

Newchurch Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting 2023-12 held on Monday 4th December 2023 in person in The Old Wool Store, Brooker Farm, Newchurch Lane, Romney Marsh, TN29 0DT. At 7.30 pm the Chairman Alison Youd welcomed all present and opened the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting.

Unique Minute Number	Agenda Heading	Record	Action by whom and within what timescale
2023-12-1	Persons Present	<u>Councillors</u> Alison Youd, Antony Youd, Deborah Woollard, Colin Woollard, Tony Goode, <u>Officer</u> , Mr Michael Sharpe (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer / RFO to Newchurch Parish Council / NPC).	
2023-12-2	Apologies	Invited speakers District Councillor Tony Cooper & County Councillor Tony Hills (elsewhere engaged).	
2023-12-3	Declarations of Interest	The Chairman reminded each Councillor to declare any conflicts of interest in the business before them. No declarations were made at this juncture.	
2023-12-4	Approval of minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting	The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 6th November 2023 were examined, discussed and unanimously APPROVED. Proposed T Goode seconded C Woollard. The Clerk placed the signed copy in the Minutes Book forthwith.	<u>ACTION Clerk</u> to update website by 8th December.
2023-12-5	Matters Arising	In accordance with <u>Minute 2023-11-8</u> Cllr Colin Woollard reported on the failure of regular recycling collections in Norwood Lane and Gammons Farm Lane. He enquired of Folkestone & Hythe District Council (FHDC) and the result has been a delivery of plastic bin-bags to properties in that area, with an explanatory letter attached. This is far from satisfactory. The apparent problem is access for the recycling wagon down Norwood Lane, which is narrow, but Wills Lane which is equally difficult of access, appears to be fully served, with mixed recyclables being picked up in the wheelie bins. Councillors thanked him for his efforts in this regard.	
2023-12-6	Invited speakers and public participation	No members of the public were present. The written short reports of the two invited speakers who had apologized for absence (see Item 2 above) had upon receipt been circulated by email. These were acknowledged, with thanks, and discussed.	
2023-12-7	FINANCIAL REPORT	<b>A.</b> Mr Sharpe as RFO informed Councillors that the monies at bank on 6 <sup>th</sup> December totalled £1940.31, according to the online statement. The Bank reconciliation was duly signed. <b>B.</b> Councillors then RESOLVED to transfer £1000 reserve funds to the deposit account, to gain interest payable. Two signatories then signed the written postal request for this transfer. It was noted that no cheques were presented for signature.	<u>ACTION Clerk/RFO</u> to post letter and monitor through online statements, as convenient.
2023-12-8	Planning Matters	At the introduction of this item Cllr Tony Goode declared an interest in one of the applications, under paragraph 13 of the Newchurch Code of Conduct, in that it relates to the financial interest of a friend. Cllr Goode therefore took no further part in the discussion or resolution. The remaining 4 Councillors duly debated: <b><u>23/1755/FH</u></b> Honeywood Farm, Honey Wood Lane, Newchurch, TN25 7LD <i>Listed building consent for replacement tiling &amp; reposition of sash windows to the front (south) façade &amp; replacement of gutters and downpipes</i> <b>AND</b> <b><u>23/1773/FH</u></b> The Manor House, Newchurch, Romney Marsh, TN29 0DL <i>Retrospective erection of outbuilding for use as home office</i> and RESOLVED to support both applications.	<u>ACTION Clerk</u> to communicate to FHDC Planning Portal by 10 <sup>th</sup> December.

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2023-12-9	Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) AGM at Ditton 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Mr Sharpe reported that he had attended this meeting, which was both informative and business-like. A neighbouring Parish Council at St Mary-in-the-Marsh had submitted a motion to the AGM on the payment for Parish Council by-elections, which was defeated on a vote. Subscriptions to KALC are likely to rise a small amount in April, and this was budgeted for at NPC's November meeting. The Most Honourable Mayor of New Romney Town Council, Cllr John Rivers, remains President of KALC, and was appreciative of representation from the smaller Romney Marsh parishes.	
2023-12-10	Correspondence	1. The Consultation invitation to the Kent 10-year Local Flood Risk Management Strategy was received and circulated.	<b>ACTION All Councillors</b> to consider responses and bring to January Meeting
2023-12-11	Information-sharing	Councillors considered refreshing the signage in the Jubilee Field as a volunteer task. They noted the continuing problems with a water main leak in The Street, where repairs just seem to have pushed the large puddle further along the highway. All present noted the Christmas waste and recycling dates were available from FHDC either online or in the paper newsletter just out. Compliments were paid to the Church for a highly atmospheric and successful Christmas Tree event the previous Saturday.	
2023-12-12	Date, time and place of next NPC Meeting	The Council RESOLVED to hold the next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting at The Old Wool Store, Brooker Farm, Newchurch TN29 0DT on Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January, at 7.30pm	<b>ACTION Clerk</b> to circulate Agenda etc. by 2nd January 2024.

The Chairman declared the Parish Council meeting to be closed at 8.00 pm, and wished everyone present the compliments of the season. Attendees partook of light seasonal refreshments END.