

Newington Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting
held at George's Barn, Newington on Monday 11 July 2022

Present:

Councillors: Councillor John Neale (Chairman)
 Councillor Kevin Golding (Vice Chairman)
 Councillor Sarah Wright
 Councillor Cleo Smith
 Councillor Jill Sage
 Folkestone & Hythe District Councillor David Godfrey

Clerk: Sharon Westby

01	Apologies	
	None.	
02	To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and Other Significant Interests (OSI) relating to items on the agenda. <i>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.</i> Councillor Golding declared a personal interest in item 11 and item 12 of the agenda.	
03	Agree and sign the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 23 May 2022. The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.	
04	Matters arising from the previous minutes None.	
05	Open session There were no members of the public present.	
06	Report from Susan Carey - Member for Elham Valley, Kent County Council District Councillor No report received.	
07	Report from David Godfrey - Folkestone and Hythe District Councillor Councillor Godfrey was welcomed to the meeting to which he gave a verbal report on behalf of Folkestone and Hythe District Council, a full transcript of which can be found in Appendix A to these minutes.	
08	Report from Community Warden Gary Harrison No report received	
09	Planning To note applications decided and pending since the meeting held on 23 May 2022 (see Appendix B to these minutes) No comments or concerns were raised by Councillors.	
10	Finance The Financial Statement (Appendix C to these minutes) detailing payments made since the 10 May 2022 was reviewed and the sums detailed therein were agreed . Budget Monitoring for the first quarter of the financial year (Appendix D to these minutes) was reviewed and the sums detailed therein were agreed .	

11	<p>Tree Planting Councillors discussed the species of trees that might be suitable to plant in the playing field once all the grounds maintenance work has been completed later in 2022. It was agreed that the packs of trees available under the Queen's Green Canopy scheme included too many items for the parish needs and it would be better to purchase just five trees for the area. Councillor Golding had asked advice from the grounds maintenance company used by the parish (Griggs & Partners) and the following trees had been suggested:- cherry, crab apple, small leaved lime, field maple and rowan. Councillors discussed using five trees as described above to replace those being removed or the alternative of replacing with one larger, more expensive species. After careful discussion, Councillors agreed that they would prefer to go ahead with the five trees named above (one of each species). It was also agreed that Griggs & Partners would apply for the trees in the autumn on behalf of the parish council as Griggs & Partners will know when they would be ready to plant them. Griggs & Partners would then invoice the parish council in the usual way. Councillor Golding to inform Griggs & Partners of the decision.</p>	KG
12	<p>ElecLink and Conversion of existing stiles to kissing gates</p> <p>Eleclink Councillor Golding gave an update on the situation with the playing field. He advised that although the paperwork was ready to sign, it became obvious in the recent warmer weather that the grass was browning where the drainage ditch and cabling had been buried. Councillor Golding raised the concern with the contractor regarding the depth of these utilities. It was confirmed that they were at least 750mm deep so deemed to be safe. The final paperwork will not be signed until the contractors are in agreement that should these utilities be dug up in error in the future, it will be the responsibility of the contractor to rectify. If all the above is agreed, the paperwork should be signed imminently. It was agreed that Councillor Golding will share all the paperwork with the Chairman of the Parish Council to ensure that all is in order before the final signing off.</p> <p>Stiles/Kissing Gates The clerk advised Councillors that the cost of kissing gates via F&H District Council public rights of way department is £60.00 each. Griggs & Partners have agreed to stand by their 2021 quote to install these gates at £100.00 per gate. Total cost would be £480.00. Folkestone & Hythe District Councillor David Godfrey advised that an application could be submitted (ward budget application form) to potentially fund this work. The clerk will complete and submit the form and report back at the next meeting in September.</p>	KG/JN Clerk
13	<p>Telephone Box Councillors were still keen to convert the telephone box into a community library with books already waiting to be shared. The clerk will also include the quotation of £295.00 in the submission for funding and will report back at the next meeting.</p>	Clerk
14	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Councillor Wright enquired whether it was necessary for the clerk to have a copy of the Local Council Administration Book offered by KALC at approximately £130.00. The clerk advised that, having looked into this, she did not feel it necessary at this stage as she could contact KALC direct for any help or advice needed. b. Councillor Neale advised that the entrance/exit to Bargrove has become increasingly dangerous and difficult as the hedging, etc. has not been regularly trimmed. Bargrove residents had previously asked Griggs & Partners to maintain this but it has not been part of the current grounds maintenance contract. Councillor Golding would find out what the additional cost would be to include this work. 	KG

	<p>c. Councillor Neale reported that in recent weeks freight trains at Dollands Moor freight yard had been disturbing residents at night. Trains have been left running overnight and appear to be closer to the residential areas than agreed. An email has been sent from residents to try to resolve the situation. Councillors agreed to get involved if the situation does not improve.</p> <p>d. Councillors raised concerns regarding a collapsed drain in the middle of the A20 at the entrance to the village. This has been in disrepair for several weeks with barriers in place. F&HDC David Godfrey offered to investigate on behalf of the Parish Council.</p>	
15	<p>Date of next meeting Tuesday 6 September, 2022 at 7pm</p>	
16	<p>Close Meeting The meeting closed at 8.10pm</p>	

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

Signed and Dated

APPENDIX A

From District Councillor David Godfrey

Whilst Central Government sorts itself out we have to keep the wheels turning locally.

News from the District Council

The first festival of skills for the Marsh is coming this summer. Romney Marsh Inspires is for the whole community but with an emphasis on young people and the opportunities available to them.

It is being held at The Marsh Academy on Wednesday 20 July and is organised by Folkestone & Hythe District Council, The Romney Marsh Partnership and The Education People.

A range of training and careers' providers will be present, along with "local champions" who have helped shape the area. There will be workshops, interactive activity and talks from organisations including the NHS, South Kent Ambulance Service, Digital Kent, South Kent Mind, KentChoices and Screen South.

Levelling Up Funding Bid

Creating a sustainable, attractive and welcoming gateway to Folkestone town centre by moving the bus station and replacing it with a green park is at the heart of a £19.8 million funding bid to be made to central government.

Better signage and obvious walking links bringing visitors from the town's central railway station via a new park in Bouverie Square and into a greener, vibrant Sandgate Road and Guildhall Street shopping area will also form part of the submission.

The bid for Levelling Up funding was agreed by Folkestone & Hythe District Council Cabinet (16 June 2022). Councillors also confirmed the allocation by the council of 10% of the overall cost in match-funding, as encouraged by government.

Taxi Fare4s

The public is to be asked about the first rise in licensed taxi fares in Folkestone & Hythe for 10 years.

The maximum fare that hackney drivers can charge while they are working in the district is set by the council. Following 34 representations from local drivers, Planning & Licensing committee members agreed this week (28 June) to increase the baseline hackney tariff by 10% - the first rise since 2012.

This will go out for a four-week public consultation and if no objections are received, the new fares will come into force.

fly-tipper in court

Congratulations to our enforcement team in obtaining a five-year Criminal Behaviour Order, an 18-month Community Order and fines of nearly £1,800 have been given to a man for his repeated fly-tipping and waste offences. Full details can be found at [Repeat fly-tipper in court - Folkestone & Hythe District Council \(folkestone-hythe.gov.uk\)](https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

Council housing

As part of my Portfolio I attended meetings of the Strategic Tenants Advisory Panel (STAP) and of the Independent Living Forum (ILF). STAP is made up of tenants of non sheltered housing stock whereas ILF represents tenants in our sheltered housing schemes. feedback from tenants at these meetings has been constructive and helps us with our plans to update and maintain our properties.

Summer is here.

Despite World events casting a shadow over everyday life I hope we can all find a way to enjoy some summer sun and fun including The iconic Red Arrows set to thrill crowds on Sunday 21 August.

Cllr David Godfrey
Cabinet Member for Housing and Special Projects

APPENDIX B

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Schedule of planning applications decided and pending since the Parish Council Meeting held on 23 May 2022

A. DECIDED

None

B. PENDING

- i **Ref: 21/2434FH:** Land Adjoining Fairview House, Newington Road, Peene
Proposal: Hybrid application consisting of an outline application for the erection of a 4 bedroom detached self-build plot with all matters reserved except for access to be combined alongside full planning for the erection of three residential dwellings being one 2 bed house and two 2 bed flats and associated vehicular parking and external works.
Status: Under Consultation
No comments submitted by the Parish Council
- ii **Ref: 22/0492FH:** Land Opposite 17 Underhill Cottages, Newington Road, Peene
Proposal: Lawful development certificate (proposed) for the construction of footway (extension to existing), construction of hardstanding (extension to existing parking area) and drainage to existing grass areas
Status: Valid
- iii **Ref:22/0992FH:** Wayside Cottage, Frogholt, Frogholt, Folkestone, CT18 8AT
Proposal: Re-pollard one yew by 6 metres in a conservation area
Status: Under Consultation

APPENDIX C

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Financial Statement as a at 01 July 2022

Bank balance as at 10 May 2022 = £10,598.66

Income

Date	From	Description	Value

Expenditure

Date	To	Purpose	Value
30/05/22	Mrs Sharon Westby	Clerks Salary May 2022	264.55
30/05/22	Griggs & Partners	Grounds Maintenance	240.00
01/06/22	BHIB Councils Insurance	Parish Council Insurance Renewal	422.16
06/06/22	Mrs Sharon Westby	Clerk's Expenses	52.59
28/06/22	Mrs Sharon Westby	Clerks Salary June 2022	264.55
		Total	1243.85

Bank balance as at 1 July 2022 = £9354.81

APPENDIX D

Newington Parish Council
Quarter 1 Budget Monitoring Document 2022/23
Receipts & Payments up until 01 July 2022

Full Year Budget	Receipts	Actual (Apr - Aug)	Predicted (Sept - March)	Predicted (Full Year)	Variance (+/- over/under spend)	Notes
7000	Precept	3500	3500	7000		
100	VAT reclaim	97.19	0	100		
7000	Total Income	3597.19	3500	7100		
Payments						
190	KALC Subscriptions	171.26	0	171.26	-18.74	4
1600	Grounds Maintenance	725	1000	1725	125	1
80	RoSPA Play Safety Annual Inspection	0	80	80	0	
400	Playground Equipment Maintenance	0	400	400	0	
50	War Memorial Maintenance	0	50	50	0	
30	Poppy Wreath	0	30	30	0	
0	Bus Shelter	0	0	0	0	
175	Hall Fees (Meeting Room)	0	175	175	0	
150	Bank Safety Box & Bank Charges	0	150	150	0	
470	Insurances	422.16	0	422.16	-47.84	4
0	Election Expenses	0	0	0	0	
120	Audit Fees	60	0	60	-60	2
150	Conferences	0	150	150	0	
50	Conference Expenses	0	50	50	0	
100	Clerk's Expenses	51.03	48.97	100	0	
2868	Clerk's Salary (including PAYE)	750.32	2480.95	3231.27	363.27	3
100	Stationary and Postage	0	100	100	0	
200	Clerk and Councillor's Workshops	0	200	200	0	
150	Web Hosting and Mailboxes	0	150	150	0	
250	VAT Paid	35.81	214.19	250	0	
					0	
7133	Total Expenditure	2215.58	5279.11	7494.69	361.69	

Current Account Reconciliation

Balance at 1 April 2022	7973.20
Add Receipts to	3597.19
	11570.39
Less Payments up to	2215.58
Balance as at 01 July 2022	9354.81

Notes

1. Additional £125 to clear storm

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2. Audit Fees predicted at £120 - actual

3. Clerk Salary increase effective from 01 May 2022 (includes £100 non taxable working from home allowance)

4. Insurance £47.84 less and KALC £18.74 less than predicted