

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Newington Village Hall, Monday November 14th 2016 at 7pm.

134.16 Councillors Present: Mrs S Coleman – Madam Chairman, Mrs S Smith, K Golding, R Thornby and J Neale.
SDC Councillor D Godfrey and KCC Councillor Mrs S Carey

In Attendance: N Fursdon the Parish Clerk and one member of the public.

135.16 Apologies for Absence – None received.

136.16 To declare any interests –

Cllr K Golding declared an OSI on Planning application Y16/1119/SH – He is a Trustee of the Elham Valley Line Trust.

Cllr Mrs S Smith declared an OSI on Planning application Y16/1239/SH – As she is the owner of the property.

137.16 Minutes of the Parish Council for September and October 2016

- **137.16a** The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday September 5th 2016, had been circulated and published on the Parish Council website in draft form, were found to be correct and signed and dated by the Chairman.
- **137.16b** The Minutes of the extra Parish Council Meeting held to approve the Internal Audit on October 6th 2016 were found correct and signed and dated by Councillor Neale the Chairman of that meeting.

138.16 Open Public Session. – As there were no request made.

139.16 SDC Councillor D Godfrey – Gave a verbal report, starting by mentioning Otterpool Park.

- Otterpool Park has now been given consent by Central Government.
- Central Government has so far given £750,000 to Shepway towards Master Planning.
- The plan is up to 12,000 dwellings.
- There would be 7 Primary Schools and 2 Secondary Schools.
- At least 30% will be public open space.
 - Councillor Neale commented that he is yet to speak to anyone who is for this application. It would be better in the Lake District where there is less population.
- Councillor Godfrey said he agreed that some people living in the area may be upset.
- Shepway was obliged to build more houses. This was better than all the towns and villages having bits added.
- Shepway does own a lot of the land, so it would make it easier to keep to the Master Plan.
- All aspects of housing tenure will be included.
- The building will take 30 to 40 years.
- Everyone will be able to have their say / comment in a consultation which will start shortly.
- Houses will need to be well designed and of the highest quality.
- There is a need for new homes.
 - Councillor Mrs Smith said she would like to see it on a map.
- Councillor Godfrey said that the community will be able to comment where they wished things to be and she reconfirmed that there would be at least 30% of public open space.
- There are details on the Shepway website under the Otterpool Park tab, which is being updated regularly.
- Keeping it a Garden Town, gives you more control.
- Letchworth Garden City are still working to the original Master Plan nearly 100 years later.
- Letchworth Garden City have a Trust that runs everything.
 - Councillor Carey – There will be money for more infrastructure.
 - Councillor Carey – The rail company have already been in contact, concerning improving Westenhanger Station so HS1 can stop there and to also improve the car park.
 - The Vice - Chairman said that his concern was that if Shepway got it really wrong, it could end up being really expensive for the people of Shepway.
- Hawkinge was done by piecemeal, which is why the design is a bit miss match.
 - Councillor Carey – mentioned that they had been to Kings Hill on a study tour and she had found in her opinion that it was very well set out, with plenty of public open space.

139.16 SDC Councillor D Godfrey (Cont)

- The Vice - Chairman said that when Kings Hill started some 20 years ago, there was a lot more ground that was classified as public open space. But since then, a lot of this ground has been re – classified and has now been built on.
- The Vice - Chairman also commented that the problem with these developments is that the Primary Schools always seem to be built last.
- Both Councillors Godfrey and Carey said they had been to a development in Cambridgeshire where the Primary School had been built first. Which they thought was a good idea.
 - Madam Chairman mentioned that there was no mention of burial grounds or crematoriums at all
 - Councillor Carey said that could be brought up in the consultation. She mentioned having green burial grounds.
 - Councillor Neale said that Central Government have approved and are backing Otterpool Park. If there was an election, and a change of Central Government, could they withdraw all the funding and support.
- Both Councillors Carey and Godfrey were confident that all funding and support will continue either way.
 - Councillor Mrs S Smith asked about the Operation Stack Lorry Park.
- This is still on – going, but a judicial review has been applied for, so may be delayed for a while.
 - Councillor Thornby asked about pollution problems.
- All pollution at the Lorry Holding Area will be monitored.
- Otterpool Park is not on the Shepway Local Plan yet.
- Besides Otterpool Park he had been to the Apple Press at Georges Barn, which was really interesting.
- He still has some of his Ward Grant available.

140.16 KCC Councillor Ms S Carey – Gave a verbal report.

- Councillor Carey started by saying that Elham Valley Line Trust had been successful at obtaining their Grant.
- The KCC had saved 500M over the last few years.
- The KCC still needed to find another 153M savings.
- The demand for Senior Social Services is still growing.
- The Highway Steward and Enforcement Officer had attended the junction of Danton Lane, Crete Road West and the Lane to Arpinge. The farmer has been issued with an Order, saying that he has to re – instate the verge and hedge.
 - Madam Chairman thanked Councillor Carey for what she had done. There were signs that things were being done by the farmer already.
- Councillor Carey ended her report saying that there was still time to comment on the KCC budget.

141.16 KCC Community Warden - There was no report available.

142.16 PCSO – There was no report available.

Madam Chairman said she wanted it put in the Minutes that she was most disappointed that there was no report received by either the KCC Community Warden or the PCSO.

Councillor Neale commented that he has only seen the PCSO once since he started and that was his first meeting.

143.16 King George V Playing Fields

143.16a Mole problem in the playing field. – Now finished, Councillors decided to remove from next Agenda.

144.16 Planning

144.16a SDC Planning decisions – There were none.

144.16b New Planning applications

Y16/1119/SH ERECTION OF A WOODEN SHELTER.

BARN OPPOSITE WICK WOOD LODGE (ELHAM VALLEY LINE TRUST) NEWINGTON KENT.

Councillor Golding declared an OSI and was given dispensation to describe the application. He will not vote.

Councillor Golding said that building will be in the wildlife section and used as a classroom for school visits.

All four Councillors supported the application. Councillor Golding did not vote

144.16b Planning applications (Cont)

Y16/1235/SH FROGDENE FROGHOLT

ERECTION OF A DETACHED GARAGE FOLLOWING DEMOLITION OF EXISTING, TOGETHER WITH EXTENSION TO EXISTING HARD-STANDING AND FELLING OF AN APPLE TREE WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA.

All five Councillors debated the application and supported the application.

Y16/1239/SH RICKSTONES SCHOOL LANE NEWINGTON

CROWN REDUCTION BACK TO PREVIOUS POINTS OF A WEEPING WILLOW SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO 8 OF 2009

Councillor Mrs S Smith declared an OSI and was given dispensation to describe the application. She will not vote. She said it was work that has to be carried out every 4 years to keep the tree in a healthy condition.

All four Councillors supported the application. Councillor Mrs S Smith did not vote.

145.16 Finance

145.16a Financial Statement to the end of October.

The Clerk explained that amounts are unconfirmed as he is still not getting any Bank Statements.

145.16b The Cheque list – The Cheque list was agreed and actioned. Councillors agreed to pay a donation of £35 to the British Legion for the Poppy Wreath.

146.16 Audit Report Conclusion – The Audit Report Conclusion was accepted by the Councillors.

147.16 Progress of Bank details change

Madam Chairman said she has been trying sort this out for ages, she now uses the Hythe branch of the Nat West Bank as they are a little bit more helpful than the Folkestone branch.

The Councillors decided that Madam Chairman and Councillor J Neale should go to the bank with their passports.

The Vice – Chairman commented that a letter of complaint should be written and compensation claimed.

The Clerk mentioned that the bill from PKF Littlejohn for £72 was due to this problem.

148.16 Highways and Footpaths (PROW)

148.16a Highways – The Clerk said there were no reports on Highways.

Councillor Thornby said that KCC Highways had filled some of the potholes in village.

The Vice – Chairman said that there was a pothole appearing in the village. The Clerk said he would report it.

148.16b Footpaths (PROW) - The Clerk said there were no reports on Footpaths (PROW).

Councillor Mrs S Smith reported that the footpath next to Rickstones was becoming impassable.

149.16 Culvert between the flood alleviation ditch and the farm yard update.

This matter is still on – going.

The Clerk said he was a bit confused, as on Saturday while it was raining hard, he was in the village and could see that the river was running quite fast. He went to the culvert to take a photo of what he was expecting to be a somewhat full flood alleviation ditch, to find it completely empty.

The Vice – Chairman said that is because the culvert under the road is blocked.

The Councillors decided that an official letter should be sent.

150.16 Transparency Code Grant update.

The Vice – Chairman said that he had done some research, but he recommends that the matter is left until after Christmas unless a really good offer comes up earlier.

151.16 Conferences, Workshops and Training opportunities. – None of the Councillors were available.

152.16 Management of road freight through Kent – Update – This matter was covered in the SDC Councillor report.

153.16 Parish Council Notice Boards

The Clerk said he was still having problems with the main noticeboard. Madam Chairman's husband explained what had happened and how to open. Councillors decided to get prices of new noticeboards.

154.16 Correspondence – Correspondence had been via email and had been forwarded straight to the Councillors.

155.16 Confirm the meeting dates for 2017

The Councillors went through the 2017 to provisionally check the 2017 meeting dates.

Date were. Parish Council meetings, all Mondays and all starting at 7pm

January 9th – March 13th – May 8th – July 10th – September 11th – November 13th

The Annual Parish Meeting is set for Monday April 10th at 7pm

The Clerk to contact the Newington Village Hall Booking Secretary to book the meeting dates.

156.16 Items of general interest from Councillors, and items for the next Agenda.

The Vice – Chairman said that a vote of thanks should be in the minutes to Bob Laslett and Terry Smith for re – instating the planter at the entrance to the village. All Councillors agreed.

157.16 Date of next meeting – The date of the next meeting should be Monday January 9th 2017 at 7pm, this will be confirmed before the meeting.

158.16 Close of meeting – Madam Chairman thanked everyone for attending and also wished everyone a Happy Christmas and closed the meeting at 20.50 (8.50pm).

DRAFT