

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF NEWLANDS

MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14th MARCH 2024 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 P Bennett (P)

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

091/24A Apologies: Apologies received from Cllr Kirby,

092/24A Declarations of Interest: The Chairman declared an interest as he is a Ward member for Winchester City Council, Cllr Bennett declared an interest as she is Chair of the Community Group and Cllr Kirby declared an interest as he is Chair of the WACA board of Trustees.

093/24A Previous Minutes and matters arising: The minutes from the Amenities Committee Meeting held on 1st February 2024 were received. **A couple of typo errors were pointed out, upon this correction, it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.**

094/24A Warden's Report: The Warden gave a verbal report. He spoke about the work that Goddard's are carrying out at Newlands Walk. This work is still on-going. They've carried out a cut of the site, some of this has been carried out manually as vehicles could not get on-site. They've cleared some of the SUDS system and removed a vast amount of green shrub tubes, they have been unable to get to some of the tubes as some are inaccessible. They are also dealing with and putting right some of the incidents of vandalism in the area. They plan to come back later when the water is at a more appropriate level to deal with the issues.

Regarding the compound, work to complete the marked pathway is now complete. The units now require some furniture and plumbing work to the toilets which cannot be used yet. Nurture have asked if they can share the toilets or takeover the hire if the council do not use them. This matter had previously been discussed, Cllr Berry stated that it is a health and safety requirement that the toilets are available for staff working at the compound to have access to the toilets. It had also been agreed that shared costs be determined if Nurture plan to share and to have a formal agreement with them. **NOTED.** Cllr Bennett is concerned about the level of the cut to areas within Newlands Walk, she felt that this may have disturbed dormice, deer etc. WCC will be contacted with regards to this. Cllr Price mentioned that a lock is required to the man gate to Newlands Walk. **NOTED.** Cllr Crichton stated that the public footpath is in the wrong place and requires a footpath diversion, to be realigned to the greenway. The Warden will contact the Rights of Way officer at HCC about this.

The Warden had also received quotes for fencing which may be placed around the play park in Newlands Walk. This item is dealt with further later on in the minutes.

He went on to report vandalism which had occurred at Town Park, to the MUGA. He taken photos and sent on to Grainger, who were now sourcing replacement parts to rectify the problem. He went on to speak about the reports he'd been receiving regarding litter and abandoned shopping trolleys in the development. For each item, he'll pass this on to Grainger, he stated that he asks residents to let him know if the problem is still on-going

as he'll chase with Grainger or the appropriate body if needs be. It was queried whether an arrangement could be made to place litter etc. in the compound and then ask Nurture to deal with it. The Warden stated he will ask Grainger about this. **NOTED.**

- 095/24A Grainger Meeting: A verbal update was given. Two new members of staff are due to start work, week commencing 18th March 2024. They both have been spoken highly about. The community development manager has experience of working with Eastleigh council. Current plans are that there will be someone available in the office every day. **NOTED.** It had been determined that the district centre is now overdue, this will be included in the plans for area 6A of the development. Cllr Bennett mentioned a recent high court judgement case, developers had been ordered to freeze housebuilding until community facilities had been built. The plans for the health centre to be part of this area are being revised and a slightly smaller facility may be provided. Any updates will be passed on as and when available. **NOTED.**
- 096/24A Public Session: Members of the public were present. A transcript of the business transacted is appended to these minutes.
- 097/24A Correspondence: Correspondence had been received from the RFO. He had been in contact with a supplier who is able to provide equipment for recording council meetings. A rough cost was given. The clerk asked if this was something councillors would like to consider? The general feel was, yes as this will help the council be as transparent as possible. Currently the West of Waterlooville forum is shown live and available on YouTube. It was suggested that the matter be considered by the Finance and Personnel committee. **NOTED.**
- 098/24A Adoption of Open Space: The Chairman gave a verbal report. Work is still on-going regarding the parish council receiving and taking on some of the open space land in Wellington Park. The adoption of the play-area is separate to the main adoption, this is also being chased. The play area is now open and available for use following the fire last June. One item of equipment is waiting for a replacement part. The Chairman stated that he was not happy with progress regarding having this area sorted as the remedial work took so long to complete. The section 104 agreement work is still on-going.
- 099/24A Community Hall: An update was provided regarding the lease. It is now as complete and has been signed as far as possible. The clerk is due to have a solicitor witness her signature and that completes the process. **NOTED.** It was pointed out that the markers in the car-park are in the wrong place. Additional signage is required and Grainger have this in hand. **NOTED.**
- 100/24A Events: Cllr Bennett had circulated the list of suggested events that she and the community group had identified. She'd asked for any feedback. The clerk was asked to recirculate and to encourage members to respond and to bring back the matter for further discussion. Flag-flying dates also need determining. The flag will be raised to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. HALC have produced a commemorative flag that the council may wish to consider purchasing. **NOTED.** There is an official list which can be consulted on GOV.UK website. The Chairman also suggested that the council consider flying the flag to commemorate the Battle of Waterloo. **NOTED.**
- 101/24A Fencing around play park in the Newlands Walk Play Area: The Warden had gained 3 quotes for the fencing and these had been circulated. They all vary. It was suggested that metal fencing be used with no corners. It may be difficult to ensure no corners with the metal option. As the Parish council still do not own the land, an agreement can only be

made in principle. WCC could be contacted to ask for their thoughts regarding installing the fencing prior to adoption. It was asked if the Warden could ensure that the quotes received are valid for 6 months. **NOTED.**

102/24A Amenities Storage/Office Facility: As previously mentioned a plumber is required to connect the toilets within the compound to the water supply. The query regarding sharing the facility with Nurture will need to be considered by Full Council once costings have been sourced. The office area will be supplied with a wi-fi connection. Cllr Price has carried out some tests and believes it will be possible to supply both the community hall and the compound office area with a hub and extenders. The matter will be considered further at the next Finance and personnel committee meeting. **NOTED.**

103/24A Other Reports: The Waterlooville regeneration project currently is going on with an event/expedition in the old Game shop in the Town centre. Councillors were urged to go along and put any views they may have forward.

Hampshire County Council have an online survey regarding the cut-backs and money saving initiatives they are trying. All are encouraged to go online and submit views regarding this. Residents should also be made aware of this. **NOTED.**

The meeting closed at 8:32pm.

The next meeting of the Amenities Committee will be held on 25th April 2024.

Please note minutes of meetings are published as soon as possible on the website to help residents. However, they do not become the formal record of the meeting until agreed or otherwise at the next meeting. Therefore, you should always check to see whether any amendments have been made.

Public Participation:

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The first member of the public spoke regarding receiving an update about the bin and the baby-changing unit which had been requested. This matter was spoken about at the recent Grainger meeting. Grainger have the matter in hand, they currently are not very happy with the maintenance works contractor and this may hold this up. The Warden reported that Grainger are unlikely to install a bin with a cigarette bin as they believe this will encourage smoking, which is not permitted anywhere within the grounds of the community hall.

The second member of the public wished to attend this meeting to introduce himself. His name is Ian Hurry and he is the Chair of the Berewood Panthers football teams. He is hoping that in the future the Panthers can use the new Pavilion within the MDA as their homebase. There are currently 300 children on the list for the Panther's. Having a football pitch area is greatly sought after. The readiness of the Pavilion is still uncertain. Planning approval is still awaited. The Panther's currently use the Admiral Lord Nelson School in Portsmouth and have occasionally been able to use Havant and Waterlooville football club for training. They really would like a more local base. Plans for the Pavilion are that it will include a football/cricket pitch. The football club have expressed interest several times in the past, the clerk has these requests on record. As soon as the Parish council has more information regarding the readiness of the pavilion etc., they will be in touch with Mr. Hurry. Thanks were given to Mr. Hurry for bringing the matter to the attention of the council. **NOTED.**

The next member of the public wished to query the role of the Amenities parish Warden. He stated that he had looked at other Parish Warden job roles and he felt that the Warden does not currently perform similar tasks as outlined in these job descriptions. The Warden answered this query personally, stating that his role is currently an exception as the council still do not have ownership of any land. He does however pass on any issues to the appropriate party, which is all he can do for the time-being. The Chairman stated that the Parish council had anticipated receiving and owning and maintaining some of the land in the development by now. This should have happened years ago on the Wellington Park/WCC side of the Parish. This issue is unfortunately still on-going. A legal change has been required to enable the Parish Council, who were newly formed and established during this time to take on the responsibility. He went on to speak about the impact having a new 151 monitoring officer in place who needs to become familiar with what has happened etc. he continues to chase.

It was mentioned that Grainger are planning to hold surgeries for residents in the future. This will be extremely useful for residents who wish to raise matters directly with the developer. Members of the council will also be in attendance. It is hoped that these may start to take place in 2/3 month's time. **NOTED.**

pm.

The next meeting of the Amenities Committee is scheduled for Thursday 25th April 2024 starting at 7.30pm.

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