

Newchurch Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting 2022-8 held on Monday 5th September 2022 in person in The Old Wool Store, Brooker Farm, Newchurch Lane, Romney Marsh, TN29 0DT. At 7.30 pm Chairman welcomed all in attendance to the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

Unique Minute Number	Agenda Heading	Record	Action by whom and within what timescale
2022-8-1	Persons Present	<u>Councillors</u> Tony Goode, Colin Woollard , Deborah Woollard, James Farrant; <u>Officer</u> , Mr Michael Sharpe (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer RFO to Newchurch Parish Council/ NPC)	
2022-8-2	Apologies	CLlr Alison Youd (unavoidably detained elsewhere Councillors present approved the reason for absence under section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.	
2022-8-3	Declarations of Interest	CLlr Farrant declared an interest in the Planning Application in Item 8 as he is the owner of a neighbouring property.	
2022-8-4	Approval of minutes of the previous meeting	The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 18th July 2022 were examined and discussed and unanimously APPROVED. Proposed D Woollard seconded T Goode.	<u>ACTION Clerk</u> to place signed copy in Minute Book straightway, and update website, by 30 th September.
2022-8-5	Matters arising	<u>2022-7-11</u> CLlrs Farrant and D Woollard stated they were still in the process of improving the look of the Village Notice Board.	
2022-8-6	Public Interval	No members of the public were present.	
2022-8-7	FINANCIAL REPORT	As RFO, Mr Sharpe passed round financial reports in the form of the Receipts and Payments Ledger, the Working Budget 22/23, and the Summary of Earmarked Reserves. He noted that taken together these three documents give a good picture of expenditure so far, and a forecast of money available until the end of the Financial Year in March 2023 for playground repairs, etc. He also produced a Bank Reconciliation showing monies at bank on 6th September will be £6992.89 (after the cheques for payment below are taken into account). <u>Cheques for payment:</u> Fenland Leisure Products Ltd, Wisbech <i>Replacement Swing Seats</i> £82.00 + £16.40 VAT = £98.40 Information Commissioner, Stockport <i>Data Protection registration renewal from 6th October</i> £40.00 (no VAT) Playsafety Ltd, Swindon <i>Playground Safety Report 2022</i> £87.50 + £17.50 VAT = £105.00 Michael Sharpe (Clerk) <i>Reimbursement for mobile phone top-up voucher</i> £10.00 (no VAT) TOTAL £253.40 The Council RESOLVED to accept the report and to sign these cheques.	<u>ACTION Clerk /RFO</u> to file paper bank statements recently received. <u>ACTION Clerk</u> to post cheques and update internal records as soon as convenient.
2022-8-8	Planning	(NB CLlr Farrant declared an interest and took no part in the Council's deliberations.) 22/0938/FH . After due debate the Council RESOLVED to make no comment on this application.	<u>ACTION Clerk</u> to notify decision to FHDC Planning Portal by 10 th September.

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2022-8-9	Maintenance of Playground Equipment and Surfaces in 2022/23	Councillors considered the Annual Safety Inspection report from Playsafety Ltd received 18 th July. They thanked Cllr Farrant for replacing the swing seats immediately, but noted that some of the other remedial works were beyond individuals' capabilities. After debate, Cllrs C Woollard and Farrant agreed to take a detailed look at the report recommendations, and report to the next meeting with expenditure plans.	ACTION Cllrs C Woollard & Farrant to conduct close on-site inspection with the report to hand and list recommendations within current budget.
2022-8-10	Weed Control in the Playground Area	Cllr Farrant stated that he has been strimming the problem areas of thistle weeds himself. All agreed that a longer-term solution to halt weeds growing in the bark chippings would be appropriate. Suggestions of replacing the underlying membrane and the bark chippings, and also spraying with amenity pesticide, were revisited. Councillors RESOLVED to seek further estimates from two contractors to ensure the quality of results will be adequate.	ACTION Clerk to amend draft specification for the work, then to contact and seek estimates from 2 contractors, with a view to making firm arrangements by mid-September.
2022-8-11	Councillor Training	Councillors noted two suitable training sessions forthcoming from Kent Association of Local Councils, and RESOLVED to book and fund one Councillor to go to each.	Clerk to make online bookings and present invoices to October meeting.
2022-8-12	Correspondence	An email requesting volunteers from the village to help with a charitable Christmas event was noted. Folkestone & Hythe District Councils 'Meet The Funders' event was noted but the Council RESOLVED not to send a delegate this time.	
2022-8-13	Exchange of information	Councillors discussed the bad effects of the 'cost of living crisis' and brought forward some ideas for those residents who are really struggling in the current climate. They felt that the Parish Council can provide a focus for an appropriate response from various agencies. The expected rise in electricity bills for the Village Hall was of particular concern.	ACTION Clerk to place 'Cost of Living Crisis Response' on the agenda for October meeting. ACTION All Councillors to consult with residents and give the issues detailed consideration, before October 3 rd .
2022-8-14	Date, time and place of next Parish Council Meeting	The Council RESOLVED to hold its next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting at The Old Wool Store, Brooker Farm, Newchurch, on Monday 3 rd October at 7.30pm	ACTION Clerk to book venue and circulate Agenda etc. by 27 th September.

The Chairman declared the Parish Council meeting to be concluded at 8.32 pm. END.