

Minutes of a Meeting of Newenden Parish Council on 22 October at 7.30 pm in the Village hall

Present:

Councillors

Mr A Nilson (chairman)

Mrs R Edmonds

Mr B Livesey

Mr D Richardson

Mrs J Eldridge

Clerk

Mr J Leeves

Members of the public

The Reverend Jacques Desrosiers attended.

**Apologies for absence**

1. None.

**Declarations of interest**

2. None.

**Minutes of the meeting of 20 August**

3. The minutes of the meeting on 20 August having been circulated were agreed as a correct record.

**Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of 20 August**

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

**Financial Statement to 22 October**

5. The clerk commented that there would now be very little additional expenditure until the end of the financial year in March 2014. Councillors noted the financial statement.

**Accounts for Payment**

6. The following invoices for Parish Council business were approved for payment:

Mr J A Leeves	Clerk's allowance & postage	£33.88
Mr S Siggery	Grass & hedge cutting	£300.00
PKF Littlejohn	External audit fee	£36.00

The following invoice for business relating to management of the Selmes Trust lands was approved for payment:

Rolvenden PCC	Printing byelaws and bonfire letters	£19.00
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It was noted that the bonfire letters were not really Selmes Trust business. Councillor Edmonds said that she would obtain a cheque for £3.80 in reimbursement for the bonfire letters from the village hall committee who were responsible for bonfire matters. This could then be paid into the Selmes Trust management account.

### **Update on Community Speed Watch**

7. Councillor Livesey reported that 12 volunteers had been trained to operate the speed recording equipment. The police had visited and had issued three fixed penalty notices.

8. Councillor Livesey said that most of the problem with excessive speed was within the 30 mph limit. There was not much warning of this limit at the bottom of Newenden hill and he wondered whether the limit sign might be moved further up the hill. Councillors felt that he should ask the police what they thought and also speak to Highways for their view.

### **Highways**

9. Councillor Livesey reported that Highways had turned down the proposal for a threeway pedestrian controlled traffic light at Newenden bridge.

### **Planning**

10. Councillor Eldridge said that there was nothing to report on planning. Mr Seal was still awaiting planning consent for the Oast.

### **Management of Selmes Trust land update**

11. The sheep had been grazing on the Selmes field for some time and there had been no problems. Councillor Livesey said that one sheep had got out onto the cricket field and he had had to return it to the Selmes field. It was unclear how the sheep had escaped. The chairman also reported that one sheep had fallen into the river but the farmer had managed to retrieve it. There had however, been no other problems particularly from dogs. The sheep would be taken away shortly to allow the bonfire to be constructed.

### **Update on Parish plan**

12. The chairman advised that he had been contacted by the developer Miles Hall about progress on the Housing Needs survey. He reminded Councillors that this would establish whether or not there was a need for social housing in the village. If so the next stage would be to identify potential sites and see if the owners were prepared to sell them.

13. The chairman said that he would contact Ms O'Sullivan at Action with Communities in Rural Kent to ask for the survey to go ahead. Before drafting the survey it would be helpful to meet with Ms O'Sullivan to discuss it and to provide her with a picture of the village. The Parish Council would then have an input into the questions that might be asked. It was agreed that the chairman would invite Ms O'Sullivan to a meeting.

**Any other business**

Repairs to Playground

14. Councillor Livesey said that he had been through the inspection report on the children’s playground undertaken by Play Safety Ltd and prepared a list of work that needed to be done which he had circulated. All work was classified as of medium or low risk and it was agreed that a mini day of action would be held on 16 November to undertake the necessary work.

Cranbrook School Catchment Area

15. Councillor Davidson commented that Newenden was not in the catchment area for Cranbrook School being 8.5 miles away as the crow flies. The village had been in the catchment area previously but this had changed and Councillors felt that the School should reconsider its policy. It was agreed that Councillor Richardson would write to the Governor responsible to ask for Newenden to be included in the catchment area.

**Date of next meeting**

16. To allow for Ashford Borough Council to determine the level of grants payable to parishes and to provide training in the calculation of the precept it was agreed that the next meeting would be postponed until 10 December.

Chairman.....

Date.....