

## THE PARISH COUNCIL OF NEWLANDS

### MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024 AT NEWLANDS COMMUNITY HALL, NEWLANDS AVENUE, WATERLOOVILLE, HAMPSHIRE, PO7 3BX COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

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

Also present, Cllr D Crichton - Chairman of the council, Cllr A Berry who stood in for Cllr Bennett and Karen Seear - Clerk to the Council.

107/24A Apologies: Apologies received from Cllr Bennett.

108/24A Declarations of Interest: The Chairman declared an interest as he is a Ward member for Winchester City Council, Cllr Kirby declared an interest as he is Chair of the WACA board of Trustees and Cllr Berry declared an interest as the liaison officer for Newlands community group.

109/24A Public Participation: Two members of the public, were present. They did not participate during the public session.

110/24A Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising: Minutes from the previous meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 were previously circulated. **It was RESOLVED by all those present at that meeting that these were a true record of the business that transacted. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.**

111/24A Wardens Report: The Warden had submitted a written report to all members of the committee. He mentioned an additional item of work which is required to the office/compound area. The estimate for these works is to go to the Finance committee for approval. **NOTED.** The quote should be valid for 30 days to ensure it can be dealt with at both council meetings. The Warden was asked to gain full costings, as not all work was quoted for. It was suggested that Grainger be asked for any assistance with having the trench work carried out. Cllr Berry queried whether the work to fix the gate had been carried out, if not could Grainger be reminded. Do Nurture still wish to share the compound toilets? If so their proportion of the cost is to be worked out. **NOTED.**

112/24A Correspondence: There were no outstanding items of correspondence for this committee.

113/24A Adoption of Open Space: A special Amenities meeting had been held last week to discuss WCC's offer of a partial adoption of one space land, including the play park. The Chairman reported that on the WCC side, the matter is on-going and has been passed to the legal team at WCC. Regarding adoption on the Berewood side of the development, Grainger had sent a PDQ document to be completed. It was asked who should fill this in? The Chairman noted that on page 3 of the document there is some very useful information. There were questions over calculations. It is thought that a lot of the space to be received will depend on WCC agreeing to certain aspects. Cllr Carden has been asked to check the section 106 agreement, as there are aspects of the agreement which he believes may affect the need for completing the document. It was suggested that WCC legal team be asked for advice. It was suggested that responses to the form be completed in readiness to send to Grainger, the clerk was asked to do this and then circulate the responses. At present Newlands Parish Council are an indirect party to the agreement, as

the deed of variation is still not complete and is held up with WCC's planning team. It was suggested that clarification of what should be offered to who, sought. Grainger have issued a deadline of June 2024 for the document. If the council cannot complete this in time, how will this reflect on the council? The Chairman suggested the form is complete as far as possible, subject to legal reasoning. Cllr Berry suggested setting up a sub-committee to handle items relating to open space transfer. He thought that both the Amenities Committee and Highways and GP committee should work closely, in order to be prepared. (Membership of committees etc. may change next month). The answers to the draft of the questionnaire are to be circulated prior to the next Full Council meeting and then finalized at the next Amenities committee. The clerk stated that she has asked HALC for guidance on this matter. **NOTED.**

114/24A Grainger Bi-Monthly meeting: A meeting is due on June 11<sup>th</sup> 2024. **NOTED.**

115/24A Community Hall: It was noted that some of the blinds in the hall are already becoming damaged, this seems to be an on-going problem. It was asked whether the new caretaker could attend more regularly and if he may be able to monitor and maintain a record of issues. Cllr Kirby stated that it is tricky to monitor who is responsible for damages. The hearing loop, which had previously been discussed was mentioned. It was believed that Cllr Bennett was going to report back to council with costings, after she had found out some more information about the loop they use at Wellington Vale, care home. **NOTED.** Cllr Kirby pointed out that the doors to the community hall have a design flaw. It was suggested that WACA write to the council, stating the problems at the hall, this information will then be passed on to Grainger. Cllr Berry queried whether hall hirers have been made aware that their bookings will be cancelled when the hall is booked out for use as a polling station? It was asked if the paper on accessibility of the hall could be re-circulated. **NOTED.**

116/24A Events: As Cllr Bennett was not present, this item was deferred.

117/24A Fencing around play park in the Newlands Walk Play area: The council are currently waiting on agreement to take over the land from WCC. The Chairman stated that the items that the council have raised will be seen to by the contractors that the city council have engaged. At the present time, it is difficult to gain any further information as its the purdah period. Cllr Berry queried whether the missing pieces required to fix play equipment had been sourced? Another item of play equipment still had outstanding repairs required, and had been taped up. A photo was provided. Cllr Berry was asked to photograph any further items of concern and send to the clerk. This will then be passed on to WCC for action. It was also suggested that Cllr Brook may have some useful information regarding the play area. It was also asked for an update on the youth shelter which is being held by the manufacturer, HAGS. The clerk has tried on several occasions to get answers regarding this. She will continue to pursue. **NOTED.**

118/24A Amenities Storage/Office Facility: This item had been covered.

119/24A Other Reports: Cllr Berry mentioned that there had been reports of alcohol being consumed up at Town Park. The seat to the youth shelter had also damaged, Cllr Berry had reported this to Havant Borough Council but had been told there was nothing they could do. HBC have a bye-law stating that alcohol is not to be consumed in HBC owned areas, it is considered as anti-social behaviour, therefore HBC have a duty of care and should take action. The clerk was asked to write to HBC, including Grainger in the correspondence to inform them of the incidents. Cllr Berry suggested that Grainger install no alcohol consumption signs, Cllr Kirby thought perhaps best to hold off on the installation these, until enforcement can be used. **NOTED.**

The Chairman thanked all for their work during the last municipal year, thanks going especially to the Amenities Parish Warden who has worked over and above his job remit.

The meeting closed at 8:14pm.

The next meeting of the Amenities Committee will be held on 6th June 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.