

DRAFT MINUTES

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Minutes of a Meeting of Newenden Parish Council on 8 September in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present:

Councillors

Mr A Nilson (chairman)
Mrs R Edmonds
Miss C Bond
Mr D Richardson
Mrs E Hannavy-Cousen

Clerk

Mr J Leeves

Apologies for Absence

1. None.

Declarations of Interest

2. None.

Minutes of the Meeting of 30 June

3. Two minor corrections were made to the minutes of the meeting on 30 June and they were then agreed as a correct record.

Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting on 30 June

4. None that would not be covered later in the meeting.

Financial statement of the 8 September

5. The clerk pointed out that there had so far been little expenditure and that consequently there was a healthy balance in hand. The balance in the Selmes Management account was also increasing and would soon be almost £5,000.

Accounts for payment

6. The following accounts were approved for payment:

Mr J A Leeves	Clerk's allowance & postage	£32.99
Playsafety Ltd	Inspection of children's playground	£88.80
Came & Co Ltd	Insurance renewal	£2,601.08

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Renewal of three year agreement for insurance

7. Councillors agreed to renew the three year agreement with the insurers Aviva.
Smaller Authorities Transparency Fund

8. The chairman explained that it was now a requirement that the Council publish all items of expenditure of £100.00 or more on the website together with an annual bank reconciliation and the information usually provided in the annual return to external auditors. The clerk said he would provide the chairman with an electronic copy of the annual return when he received it back from the external auditors. He would also provide details of expenditure amounts of £100 or more.

9. The chairman also said that it was now a requirement to publish on the website the minutes of Council meetings in draft format within one month of the meeting to which they related.

Safety inspection of children's playground

10. The children's playground had been inspected in July and copies of the inspection report had been circulated. Councillors noted that there was some timber decay, chains had come off some of the equipment and there was an entrapment risk at the side of the entrance gate. Quotes needed to be obtained for replacement of the decayed timber. The chairman said that he would go through the report and look at all the points that needed to be covered so that repairs could be done at the next action day.

Highways

17. Councillor Edmonds said that there were no developments to report. Highways had asked if parishes wished to have a bag of salt delivered for use in the Winter. Councillors agreed that a new bag was required and the clerk said he would ask them to deliver one to the usual place in Lossenham lane.

Planning

18. Councillor Richardson reported that there had been no developments at Heart House where construction had been halted by Ashford Borough Council.

19. The Borough Council were holding a planning training session on 7 October at 6.30 pm. Councillors Richardson and Hannavy-Cousen said that they would like to attend and the clerk would advise Ashford.

Any other business

Rural affordable housing

20. Action with Communities in Rural Kent were running a seminar about affordable rural housing at Lenham Community Centre on 18 September. The cost was £30.00. Councillor Hannavy-Cousen said that she would like to attend and the clerk agreed to make the booking.

Fireworks

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21. The chairman said that the annual fireworks display would be held on 5 November. Mr Turnbull had already purchased the fireworks. The clerk reminded Councillors that the Council's insurers needed to be notified about the display.

Broadband

22. Councillor Bond said that she would investigate the broadband situation in the village.

Police matters

23. Councillor Bond reported that there were no police matters.

Parish magazine

24. Councillors agreed that an article in the parish magazine about the new cafe at the Bodiam Boating station would be a good idea. It was also agreed to go there in the early evening and take some photographs.

Date of next meeting

25. The next meeting would be on 3 November.

Chairman..... Date.....