

## Newick Parish Council

**Minutes** of the Annual Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7.00 p.m. on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at the Newick Community Centre, The Green, Newick

**Present:** Councillors, C. Armitage, B. Hodge (Chair), M. Hughes, P. Impey, C. Keenan, J. Kerr, D. Marchant, C. Wickens, O. Williams, B. Whitlock

**In Attendance:** Emma Reece (Clerk)  
Two members of public (including one person being considered for co-option)  
The meeting started at 7.00pm

1. **Election of Chairman and declaration of acceptance of office** – Cllr. Wickens proposed Cllr. Hodge as Chair of the Council. Cllr. Impey seconded this motion. The Councillors voted and Cllr. Hodge was unanimously voted as Chair. He signed a declaration of acceptance of the office of Chair.
2. **Election of Vice Chairman and declaration of acceptance of office** – Cllr. Wickens proposed Cllr. Armitage as Vice Chair of the Council. Cllr. Hodge seconded this motion. The Councillors voted and Cllr. Armitage was unanimously voted as Vice Chair. He signed a declaration of acceptance of the office of Vice Chair.
3. **Apologies for Absence** – It was noted that Cllr. Keenan will be joining later.
4. **To consider co-option of up to one applicant to fill Parish Councillor Vacancy**

Lawrence Mudford had put himself forward for co-option.

Cllrs. returned voting slips to the Clerk and the Clerk announced that Councillors had voted unanimously in favour of co-opting Lawrence Mudford.

Lawrence Mudford then signed the acceptance of office and joined the Councillors. The Clerk had advised Cllr. Mudford that he can abstain from any voting during the rest of the meeting if he felt that he didn't have the necessary background information. The Clerk also gave Cllr. Mudford a register of interests form and an agreement to receive a summons to attend meetings. She asked for both to be completed and returned to her.

5. **Disclosure by Members of personal interest in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct** – There were none.
6. **Exclusion of the Press and Public** – There were no items that needed to be excluded.
7. **Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – There were none.
8. **Approval of draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026** – These were accepted as a true and accurate record.
9. **Clerk's Report** – The Clerk's report had been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting and was noted accordingly. This included;
  - Village Hall defibrillator
  - Annual leave
  - Works by Paul Antrobus and Barcombe Landscapes
  - CCTV improvements at the Playing Fields
  - A thank you from Chailey and Newick Painting Group for a grant

10. **Report by Clerk on any action taken under Delegated Powers in consultation with Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman** – It was reported that replacement defibrillator pads, labelling and a shredder have been ordered in consultation with the Chair.
11. **Appointment of Committees (inc appointment of Chair for F&GP), Working Groups, Representatives to External Organisations and responsibility for dealing with consultations**

It was agreed to disband the Finance and General Purposes Committee and instead to appoint a lead Councillor for finance. It was agreed Cllr. Marchant would be lead Councillor.

Environment committee - it was agreed to disband this Committee as there are no major projects and working parties can be created in the future.

The Planning Committee was discussed and Cllr. Wickens stated she is happy to be Chair of Planning for three months whilst another Councillor is trained up. Cllr. Mudford stated that whilst new he was happy to work with Councillor Wickens on this. All in favour.

#### **Committee List and SPOC 2026/27**

<b>Planning committee</b>	
Chair of the Planning Committee	Cllr. Wickens
Cllr. Mudford Cllr. Armitage Cllr. Hughes Cllr. Kerr	

#### **Working party for Newick Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr. Wickens stated that she felt that there would need to be an update to the Neighbourhood Plan and the advantages and disadvantages of this was discussed. Cllr. Wickens proposed nothing for three month, establish a working group, all in favour. Cllrs. Wickens, Williams, Whitlock, Kerr, Hughes, Keenan, and Mudford would form the working group.

The following was agreed for Sport Pavilion - Councillors Hodge and the Clerk

The following was agreed for consultations;

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Lead Councillor</b>
Lewes District Council	Planning Applications	Cathy Wickens
	Strategic Planning matters (including Core Strategy)	Cathy Wickens
	Trees	PC Tree Officer (Cathy Wickens)
	Housing policy	Cathy Wickens
	Refuse & Recycling	David Marchant
	Parks & Gardens	David Marchant
	LDC Plan	Cathy Wickens
	Temporary Street Closures	Chris Armitage
	Polling Districts & Polling Places	Chris Armitage
	Antisocial behaviour policy	Chris Armitage
	Other Councils' Neighbourhood Plans	Cathy Wickens

	Public Spaces Protection Orders	Peter Impey
East Sussex County Council	Adult Social Care	Brian Hodge
	Education	Lawrence
	Public Transport	Chris Armitage
	Library Service	Brian Hodge
	Waste and minerals plan	Jacqueline Kerr
	Highways	Strengthening Local Relations CA BH
	Public Rights of Way/ Countryside Access	Cathy Wickens
	East Sussex Pension Fund	Brian Hodge
Sussex Police	Neighbourhood Policing	Brian Hodge
East Sussex Fire & Rescue	Fire & Rescue Plans	Jacqueline Kerr
Government Agencies	Local Government Boundary Commission	Brian Hodge
	Environment Agency Flood Risk Management	Peter Impey
	Community Transport	Chris Armitage
National Association of Local Councils	Various issues concerning local councils	Chairman
ESALC	Various issues concerning local councils including voting rights	Brian Hodge
LDALC	Association of Lewes Councils	Chris Armitage
Village Hall Management Committee	Including voting rights	Bronja Whitlock

12. **Approval of dates, times and venue of meetings of the full Council, the Annual Parish Meeting and Committees** – These were circulated before the meeting, and these were agreed. It was agreed that the format of the Annual Meeting of the Parish would be discussed nearer the time of the meeting.
13. **Review and adoption of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations** – These were agreed and adopted.
14. **To review Code of Conduct** – This was reviewed and adopted.
15. **Review of press and media policy** – this was reviewed and adopted.
16. **Planning**  
**16.1 Applications:**

LW/26/0112	<b>23 Western Road Newick East Sussex BN8 4LE</b> Installation of greenhouse onto existing patio of rear garden  It was unanimously agreed to make <i>no comment</i>
LW/26/0117	<b>Land Adjacent To Honeysuckle Cottage Station Road North Chailey</b>

	<p>Approval of reserved matters application for details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale relating to outline approval LW/23/0596 for the outline application, with all matters other than access arrangements reserved, for the erection of up to 2no. dwellings, access, landscaping, and associated infrastructure</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed to <b>object</b> to this application for the same reasons as NPC objected in the original outline application previously.</p>
<b>LW/26/0120</b>	<p><b>15 Holly Lane Newick East Sussex BN8 4FX</b> S73a retrospective application for garden outbuilding</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed to make <b>no comment</b></p>
<b>LW/26/0121</b>	<p><b>20 Leveller Road Newick East Sussex BN8 4PL</b> Replacement and extension of existing fence adjacent to footpath till south east corner of the house</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed to make <b>no comment</b></p> <p><i>One member of the public left at 7.44pm</i></p>
<b>LW/26/0134</b>	<p><b>89 Allington Road Newick East Sussex BN8 4ND</b> Variation of Condition 1 (Plans) in relation to approval LW/23/0716 to amend the dwelling design, materials, fenestration and elevational treatment</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed to make <b>no comment</b></p>
<b>LW/26/0147</b>	<p><b>Quineys Cornwell's Bank Newick East Sussex BN8 4SD</b> Hip to gable roof extension with loft conversion into habitable space, alterations to fenestration to existing detached house, conversion of the existing shed into garage and additional accommodation</p> <p><i>Cllr. Keenan joined the meeting at 7.48pm</i></p> <p>It was agreed to make <b>no comment</b></p>
<b>LW/26/0153 and 0154</b>	<p><b>The Bull Inn 24 The Green Newick East Sussex BN8 4LA</b> Display of 3 no. illuminated signs and 2 no. non-illuminated signs</p> <p>Councillors agreed that they do not feel qualified to comment on a significant building in The Green conservation area and asked the Conservation Officer to look at this application carefully. Newick Parish Council does have a dark skies policy and suggest that downlighters rather than uplighters are more appropriate. If Lewes District Council permit this application, then it was requested that lights are switched off whilst the pub is closed.</p>

**16.2 Approvals, refusals and trees** including result of Allington Road appeal (original case number LW/24/0217)

It was noted that the following planning applications have been approved by Lewes District Council:  
LW/26/0082 | Demolition of detached garage and erection of a single-storey outbuilding to form an Artist Studio | 25 Western Road Newick East Sussex BN8 4LE

It was noted that the following planning applications have been refused by Lewes District Council:

LW/26/0142 | Prior Notification under The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Schedule 2, Part 1, Class A for a single storey rear extension to measure 4.0m total length, 2.25m eaves height and 2.5m total height | 4 Godden Road Newick East Sussex BN8 4NE

LW/25/0148 | Phased outline development for up to 250 new homes (including 40% affordable), access, landscaping, open space and other associated infrastructure with all matters reserved except site access | Land At Goldbridge Farm Goldbridge Road Newick East Sussex BN8 4QP

It was noted that the following appeal have been approved by the Planning Inspectorate:

LW/24/0217 | Erection of 27 dwellings with access, roads, parking, open space, SuDs and associated infrastructure | Land To The South Of Allington Road Newick East Sussex

It was noted that the following tree applications have been approved by Lewes District Council:

TW/26/0020/TPO | T1 - Oak - Crown reduction by 2m to live secondary growth points - to ensure the tree is maintained to suit the enclosed surroundings, whilst carrying out sensitive works to ensure the longevity of the tree | 2 The Pagets Newick East Sussex BN8 4PW

TW/26/0019/TPO | T1 - Beech - dead wood and crown lift to the height of 7m, reduce end weight of the bottom long lateral branches by removing lowest branches towards shed and pendulous branches entangled in understory - for general maintenance | 34A Allington Road Newick East Sussex BN8 4NB

**16.3 To consider response to appeal APP/P1425/6008050** for detached dwelling with associated parking provision 99 Allington Road, Newick, East Sussex, BN8 4NH (deadline 28<sup>th</sup> May) – agreed Cllr. Wickens and Mudford would write a response.

**17. Financial Matters:**

**17.1 To authorise Schedule of Payments for May 2026**

It was agreed that Cllrs. Impey and Hodge would authorise the following payments:

Time: 11:39

Unity Trust Bank

**List of Payments made between 01/05/2026 and 31/05/2026**

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
31/05/2026	East Sussex Pension Fund	136961117	735.22		Pension
31/05/2026	Emma Reece	919503085	2,240.97		Clerk
31/05/2026	HM Revenue & Customs	222102537	939.21		NI PAYE
31/05/2026	Paul Antrobus	566650758	72.00		Flagpoles
31/05/2026	Paul Antrobus	902038256	675.00		Handyman
31/05/2026	Unity Trust	BANK CHG	9.70		Bank Charge
31/05/2026	Chailey and Newick Painting Gr	531392648	200.00		Grant
31/05/2026	Lewes District Council	3729726029	18.00		Play inspection
31/05/2026	ESALC Limited	847863139	950.11		Subscription
31/05/2026	Protect Our Place Ltd	257199194	300.00		Protect Our Place Ltd
31/05/2026	Qik Group Ltd	328339405	423.00		Bonfire portaloos
31/05/2026	East Sussex ALC Ltd	565769672	96.00		Planning training
<b>Total Payments</b>			<b>6,659.21</b>		

**17.2 To receive statement of performance against budget as at end April 2026** – This was received and noted

**17.3 Contingent Liability – members to advise Clerk of any contingent liability of which they are aware** – There were no items of contingent liability that Councillors were aware of.

**17.4 To review risk management scheme and register** – Cllr. Impey agreed to look at this and present some amendments in the next meeting.

**17.5 To review Scheme of Delegation under section 101 of Local Government Act 1972** – This was reviewed and adopted.

**17.6 To consider quotations received (if received)** – There were none.

**17.7 To consider grant applications received (S. 137 LGA 1972)** – There were none.

**18. To note Village Hall annual report for 2025** – This was noted. Cllr. Whitlock stated that the VHMC are looking at completing some repairs to the stage area.

**19. To discuss concerns over Newick Hill/High Street junction** – Cllr. Keenan talked about concerns about safety following the serious accident on this junction. She stated there were two accidents in 6 days both needing air ambulance. Cllr. Williams noted that angle of this junction and the hedge made it difficult to see clearly. Cllr. Hodge stated the length of car bonnets mean it can be difficult to see what is coming when pulling out of junctions. It was noted that highways sometimes leave temporary signs which blocks the view. Cllr. Keenan asked what can be done to mitigate accidents? Stating she has received approximately 50 emails already about road safety. It was agreed that David Wickens from Speedwatch would attend the Parish Council meeting next month. Cllr. Keenan stated that she feels Highways need to do more. Cllr. Wickens shared an idea about a 'tidy towns' policy. It was agreed that Cllr. Hodge would write a formal letter on behalf of the Parish Council to Cllr. Keenan (in her capacity as newly elected County Councillor) about road safety concerns.

**20. Newick Sports Pavilion** – Cllr. Hodge stated that the Parish Council is still waiting for the final building regulations sign off for the storage buildings and that George Pottinger has been chased for the outstanding quotes for this work.

**21. Permissions and consultations;**

**21.1 To consider request from Newick Cricket Club's groundsman regarding storage of roller** – Clerk gave overview of the request to store the roller outside of the store room during the season. Cllr. Williams stated that the roller blocks access to larger equipment. It was agreed that the roller can be stored outside of the shed (under the mobile nets) until the end of July.

*Cllr. Armitage left at 8.33pm*

**22. Items for next agenda**

- Risk Management
- Road safety

*The meeting closed at 8.34pm*

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

Mrs E Reece, Clerk to the Council  
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