

Newington Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting
held at George's Barn, Newington on Monday 8 November 2021

Present:

Councillors: John Neale (Chairman)
Kevin Golding (Vice Chairman)
Cleo Smith
Jill Sage
Sarah Wright
Clerk: Sharon Westby
Tracey Block (advisory capacity)

01	Apologies	
	Kent County Councillor: Susan Carey	
	Folkestone and Hythe District Councillor: David Godfrey	
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 16 of the agenda.	
03	Agree and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 July 2021. 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 No members of the public were present.	
06	Report from Susan Carey - Member for Elham Valley, Kent County Council District Councillor Councillor Carey was unable to attend the meeting and the Clerk read out her previously submitted report, a full transcript of which can be found in Appendix A to these minutes.	
07	Report from David Godfrey - Folkestone and Hythe District Councillor Councillor Godfrey was unable to attend the meeting and submitted a report, a full transcript of which can be found in Appendix B 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 19 July 2021 (see Appendix C to these minutes) Application 21/2132/FH : the Parish Council discussed the application and raised no concerns.	

	Application 21/2057/FH & 21/2031/FH : the Parish Council discussed the application and raised no concerns.	
10	Finance The Financial Statement (Appendix D to these minutes) detailing payments made since the 19 July 2021 was reviewed and the sums detailed therein were agreed	
11	Budget 2022-23/Precept The Parish Councillors approved the proposed budget (Appendix E to these minutes). It was agreed that the Parish Council would precept for £7000. This remains unchanged from the previous year.	
12	Peene local needs housing project The consultation has concluded and Councillors agreed to continue to support the proposal. Clerk to respond to Alison Thompson to confirm the Parish Council support and to ask her to keep Councillors updated as the project progresses.	SW
13	Social Media Councillors thanked Councillor Smith for her efforts in putting this policy together. The policy was formally adopted. The Clerk will become the moderator of the social media pages. Councillors agreed that this would be an opportunity to network and post local events as well as another means for the public to contact the council. Councillor Smith to set up the Clerk to administrate. Clerk to upload the policy to the website.	CS SW
14	Eleclink The reinstatement of the playing field surface remains in dispute. Councillor Golding has received communication from Balfour Beatty and a meeting is to be arranged to try to resolve the dispute. Councillors agreed that Councillor Golding would continue to pursue and that Councillor Neale would also be present at the meeting.	KG JN
15	Tree Planting It was agreed that additional trees would be planted on the King George V playing field. This will be undertaken to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee. Councillor Smith explained that she was meeting with F&HDC this week and would ask if there were any plans for the district council to get involved with this scheme. The Clerk will enquire as to what species are available through the Woodland Trust.	CS SW
16	Parish Council Meetings To date, no contribution has been made to the Elham Valley Line Trust for the hire of George's Barn since January 2019 (approximately 10 meetings). Councillors agreed on a donation of £100 to cover use of the barn until 8 November, 2021 and going forward a donation of £70 per year. Councillor Golding to provide bank details to the Clerk.	KG
17	Telephone Box Councillor Smith advised that the telephone box has been measured for shelving and it has been arranged for a handyman to convert it into a community library. AGE UK will provide some second-hand books and any donations from parishioners would be welcomed. The library would be restocked from time to time if necessary. Councillor Sage offered assistance if needed. Clerk to promote the resource on the website/social media when up and running.	CS JS SW
18	King George V Playing Field The ROSPA report was reviewed by Councillors. Councillor Neale advised that he would check and tighten the bolts on the swing frame and Councillor Golding to check the stability of the goalposts. It was agreed that photographic evidence of repairs would be sent to the Clerk. Councillor Sage continues with monthly checks.	JN KG

19	<p>Any other business</p> <p>a. The possibility of a beacon in the village for the Jubilee was considered. Councillor Golding advised that the Elham Valley Line Trust were also looking into this. Councillor Golding to discuss the Jubilee celebration with the Trust and report back at the January meeting.</p> <p>b. Councillor Golding reported a street light permanently on close to his property. Clerk to contact Kent Highways to report this.</p> <p>c. Councillor Smith informed councillors of the AGE UK Hythe and Lyminge Helping Hands initiative. This initiative is to help people of all ages in financial stress with the likes of shopping, gas or electricity bills.</p>	<p>KG</p> <p>SW</p>
20	<p>Next Meeting Monday 10 January 2022</p>	
21	<p>Close Meeting The meeting closed at 8.35pm</p>	

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

APPENDIX A

Report on KCC matters for Newington Parish Council meeting 08 November 2021

Thank you to those who responded to KCC's consultations on our budget for 2022/23 and the one on Household Waste Recycling Centres. These have both now closed and will help us make our decisions. There's still time to respond to the Heritage Strategy which is asking for views on how KCC gives advice on heritage matters as part of the planning process, how archaeological finds are recorded, stored and accessed, a policy on metal detecting on KCC's own land and more. This consultation is open [till 13 December](https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/) and can be seen at <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/>

I've a particular responsibility for Environment at KCC and was delighted that KCC was shortlisted for the Climate Response category at the LGC Awards (a national event covering all local government). We've been making rapid progress on projects to reduce KCC's own carbon emissions through reductions in energy use which also reduces our energy costs. We're on track to meet our commitment to be Net Zero by 2030.

We're also working on projects to help Kent as a whole reach Net Zero by 2050 and we've just announced our [EV600](#) plan. This will provide 600 Electric Vehicle charging points in council owned car parks across Kent within the next two years. Folkestone & Hythe is one of the councils providing space for 94 chargers in at least 25 of its 27 car parks.

Please report any blocked drains (gullies) and potholes to KCC either online or at [03000 41 81 81](tel:03000418181) and make a note of the reference number which helps if the work needs chasing.

Susan Carey

Member for Elham Valley, Kent County Council

District Councillor, North Downs West, Folkestone & Hythe District Council

APPENDIX B

From District Councillor David Godfrey

Housing Service

My Cabinet Portfolio covers the Council housing service which is going through positive and exciting changes.

1st October 2021 was the first anniversary of the Council bringing the service back in house, a challenging year in which many improvements to the service have been put in place with more on the way. The new teams are to be congratulated on their efforts in bringing the service out of regulation by the Social Housing Regulator

Two major steps have been announced to increase the supply of affordable homes

1. Highview

A new development of 30 homes, will be built on the former Highview school site in Moat Farm Road, they have been designed by Folkestone & Hythe District Council's in-house team, and are all for affordable rent. When complete, they aim to be zero carbon in use.

The team has, for the first time, been joined by three tenants who are assisting in looking at different ways of ensuring the homes substantially reduce carbon emissions, as well as accessibility and place-making.

The zero-carbon-in-use initiatives include: mechanical ventilation with heat recovery systems (MVHR), photovoltaics (solar panels), battery power storage (which links with the panels), and air source heat pumps (ASHP).

Work is expected to start on Highview's 24 houses and six flats (which include wheelchair-compliant units) early next year.

.2. Biggins Wood funding boost

It was announced earlier this month that this development of new homes will receive a £1,15 million grant from the Brownfield Land Release Fund (BLRF) from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

Following the purchase of the site in 2016, it was agreed by F&HDC's cabinet in July 2019 that a scheme would be taken forward to create 77 homes -23 of which will be for affordable rent - and 5,600 square metres of commercial space. The pandemic stalled the plans to develop the site so the award of this grant will get the project back on track

Some good news stories

Customer Service Award

Excellent customer service by Folkestone & Hythe District Council has been recognised for the eighth year in a row thanks to our motivated and dedicated staff.

The authority retained its prestigious Customer Service Excellence Award from the Centre for Assessment (CfA) and gained extra "pluses".

As a result of these findings, F&HDC has been awarded Compliance Plus and has a total of 17 pluses, which means it is amongst the elite and contributes to setting the standard other services providers can strive for.

Record number of Green Flags for our parks

Kingsnorth Gardens is the latest park in the district to proudly fly the Green Flag after being awarded the prestigious international accolade for the first time.

The popular haven in Folkestone joins the Royal Military Canal, Lower Leas Coastal Park and Radnor Park - all of which are managed by Folkestone & Hythe District Council - in holding the status for 2021/22.

The award is given to green spaces which boast the highest possible environmental standards, are beautifully maintained and have excellent visitor facilities.

As we enter the winter months, I would encourage everyone who is eligible to get their Flu and Covid Jabs including the Covid booster. My wife and I have had both

Cllr David Godfrey
Cabinet Member for Housing and Special Projects

APPENDIX C

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Schedule of planning applications decided and pending since the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 July 2021

A. DECIDED

- i **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: Refused
- ii **21/0869/FH:** 1 Dones Cottage, Beachborough Park, Beachborough, Newington, Folkestone, CT18 8BW
Proposal: Erection of single storey garage and car port.
Status: Approved
- iii **21/1203/FH:** 2 Little Beachborough Cottages, Beachborough, Newington, Folkestone, CT18 8BW
Proposal: Single-storey extension to rear
Status: Approved

- iv **21/1477/FH:** St Ouen, The Street, Newington, Folkestone, CT18 8AU
Proposal: Erection of a new ground floor porch, first floor side extension, internal spatial reconfiguration at first floor, creation of accommodation at second floor and installation of dormers in the roof space.
Status: Approved
- v **21/1274/FH:** 15 Underhill Cottages, Newington Road, Folkestone CT18 8BE
Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate (proposed) for means of access to highway by way of a dropped kerb.
Status: Approved
- vi **21/1500/FH:** School House, School Lane, Newington, Folkestone, CT18 8AY
Proposal: Rolling consent to crown reduce two Beech subject of Tree Preservation Order No 8 of 2009, to be undertaken once every five years for a total period of 15 years.
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 **21/1359/FH:** 1 Bargrove Farm, Bargrove, Newington, Folkestone, CT18 8BH
Proposal: Removal of existing external door and sidelight and blocking up of existing aperture. Insertion of new patio doors
Status: Under consultation

No comments submitted by Parish Council
- iii **21/2132/FH:** Frogholt Cottage, Frogholt, Folkestone CT18 8AT
Proposal: 2-3 Ash dieback and 2 small apple trees - fell to ground level, 2 small birch, 2 lime, 3 hornbeam and 1 dead ash- fell dead ash and reduce height of the others. 2 hornbeams- reduce all round by 2.5metres.
Status: Under consultation

No comments submitted by Parish Council
- iv **Ref: 21/2057/FH & 21/2031/FH:** Old Pound Manor, The Street, Newington, Folkestone, CT18 8AU
Proposal: Listed Building Consent for extension to double garage to form annexe, retention of a third garage and erection of timber shed
Status: Under consultation.

No objection comment submitted

APPENDIX D

Newington Parish Council
Financial Statement as at 8 September 2021

Bank balance as at 14 July 2021

£
8,510.36

Income

Date	From	Description	Value
02/09/2021	F&HDC	Precept (2 nd instalment)	£ 3,500.00

Expenditure

Date	To	Purpose	Value
19/07/2021	Griggs and Partners	Grounds maintenance - June	£ 90.00
30/07/2021	HMRC	PAYE July 2021	£ 49.80
30/07/2021	Melvyn Twycross	Clerk's salary 04/07/21 – 31/07/21	£ 199.80
04/08/2021	Griggs and Partners	Grounds maintenance - July	£ 170.00
18/08/2021	Ray Hill	Way Memorial maintenance	£ 50.00
31/08/2021	HMRC	PAYE August 2021	£ 49.80
31/08/2021	Melvyn Twycross	Clerk's salary 01/08/21 – 28/08/21	£ 199.80
31/08/2021	Griggs and Partners	Grounds maintenance - August	£ 130.00
		Total	£ 939.20

Bank balance as at 8 September 2021

£
11,071.16

APPENDIX E

Newington Parish Council - Budget 2022/23

	Actual 2020/21	Budget 2021/22	Predicted Outcome 2021/22	Proposed Budget 2022/23
RECEIPTS:				
Precept	7000.00	7000.00	7000.00	7000.00
Grants	551.28	0.00	0.00	0.00
Virements (from reserves)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
VAT Refund	241.55	0.00	153.89	100.00
Total Income	7792.83	7000.00	7153.89	7100.00

	Actual 2020/21	Budget 2021/22	Predicted Outcome 2021/22	Proposed Budget 2022/23
PAYMENTS:				
KALC Subscription	171.26	190.00	172.58	190.00
Grounds Maintenance	2339.00	1600.00	1555	1600.00
Playground Inspection	68.50	75.00	75	80.00
Playground Maintenance	605.88	250.00	250	400.00
War Memorial maintenance	50.00	50.00	50	50.00
Poppy Wreath	20.00	25.00	25	30.00
Bus Shelter	0.00	0.00	0	0.00
Meeting Room	0.00	0.00	0	175.00
Bank Safety Box & Bank Charges	47.13	72.00	72	150.00
Insurance	415.54	450.00	421.61	470.00
Election Expenses	0.00	0.00	0	0.00
Audit Fees	75.00	120.00	90	120.00
Conferences	0.00	150.00	150	150.00
Conference Expenses	0.00	50.00	50	50.00
Clerk's Expenses	0.00	100.00	100	100.00
Clerk's Salary	3429.74	3400.00	3711.6	2868.00
Stationery and Postage	97.90	100.00	100.83	100.00
Clerk and Councillor's Workshops	50.00	200.00	200	200.00
2No Android Tablets	145.77	0.00	0	0.00
Website Hosting and Mailboxes	128.06	150.00	170	150.00
VAT paid	253.47	0.00	153.89	250.00
Total Expenditure	7897.25	6982.00	7347.51	7133.00

Excess Income over Expenditure	-104.42	18.00	-193.62	-33.00
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BANK ACCOUNT:	Actual 01/04/19	Actual 01/04/20	Projected 01/04/21	Projected 01/04/22
Balance	9897.31	7659.26	6916.43	6827.46

	Actual 2020/21	Predicted Outcome 2021/22	Suggested Reserve Allocation 2022/23
RESERVES:			
Earmarked Reserves			
King George V Playing Field	100.00	100.00	100.00
Telephone box	500.00	500.00	500.00
Play area (equipment renewals)	150.00	150.00	150.00
Insurance excess	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00
War Memorial repairs/maintenance	550.00	550.00	550.00
Election expenses	1000.00	1500.00	1500.00
Laptop replacement	0.00	250.00	250.00
General Reserve	3767.00	2917.00	2777.00
Total Reserves	7067.00	6967.00	6827.00

Agreed at Parish Council Meeting held on 08 November 2021 - Minute Reference: 11

Signed and Dated