

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held in the Parish Room, Newington Pavilion on 23 April 2024

Present: Cllr Elaine Jackson (Chairman), Cllr Eric Layer (Vice Chairman), Cllr Ruth Brown, Cllr Stephen Harvey and Cllr Tony Mould; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk)

Also present was Mr Bob Jackson, Pavilion Caretaker.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Chris Palmer (personal); apologies accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 23 April 2024

Cllr Jackson thanked Cllr Palmer for taking the minutes at the last meeting.

Cllr Jackson reported the safety surface has been repaired. A quotation has been received for the basketball hoop and grant applications will be submitted. The hand dryer for the Pavilion will be installed soon, no response has been received regarding the availability of spare parts.

4. Public Question Time

No matters were raised.

5. Anti-Social Behaviour

Cllr Harvey reported that the restorative justice session will take place this week, overseen by PC Chittim.

Cllr Jackson reported that cold callers have been in the area again.

6. Recreation Ground and green spaces

i. To receive an update

Cllr Layer reported that he had met with the grass cutter who said the area around the goal posts and the play area would be strimmed but this has not happened.

ACTION: Clerk to chase

ii. To consider quotations for basket swing

Cllr Jackson said only have quotes to replace the whole swing have been received and quotes just to replace the seat has been requested.

ACTION: Clerk to chase quotations

7. Pavilion

i. To receive an update

Cllr Jackson said the Football Club has been reminded to inform the Council when they have matches. There have been friendlies on Sundays and the Council has not been informed. The Outdoor Explorers have booked 5 sessions on 27 May; 30 May; 9 June; 26 July; and 21 August, the activities are aimed at families with younger children and this compliments the Youth Club which will run their Summer activities every Monday afternoon in the summer holidays.

ACTION: Clerk to inform Vibe of the activities.

Cllr Jackson reported that some of the coat hangers in the cloak room have been bent and two have been removed.

ACTION 1: Clerk to inform hirer.

ACTION 2: Clerk to obtain quotation for better quality coat hooks

Cllr Jackson said a report has been received from the Youth Club regarding their activities, details of number of children was requested but it was not in the report.

ACTION: Clerk to request further information.

ii. Pavilion extension

Cllr Mould reported he is trying to liaise with a local expert on a proposal.

iii. To consider quotations to install a notice board.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quotation of £125 to install the noticeboard from Maylow Construction.

Cllr Jackson said the notice board in the village is in a state of disrepair.

Cllr Harvey said the contractor has been asked to clean the bus stop and he could be requested to refurbish the other bus stop. The contractor could be asked to refurbish the notice board but they will need to take it away.

Cllr Jackson said a new notice board could be installed by the bus stop.

Cllr Mould said the notice board is needed for the Council's statutory notices.

ACTION: Clerk to get quotations to replace or repair the notice board.

Cllr Harvey said the bus stop at Playstool Road is in a poor state and needs cleaning.

ACTION: Clerk to contact a window cleaner.

iv. To consider additional sets of keys

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that no further sets of keys be made available.

Mr Jackson requested an update on the alarm sim card.

The Clerk said the sim card did not fit her phone.

ACTION: Clerk to contact alarm company.

8. Allotments

Cllr Layer reported that all is well. The Committee has arranged for the height barrier key to be available for members if necessary.

9. Highways

Cllr Harvey reported that the Working Group will meet with Jennie Watson on 6 June. KCC Highways is waiting for the new budget to progress signage. The traffic survey tubes outside The Bull are not KCC Highways.

10. Lights

There was nothing to report.

11. Footpaths and Bridleways

There was nothing to report.

12. Village Voice and media

Cllr Mould said the next edition of the Village Voice will be a paper version. At the Annual Parish Meeting, it was apparent that few people were aware of the online version. Swale Print Room will print the next edition which will be in colour. The Village Voice could be printed as a black and white version at no extra cost to the current quarterly colour editions.

It was agreed to print and deliver a black and white version each month.

13. Cemetery and Churchyard

Cllr Layer reported that bees are being kept in the rewilded area of the churchyard. There are some issues in the Cemetery which need to be addressed. A Working Group meeting will be arranged.

14. Events

Village Fete 13 July 2024

Cllr Jackson said the Fete Working Group will meet on Thursday.

It was agreed to accept the quotation of £30 for activities at the Fete from Outdoor Explorers. An ice cream vendor has expressed interest in attending, they will be the only vendor with access on the Recreation Ground and will be given time of attendance.

Landscape Services will be asked to cut the grass during the week ending 6 July.

15. To consider quotations for litter picking equipment

The Clerk reported that Keep Britain Tidy do not sell equipment, Swale Borough Council has given details of their supplier.

ACTION: Clerk to circulate details.

16. Any Other Business

The Clerk said there is a scheme to adopt the railway station.

ACTION: Clerk to ascertain details.

Cllr Jackson said there is a company which will put up Christmas lights and take them down again.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain a quote.

Cllr Jackson said a branch of the tree by the bus stop has bent over.

ACTION: Clerk to report

Date of Next Meeting: 18 June 2024