

Minutes of a Meeting of Newenden Parish Council on 4 November at 7.30 pm in the village hall

Present:

Councillors

Mr A Nilson (chairman)

Mrs R Edmonds

Mrs J Eldridge

Mr D Richardson

Mr B Livesey

Clerk

Mr J Leeves

#### **Apologies for absence**

1. None.

#### **Declarations of interest**

2. None.

#### **Minutes of the meeting on 2 September**

3. The minutes of the meeting on 2 September having been circulated were agreed as a correct record.

#### **Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting on 2 September**

##### Dog Fouling

4. Councillor Eldridge reported that dog fouling remained a problem. She had not yet spoken to the dog warden from Ashford Borough Council Mr Leek, but would try to do so as soon as possible.

##### Parish Noticeboard

5. The chairman said that Wealden print produced a roll up banner for £25.00 which could be tied onto a noticeboard made of plywood using hooks and held in the ground by two stakes. The noticeboard would be located between the village sign and the bus stop parallel to the fence and quite low but at an angle so that it could be seen by those passing on the road. The chairman and his wife would put together the plywood frame.

##### Signage on Newenden bridge

6. Councillor Richardson reported that details of the road safety signage to be installed on the approaches to Newenden bridge had not yet been provided by the County Council.

## **Financial statement**

7. The financial statement to 4 November was circulated and agreed by Councillors. The clerk commented that the Council had spent very little in this financial year in comparison with last year. The chairman said he would speak to Mr Siggery about an invoice for his work in cutting the grass and hedges in and around the children's playground.

### Accounts for payment

8. The following account was approved for payment:

Cranbrook & Sissinghurst PC	Maintenance of speed watch equipment	£41.60
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## **Defibrillators**

9. The chairman reported that KALC would be placing an order for defibrillators in January and the cost would be around £650.00 each. A picture of a defibrillator was shown and Councillors remarked that it was quite small. Mr Rivers had offered to give a demonstration on how they worked but Councillors felt this was not necessary.

The defibrillator would be stored in the White Hart inn and the clerk was asked to check with the Council's insurers on the insurance implications.

## **Update on riverbank works and firework display**

10. The river bank works were now complete and the grass on them was re-growing. They were however, still quite soft and the Environment Agency had carried out some tests to check on their stability. Councillors thought that the gates giving access to the banks should probably remain locked over the Winter depending on the results of the Environment Agency's tests. Most of the boats had been removed from the river apart from three that were due to go down to Scott's float in a few days time.

11. The clerk reported that the Council's insurers had agreed to the firework display taking place at a site behind the White Hart inn on 15 November. It was agreed to spend £300 to £400 on fireworks from village hall funds and to ask villagers for a contribution to the cost. The display would start at 6.30 pm on 15 November. The chairman said he would circulate a note about the display to residents in the village.

## **Planning**

12. The clerk reported that Ashford Borough Council had given planning permission for the construction works at The Oast.

## **Highways**

13. Councillor Richardson said that at the last Tenterden Forum meeting highways department had asked if parishes could report any "haunching" at the side of roads. He had learned that "haunching" was the term used to describe the breaking away and deterioration at the edge of a road where it joined the verge.

The clerk confirmed that he had advised highways that a bag of salt was not required this year as much of last year's had not been used.

**Any other business**

Tenterden Forum

14. Councillor Richardson said that at the last Tenterden Forum meeting they had been told that there would be a housing development in the town of 249 houses 30% of which would be social housing.

Flood Warden Training

15. Councillor Livesey reported that he had received training as a flood warden and showed Councillors an emergency kit of equipment provided to undertake his duties. The job essentially involved advising the Environment Agency of the position in relation to flood water and the danger of flooding. The clerk was asked to check with the Council's insurers whether there were any insurance implications.

Tree in Commemoration of Tony Cloote

16. The chairman said that Adam Cloote had spoken to him about planting a tree in memory of his father Tony Cloote. It had been decided to plant this in a corner of the closed churchyard. This would require permission from the PCC. The tree would be a small Winter flowering cherry.

Election year

17. The chairman reminded Councillors that 2015 was an election year. Councillor Eldridge had decided to step down and assuming that other Councillors would seek re-election would need to be replaced.

Date of next meeting

18. The next meeting would be held on 16 December by which time it was expected that Ashford Borough Council would provide details of the tax base and Council tax support grant for the Council to be able to set the precept for 2015-16.

Chairman.....

Date.....