

PARISH COUNCIL OF NEWLANDS

MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 6th APRIL 2023 AT NEWLANDS COMMUNITY HALL, NEWLANDS AVENUE, WATERLOOVILLE, HAMPSHIRE, PO7 3BX COMMENCING AT 7.30 pm

Members: Cllr M Read (Chairman) (P) Cllr A Kirby
Cllr L Price (P) Cllr C Brook (P)

Also present, Cllr D Crichton – Chairman of the Council, Luke Hayter - Amenities Parish Warden and Karen Seear - Clerk to the Council.

001/24A Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr Kirby.

002/24A Declarations of Interest: D/Cllr Read and D/Cllr Brook both declared interests as they are Ward members for Winchester City Council.

003/24A Previous Minutes and matters arising: The minutes from the Amenities Committee Meeting held on 12th January 2023 were received. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.**

004/24A Public Session: No members of the public were present.

005/24A Correspondence: Correspondence from WACA had been received this is covered on item 012/24A. **NOTED.** No further items had been received.

006/24A Warden's Report: The Warden gave a verbal report. He mentioned that the speed monitor sign had now been installed and after some initial teething issues, is now working correctly. After a month of it being in-situ, data will be available. He went on to speak about an abandoned crashed vehicle on Hambledon Road, which he had reported. A large amount of fly-tipping had been occurring outside the gates of the waste and recycling centre. The gates nearby have also been smashed. Cllr Crichton mentioned that shortly Dicentra will have responsibility for that area, and some clean up action will be taken to remedy the current mess. Unfortunately, the staff of the HWRC are not permitted to remove the waste outside the centre. The Warden spoke about the upcoming playground inspection course, he will be required to stay overnight for the course. Accommodation will be required. The Warden was asked to submit expenses to the clerk for reimbursement. The Chairman asked that speed monitor signs and fly-tipping items be moved from the Amenities Committee and dealt with by the Highways and General Purposes committee. **NOTED.**

007/24A Adoption of Open Space:

The Chairman gave a verbal update. He had hoped to arrange a site visit with the legal representative from Winchester City Council, but was currently no further forward with this. He also hoped to invite Sharon Evans from WCC to visit the development and attend a council meeting. Cllr Crichton mentioned the section 104 which still needs to be completed. The standing work which Stuart Dunbar Dempsey is arranging, including replacement playground equipment. A list of works has been given to WCC. The question is whether the council then has to give their agreement for that everything is satisfactory for takeover. Some elements will be paid for from the commuted sum. Other elements will need to be paid for by WCC as they are health and safety concerns and should not have to be paid for by Newlands Council. **NOTED.** Cllr Price mentioned

outstanding work to the wooden fencing. This is something WCC are responsible for. As it is at the moment the area is open to travellers.

008/24A Open Space Maintenance Contracts: This item was no further forward and is awaiting a procurement process. It was suggested that Cllr Carden may be able to offer assistance with this. **NOTED.**

009/24A Amenities Storage/Office Facility: The Warden updated the committee with news that the purchase of the storage units is ready to go. Quotes for connecting utilities will be finalized. Grainger has updated the council with news that Barratt homes will be sharing the compound they've earmarked for the council, as Barratt's will be carrying out remedial works. It was queried whether the council could potentially share related costs with Barratt's. The Warden was asked to check whether this could be a possibility with Grainger representatives. Work to the compound had been carried out and the area prepared ready for occupation. The contract for the container units runs month to month, therefore it's not a massive commitment or cost initially should matters change in anyway. Costs for the containers and work required to install them require approval by Full Council. The clerk was asked to circulate figures prior to the next Full Council. An upper limit budget of £6k was suggested. There will be a cost of £660 for delivery and collection of the units once the council has finished with them. An internet connection will also be required. It was thought that Cllr Parry may be able to offer his assistance with this. Water and utilities will be required and should be connected first. **NOTED.**

010/24A Amenities Vehicle: The clerk had telephoned the vehicle leasing company for an updated quote, which had come back slightly cheaper than the original quote. The council's signatories are required before the order can be processed any further as well as the council's accounts. Insurance will also be required. It was thought that the vehicle leasing company could be asked for a quote. The Warden will become the first named driver, and the clerk a secondary named driver. **NOTED.** Vehicle signage will also be required. A local company to approach for the work was suggested. The hi-res logo will be required. The clerk has this on file. Costs for the logo work will be bought back to the Full Council for approval. **NOTED.**

011/24A Noticeboards: The clerk updated the committee to explain that Grainger had been in touch to let the council know that they will be installing a community noticeboard on behalf of the community group. The Grainger representative had outlined details and costs of a board which she said must be in-keeping with Grainger's image if the council still wishes to install a noticeboard. The Warden stated that he will contact Grainger for more details about this. He will report back to the next meeting. **NOTED.** The noticeboards in the Parish are in a poor state of repair. The Warden had asked a contractor to quote for work removing the old noticeboards and installing new boards. It was suggested that two new noticeboards for the Parish be purchased. It was suggested that the council liaise with Havant Borough Council, as they had initially purchased the boards and are currently on HBC owned land. **NOTED.** A noticeboard is still in storage ready for use. The clerk suggested that it could be used at the site of the allotments. **NOTED.** The Chairman went on to suggest that the matter of looking into a footpaths sub-committee should be explored in the future. This should ensure footpaths within the development are of the standard they should be. **NOTED.**

012/24A Community Hall Bookings: The clerk had received a letter from a representative at WACA explaining some of the current issues surrounding the state of repair at the community hall and the issues that surround it's use. The council had approached Grainger about these issues. They had agreed that the council can carry out maintenance

works. It was then suggested a meeting take place with WACA to speak about issues Grainger have concerning bookings/safeguarding.

012/24A Other reports: Cllr Crichton spoke about the recent Grainger meeting. The question of the Town Park was spoken about. Some of the land within Town Park is owned by Havant Borough Council. HBC have indicated they don't wish to take on any responsibilities for the park. The Parish Council need to work with Grainger to identify how this should be managed. There are a few options to consider. The Chairman believes the commuted sums for the area are being paid directly to WCC. He suggested talking to the legal department to establish what exactly the arrangement is. **NOTED.** This currently is the only area where there are issues to be ironed out. Cllr Crichton had contacted Havant Borough council regarding the adoption of space. They had been speaking to Taylor Wimpey's legal department. HBC may finally be getting around to the adoption. Cllr Crichton is chasing the matter with a representative. He feels some movement may finally be happening. The Chairman suggested that a meeting with HBC, WCC and the parish council be arranged including Dawn Adey. The commuted sum lasting 20 years plus requires discussion.

An update was given regarding Proxima Park, Cllr Crichton had been given contact details for whoever is now managing the park. The park has not yet been completed. The swift tower has not been installed and the contractors, Archeology had not yet been paid. **NOTED.**

Cllr Price wished to mention that a management company is charging for areas that WCC are currently maintaining. Cllr Price was asked to provide the clerk with the information in writing. **NOTED.**

Cllr Crichton wanted to follow up previous correspondence to a management company. The clerk was asked to chase this and report back. **NOTED.**

The Chairman suggested concerns be put forward to the council's legal department. **NOTED.**

The Chairman wished to thank members for their attendance and support as this was the last meeting of the municipal year before the election.

The meeting closed at 8:41pm.

The next meeting of the Amenities Committee is scheduled for Thursday 18th May 2023 starting at 7.30pm.