1.15 Expenses Dec and Nov	73.47 79.04 15.00 <b>Total 167.51</b>	2268
BJL Electrical	Emergency works following vandalism at the pavilion VAT	85.00 17.00 <b>Total 102.00</b>	2269
DCK Beavers	Payroll charges Oct to Dec 14 VAT	35.00 7.00 <b>Total 42.00</b>	2270
ATS	Re-surfacing track to the allotment	<b>Total 650.00</b>	2271
Mr T Mould	New keys for pavilion (for Football club)	<b>Total 36.00</b>	2272
HMRC	PAYE	<b>Total 61.20</b>	2273
Five Arrows Business Finance	Re-issue of 2247 Light Repairs VAT	103.00 20.60 <b>Total 123.60</b>	2274

Under the Local Government Act 1972, (Sch 2) the signing of the cheques was proposed by Cllr Palmer seconded by the Vice Chair. All Councillors present were in favour. New direct debits had been set up to Haven for the Pavilion electricity and lighting; £140 was due to paid out on 1.1.15 and 1.2.15 and £630 on 1.1.15. and 1.2.15

12. **Any Other Business**

It was agreed that if the Church Lane closure is delayed it cannot be on weekends of 28 February or 7 March due to events in the village.

*Clerk*

13. **Date of Next meeting**

The next meeting of Newington Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 24 February 2015, in the Newington Room, Newington Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 09.50pm.

Date:

Signed:

Cllr T Mould  
Chair

