

Minutes of a Meeting of Newenden Parish Council on 2 September in Church Cottage, Newenden at 7.30 pm

Present:

Councillors

Mrs R Edmonds (Chairman)

Mr B Livesey

Mr D Richardson

Mrs J Eldridge

Mr A Nilson (by Skype from Sweden)

Clerk

Mr J Leeves

Arrangements

1. As the chairman of the Council was in Sweden the vice chairman, Councillor Edmonds, chaired the meeting.

Apologies for absence

2. Apologies were received from the river warden Mr A Seal.

Declarations of interest

3. Councillors Edmonds and Livesey declared an interest in the planning application and withdrew from the room when it was discussed.

Minutes of the meeting on 24 June

4. Having been circulated the minutes of the meeting on 24 June were agreed as a correct record.

Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting on 24 June

Environment Agency Works

5. Councillor Edmonds asked if a letter had yet been sent to the Environment Agency thanking them for the works to the river bank. The clerk said that the contractors for the Environment Agency having finished their works on the Sussex side of the river, had now started work on the Newenden side. This had begun before the letter of thanks could be sent. Councillors agreed to wait until the works to the Newenden side of the river were completed before writing to the Environment Agency.

Dog Fouling

6. Councillor Eldridge said that dog fouling was still a problem and asked about the dog waste bins from Chilham. The clerk explained that he had contacted the clerk at Chilham Parish Council and it

appeared that there had been a misunderstanding. The waste bins being stored by the Ashford Borough Council dog warden were in fact new bins and not ones that had previously been used by Chilham Parish Council and were surplus to requirements. It was their intention to purchase these bins and they were not therefore available. Councillor Eldridge said she would speak to the dog warden again.

Noticeboard

7. Councillor Eldridge showed the meeting photographs of the noticeboard at Icklesham. The cost was very reasonable at about £35.00.

Financial statement

8. The clerk drew Councillor's attention to the balance of £3,348.00 in the management account and Councillor Nilson confirmed that this reserve was being built up to pay for the construction of the first moorings. Councillors approved the financial statement of 2 September.

Accounts for payment

9. The following accounts were approved for payment:

Broker Network Ltd	Insurance renewal	£2,519.85
Mr J A Leeves	Clerk's allowance & postage	£28.85
Playsafety Ltd	Inspection children's playground	£88.80

Newenden Housing Needs Survey: Update

10. Councillor Nilson reported that he had heard nothing further from the developer Mr Miles Hall.

Newenden Trust Update

11. Councillor Nilson said that Judith Butler was looking at the options for the Trust.

Inspection report on Children's Playground

12. Copies of the inspection report on the children's playground by Playsafety Ltd had been circulated. It was noted that some of the photographs used in the report were from last year's report and showed defects which had already been repaired. Councillor Nilson said that under their terms and conditions Playsafety Ltd were able to reuse previous photographs but it was misleading if they showed defects that had in fact been rectified. It was agreed that when the clerk paid their invoice for the inspection he would point out that some of the problems shown in older photographs had been repaired.

Defibrillators

13. Councillor Livesey reported that the landlord of the White Hart was willing to store a defibrillator inside the premises subject to practicalities of space and access. Councillor Nilson said that Mr Rivers was able to arrange a bulk purchase of defibrillators thereby reducing the cost to around £650.00 each. There was some uncertainty as to whether the defibrillator needed to be placed in an accessible outside location which would mean special storage and access arrangements as it needed

to be kept at a reasonably warm temperature. Councillor Eldridge explained that it would be stored in a locked container access to which could be obtained by telephoning the emergency services and requesting a code. Councillors thought that this was unnecessary.

Planning

14. The planning application for the Coach House was discussed. It was agreed to support the application subject to the comment that the Council did not understand the need for a bathroom and balcony which seemed to indicate a residential dwelling.

Highways

Newenden bridge

15. An e-mail from Kent County Councillor Mike Hill about warning signs on the approaches to Newenden bridge following concerns about the safety of pedestrians had been circulated. Councillors had noted that the e-mail did not include any indication of the appearance of the signs or where exactly they would be positioned. Councillor Nilson said he would ask Councillor Hill to provide these details.

Potholes

16. Councillor Eldridge said that Highways had fixed some of the potholes in Lossenham Lane, but Councillors thought there was no point in them trying to repair the remainder until the Environment Agency contractors had completed their riverbank works that required access by heavy plant.

Community Speed Watch update

17. Councillor Livesey said that he had circulated the latest results by e-mail and that he had been invited to speak about the results in general at a local conference.

Any other business

Environment Agency riverbank works

18. It was noted that the Environment Agency contractors had just moved Mr Goad's boats on the riverbank to one side so enable them to undertake their works. The contractors had had to enlarge the gateway to the Selmes field in order for their machinery to gain access. They had assured Councillor Edmonds that they would reinstate the hedge but this would be by means of a fence and not hedging.

Mooring Agreement

19. The river warden, Mr Seal, had circulated a revised draft mooring form and regulations which boat owners would need to complete annually from 2015. Councillors thought that it was not that much different from the previous form and regulations however it was proposed that owners should display a licence on their boat with a quick read code so that it was apparent who had paid their mooring fees. This autumn it was proposed that any boats not removed when the Dannie Lee was craned out of the water should also be removed.

Cranbrook school

20. Councillor Richardson said he had written again to Cranbrook school about the exclusion of Newenden from their catchment area and read out the reply he had received from the bursar. It appeared that Cranbrook school had postponed review of their entry requirements to 2016. The reply was essentially a holding response and Councillor Richardson said he would write again.

Coconut stands

21. Councillor Edmonds said that she would see whether anybody could store the stands otherwise Councillors wondered whether they could be stored in the cricket pavilion.

Date of next Meeting

22. The next meeting will be on 4 November.

Chairman.....

Date.....