

Newington Parish Council

Annual Meeting of the Council Held remotely via Zoom on Tuesday 4 May 2021

MINUTES

- 01 Election of Chairman**
Councillor Neale offered to continue as Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year. His offer was accepted unanimously.
- 02 Election of Vice-Chairman**
Councillor Golding offered to continue as Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year. His offer was accepted unanimously.
- 03 To record those present and list any apologies**
Present:
Councillors: John Neale (Chairman)
Kevin Golding (Vice Chairman)
Craig Watt-Peters
Cleo Smith
Jill Sage
Folkestone and Hythe District Council Councillor: David Godfrey
English Rural: Alison Thompson
Clerk: Melvyn Twycross
Two members of the public
- Apologies:** None
- 04 To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and Other Significant Interests (OSI) relating to items on the agenda.**
A member who declares a DPI in relation to any item on the agenda will need to leave the meeting for the whole of that item and will not be able to speak or take part unless a relevant Dispensation has been granted. A member who declares an OSI will be able to speak on the item but will be required to leave the meeting for the vote.
None declared
- 05 Agree and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 8 March 2021**
The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting and will be signed by the Chairman after the meeting
- 06 Matters arising from the previous minutes**
Item 14d: Sewer overflow behind the Village Hall
The Clerk reported that the issue had been resolved by Southern Water. However, although the temporary protected fencing had been removed from all areas, access to the public footpath from Newington Road was obstructed by barriers and closed signs. Clerk to contact Southern Water to see if they can be removed.
- 07 Presentation by Alison Thompson of English Rural**
Alison introduced herself as the Deputy Development Director for English Rural Housing Association. English Rural is a specialist housing association who only develop, own and manage small homes in small villages. Alison said that in Kent they have homes in 33 small villages. They are small schemes with an average of six to eight homes. All of their homes are rented and have a proven local connection to the parish. Their tenants do not have a right to buy

The key ethos of English Rural is to provide affordable homes in small communities in perpetuity

Alison went on to say that they have been approached by the Tory Family Foundation Trust about the piece of land that they own in Peene. A planning application was recently withdrawn on the site and The Foundation have approach English Rural to buy the land if they can get support for local needs housing.

In response to the question about the layout of housing on the site, Alison stated that English Rural would not be following the previous plans but would be submitting their own planning application following discussions with the Parish Council and a community consultation.

Councillors stated that they had invested a considerable amount of time and effort over the past few years in arriving an acceptable scheme that has subsequently been withdrawn. It was stressed that any future proposals should include close consultation with both the Parish and District Councils to avoid protracted negotiations and discussions.

The Parish Council is supportive of the approached by English Rural and would like to take this matter forward. The Clerk will request that English Rural submit draft proposals and plans for the Council's considerations.

08 Open session

A parishioner noted that there is a problem with the traffic lights between the rugby club and the A20 roundabout. They are no longer vehicle activated and were working on a fixed time cycle. This results in them changing to red in the main road even when no vehicles were waiting to emerge from the channel tunnel slip road. The clerk will report this issue to Kent Highways

09 Planning

To note applications decided and pending since the meeting held on 8 March 2021 (see Appendix A to these minutes).

Application No. 21/0730/FH for 4no glamping pods and classroom along with associated paths drainage and landscaping at Beachborough Park was discussed. It was agreed to comment that, although the Council is not against the proposal, they would ask the planners be mindful of traffic arrangements where vehicles will be emerging from the site onto a busy main road.

10 Finance

- a. The Financial Statement (Appendix B to these minutes) detailing payments made since the last meeting on 8 March 2021 was reviewed and the payments detailed therein were **agreed** .
- b. Council received and noted the Annual Internal Audit Report 2020/21
Council **approved** the Certificate of Exemption confirming that Newington Parish Council is exempt from a limited assurance review under section 9 of the LA (smaller authorities) regs 2015
- c. Council **approved** the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21
- d. Council **approved** the Accounting Statements 2020/21
- e. Council **approved** the increase in the KALC/NALC subscription for 2021/22 (from £171.26 to £172.58).

11 Highways

Concerns were raised that the street lighting in the vicinity of the bus stop on the A20 has been switched off. In view of the recent safety implications of people crossing the road from the bus stop at night, the Clerk was asked to write to Kent Highways to see if the lighting could be reinstated.

In addition, there are two street lights in Peene that are not working and will be reported.

12 Eurotunnel

Increased noise levels from the Channel Tunnel Terminal have been causing concerns in nearby houses. It is believed to be resulting from construction operations. It was agreed to review the situation at the next Parish Council meeting

13 Keep Britain Tidy – The Great British Spring clean

It was agreed to take part in the "Keep Britain Tidy – The Great British Spring Clean" which can take place between 28 May and 3 June

The Clerk will contact Councillor David Godfrey to arrange supply of the material and equipment to make this possible.

14 Any other business

- a. Reinstatement of playing field – Discussions are ongoing with Sam Snart of Hobbs Parker who is acting on the Councils behalf in dealings with Balfour Beatty/Eurotunnel regarding the unacceptable reinstatement of the playing field. Sam Snart accepts it is of a poor standard and agreed that the way forward would be for him to arrange for an independent survey and costing of surface reinstatement.

There is also an issue with the poor quality stile erected by Balfour Beatty in the corner of the playing field, the dog gate element of which was dangerous and has been removed. Sam Snart will raise the matter with Balfour Beatty with a view to it being replaced with a kissing gate.

- b. Social Media – Councillor Smith gave the meeting an update on her researches to set up a Parish Council Facebook page. She is in a position to draw up a draft policy. Councillors were unanimous in their agreement to take this matter forward and the Chairman thanked Councillor Smith for her work on this.
- c. Councillor Watt-Peters informed the meeting that due to work commitments he has decided to resign from the Parish Council and will write to the Clerk formally in due course. On behalf of his fellow Councillors the Chairman said that Councillor Watt-Peters would be missed and thanked him for his help an experience during his time in the role.
- d. Councillor Smith reported that she attended the last KALC Area Meeting and had nothing significant to report. She was happy to continue attending on behalf of the Parish Council.

15 Next Meeting

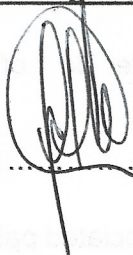
Monday 12th July 2021. Covid rules permitting, the meeting will be held at George's Barn, Newington

16 Close meeting

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Please note that these minutes can be viewed on the Parish Council's website at www.newingtonandpeene-pc.gov.uk

Signed



Chairman

Date

19/7/21

APPENDIX A

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Schedule of planning applications decided and pending since the Parish Council Meeting held on 3 March 2021

A. DECIDED

- i **20/1596/FH:** Manor Barn, Teddars Leas Road, Etchingill, CT18 8AE
Proposal: Retrospective application to convert the stables within the Manor Barn into a home cinema room, convert part of the ground floor and loft space of the Machine/Hay Store building into a pool/gymnasium, convert the loft over the detached stables block into tack rooms and horse feed storage, replace a number of external lamp standards around the site with new ornate lamp standards and provide a report for the eradication of Japanese Knotweed.
Status: Approved
- ii **21/0064/FH:** Stewart Cottage, Frogholt, Frogholt, CT18 8AT
Proposal: Retrospective application for the erection of a car/van port
Status: Approved

B. PENDING

- i **20/1450/FH & 20/1462/FH:** Beachborough Park, Beachborough Park Estate, Beachborough, Newington, CT18 8BW
Proposal: Listed building and planning consent for renovation and refurbishment of Gardeners Cottage including the rebuilding of the first floor and provision of a new roof as part of the renovation and refurbishment of Gardeners Cottage. Re-submission of 20/0594/FH.
Status: Under consultation
No comments submitted by Parish Council
- ii **20/1950/FH & 20/1954/FH:** Magpie Cottage, Frogholt, Folkestone, CT18 8AT
Proposal: Erection of new garden room structure. Replacement of existing timber glazed french doors to kitchen with new painted white timber doors with glazing bars. Replacement of existing softwood panelled front door with enhanced security mechanisms.
Status: Under consultation
No comments submitted by Parish Council
- iii **21/0657/FH:** Channel Tunnel Terminal, Ashford Road, Newington, Folkestone,
Proposal: Replacement of two signs
Status: Under consultation
No comments submitted by Parish Council
- iv **21/0751/FH:** Parsonage Farmhouse, Arpinge, Folkestone, CT18 8AG
Proposal: Crown reduction of a Sycamore subject of Tree Preservation Order No 1 of 1998
Status: Under consultation
No comments submitted by Parish Council
- v **21/0730/FH:** Beachborough Park, Newington, Folkestone, CT18 8BW
Proposal: Proposed are 4no. glamping pods and classroom along with associated paths drainage and landscaping.
Status: Under consultation

- vi **21/0835/FH:** Rivendell, School Lane, Newington, Folkestone, CT18 8AY
Proposal: Crown lift to 3.5 metres above ground level of one Beech subject of Tree
 Preservation Order No 8 of 2009
Status: Under consultation
 No comments submitted by Parish Council
- vii **21/0836/FH:** Rickstones, School Lane, Newington, Folkestone, CT18 8AX
Proposal: Prune back overhanging branches to boundary of one Yew subject of Tree
 Preservation Order No 8 of 2009
Status: Under consultation
 No comments submitted by Parish Council
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APPENDIX B

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL **Financial Statement as at 27 April 2021**

Bank balance as at 3 March 2021 = £7,209.72

Income

Date	From	Description	Value
01/04/21	F&HDC	Precept	3500.00

Expenditure

Date	To	Purpose	Value
15/03/21	Melvyn Twycross	Printer cartridges	30.49
25/03/21	Melvyn Twycross	Clerk's salary 28/02/21 – 27/03/21	196.00
25/03/21	HMRC	PAYE March 2021	48.80
31/03/21	Unity Trust Bank	Service charge	18.00
09/04/21	Griggs and Partners	Grounds maintenance March	90.00
		Total	383.29

Bank balance as at 27 April 2021 = £10,326.43