

Newick Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Newick Parish Council held at 7pm on Monday 8th June 2026 at the Newick Community Centre, The Green, Newick

Present: Councillors, B. Hodge (Chair), M. Hughes, C. Keenan, D. Marchant, L. Mudford, B. Whitlock, C Wickens, O Williams.

In Attendance: Emma Reece (Clerk)
A recording was made of the meeting for the purposes of minute taking
Two members of the public

The meeting started at 7.00pm

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Apologies had been received from Cllrs. Armitage, Impey and Kerr.
2. **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** – Cllr. Keenan declared an interest in the Rock House planning application as a close neighbour.
3. **Exclusion of the Press and Public** – none.
4. **Questions or Statements by Members of the Public** – There was one member of the public to talk about his planning application with his partner. He stated they have recently bought a corner plot house in Leveller Road and was here if there were any questions.
5. **Report from Lewes District Councillor and East Sussex County Councillor Charlotte Keenan** – Cllr. Keenan sent two reports prior to the meeting which were circulated.

Her District Council update included Local Government Reorganisation and concern about the Government's proposed planning reforms. This includes changes that would allow more planning decisions to be made by officers rather than elected councillors.

Cllr. Wickens asked about whether the Parish Council should put in a statement. Cllr. Keenan replied that yes she felt that was a good idea as we may be losing our local voice.

A Member of the Public joined the meeting at 7.03pm

Cllr. Keenan's County Council update:

A272/Newick Hill junction - request for an urgent safety review and raising concerns that many residents have shared regarding visibility, parking, speeding traffic, and pedestrian safety. The County Council's response included:

- *The junction is not currently included in the County Council's Casualty Reduction Programme and has not been identified as a priority site for improvement under the current assessment criteria.*
- *A recent site visit found that vegetation is not currently affecting visibility at the junction, although concerns remain about vehicles parking on the verge close to the junction.*
- *Highways have suggested that residents and/or the Parish Council may wish to request an extension to the existing parking restrictions. They have also confirmed that double yellow line restrictions apply to the verge as well as the road itself. We can seek assistance from the Parking Services team on this matter.*

- Concerns about speeding have been acknowledged. Highways have agreed to discuss Western Road, High Street and Newick Hill with Sussex Police to consider whether additional enforcement measures may be appropriate, including targeted police visits or mobile speed camera enforcement.

- The Council continues to encourage residents to report speeding and dangerous driving through Operation Crackdown and to support Community Speed Watch initiatives. I am happy to provide further information on the process and best practice.

- Highways will also discuss the current school bus stopping arrangements with the school following concerns raised locally. They have confirmed that the bus stop will not be removed for regular users.

- Both the Newick Hill junction and the pavement by the bus stop opposite the village hall will continue to be monitored by Highways. Letters have also been sent to the relevant landowner regarding hedge maintenance.

Cllr. Keenen reported she has requested a comprehensive road safety profile for the Chailey Division. I have also made a similar request to the team responsible for responding to planning applications, seeking information on how road safety considerations are assessed and incorporated into the planning process.

6. **Report from Member of Parliament Mims Davies** – the Member of Parliament sent a report which was distributed prior to the meeting. This included the Pub Hero award, SEND consultation and concerns about flies. The full report will be published in the next Parish Council newsletter.

7. **Approval of draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 11th May 2026** – These were considered and approved.

8. **Planning:**

8.1 Applications:

LW/26/0140	99 Allington Road Newick East Sussex BN8 4NH Erection of 1no. attached dwelling with associated parking provision It was unanimously agreed to make no comment
LW/26/0249	4 Godden Road Newick Householder Planning Permission - Removal and replacement of existing conservatory with single storey flat roof rear extension, alterations to side fenestration and addition of porch roof for M Cahill It was noted that this property has been referred to enforcement as they have started building works without consent. It was unanimously agreed to object on the grounds of a restrictive covenant removing permitted development rights in Godden Road.
LW/26/0276	34 Leveller Road Newick East Sussex BN8 4PL Two storey side extension It was unanimously agreed to make no comment
LW/26/0280	Rock House Tilehouse Lane Newick East Sussex BN8 4RD

	Prior notification for use of land as a 60-day campsite between the following dates: May 29-31, July 21-27 and August 27-28 It was unanimously agreed to make <i>no comment</i>
--	--

Cllr. Wickens stated that the appeal system has changed and that the portal doesn't allow you to upload images, maps etc. In the future if NPC wish to include these graphics then they will need to send a hard copy via trackable delivery with Royal Mail being mindful of the submission deadline and post delivery times.

8.2 Approvals/Refusals:

It was noted that the following had been approved by Lewes District Council:

Non-material amendment relating to approval LW/19/0911 - Change the driveway surface from Cotswold buff chippings with Eco-grid to Drivesett Tegula Priora permeable block paving in Pennant Grey - Allowed under appeal APP/P1425/W/20/3253947

92 Allington Road Newick East Sussex BN8 4ND

Ref. No: LW/26/0226

Display of 3 no. illuminated signs and 2 no. non-illuminated signs

The Bull Inn 24 The Green Newick East Sussex BN8 4LA

Ref. No: LW/26/0153 and 154

S73a retrospective application for garden outbuilding

15 Holly Lane Newick East Sussex BN8 4FX

Ref. No: LW/26/0120

Replacement and extension of existing fence adjacent to footpath until south east corner of the house

20 Leveller Road Newick East Sussex BN8 4PL

Ref. No: LW/26/0121

Installation of greenhouse onto existing patio of rear garden

23 Western Road Newick East Sussex BN8 4LE

Ref. No: LW/26/0112

Application for non-material amendment of application APP/P1425/W/22/3300813 (refused app LW/21/0700) to add a window to the first floor and ground floor elevations and repositioning of 3 external parking bays

Land At The Telephone Exchange Goldbridge Road Newick East Sussex

Ref. No: LW/25/0412

8.3 Tree Works Applications –

It was noted that there were no approvals or refusals by Lewes District Council.

9. **Clerk's Report** – To note report from Clerk. A report had been circulated and included the following:

- Playground repair/refresh quotes
- LDC assets

10. **Report by Clerk on any action taken under Delegated Powers in consultation with Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman** – The Clerk reported that she has granted permission to Newick and Chailey Colts to hold a football tournament on the 5th July. She also reported that she has instructed Treewise to dispose of two large branches which fell in windy conditions and to inspect the tree for safety.

One member of the public left the meeting

11. **Financial Matters:**

11.1 To authorise Schedule of Payments for June 2026 - It was agreed that Cllrs. Hodge and Marchant or Armitage would authorise the following payments:

List of Payments made between 01/06/2026 and 30/06/2026

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
30/06/2026	Lewes District Association	656058511	20.00		Subs
30/06/2026	Mulberry Local Authority Servi	271399781	175.50		Mulberry Local Authority Servi
30/06/2026	East Sussex Pension Fund	27077327	735.22		Pension
30/06/2026	HM Revenue & Customs	519131584	939.21		NI & PAYE
30/06/2026	Emma Reece	102909740	2,240.97		Clerk
30/06/2026	Paul Antrobus	591386981	495.00		Handyman
30/06/2026	Two Build (Sussex) Limited	464957165	6,905.47		Retention payment
Total Payments			11,511.37		

11.2 To receive statement of performance against budget as at end of May 2026 – this was noted.

11.3 To receive report from internal auditor – this was noted.

11.4 To consider and approve the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 (Section 1 Annual Return) – this was considered and approved.

11.5 To consider and approve Accounting Statements 2025/26 (Section 2 of Annual Return) – this was considered and approved.

11.6 To confirm dates on Notice of Electors rights – this was noted as commencing on Wednesday 10 June 2026 and ending on (d) Tuesday 21 July 2026.

11.7 To ensure that the Governance and Accounting Statements, once approved, have been signed and dated by the Chairman – these were signed by Cllr. Hodge.

11.8 To review effectiveness of internal audit – this was reviewed and it was agreed that the internal audit was effective.

11.9 To confirm internal auditor for 2026/27 financial year and confirm independence of internal audit – Mulberry and Co were appointed for the next three years. Their independence was discussed and it was agreed that they had full and complete independence from Newick Parish Council.

11.10 To review Data Audit completed June 2026 – this was considered and agreed.

11.11 To review CCTV policy – this was considered with a proposed amendment from Cllr. Hodge and agreed.

11.12 To review Tree Policy – this was considered and agreed. Cllr. Wickens noted that she felt the tree officer does not have to be a councillor.

11.13 To review Signs on The Green Policy – this was considered and agreed.

11.14 To review Recording of Meetings Policy – this was considered and agreed.

11.15 To review Data Protection Policy – this was considered and agreed.

11.16 To consider any quotations received – the quote for £1500 exc VAT for building regulation work on the storage sheds at KGVPF by Two Build was agreed.

11.17 To consider grant applications received (S. 137 LGA 1972) – there were none.

11.18 To consider revisions to Risk Management document – Cllr. Impey was not present, but his suggestions had been circulated to the Councillors, and these were discussed and it was agreed that these modifications will be reviewed.

- 12. Newick Sports Pavilion** – Cllr. Hodge reported that snagging has been completed and the showers have been repaired. If they start leaking again then the plumber will replace shower valve. He confirmed that on Thursday that some of the sheds will be boarded to meet building regulation requirements.
- 13. Report from Cllr. B Whitlock on Village Hall Management Committee** – Cllr. Whitlock stated that she didn't attend the VHMC but shared that the backstage toilets have been closed off and need work.
- 14. To agree content of the next edition of the Parish Council Newsletter (deadline 28th June)** – a content list was circulated, and this was agreed.
- 15. To discuss road safety concerns in Newick** – Cllr. Hodge stated that he has written and sent a letter to our County Councillor as agreed last meeting.
- 16. To note the procedure for unauthorised traveller encampments in the Parish** - the Clerk outlined the procedure including email address for contact. Cllr. Hodge noted that some local cricket pitches had been affected by this issue. He noted that once unauthorised encampments move onto land it takes a while for the process to be seen through to removal.
- 17. Permissions and consultations:**
 - 17.1 Consultation on modified proposal for local government reorganisation** – It was agreed that the Clerk would see who submitted the last objection to Brighton merging with coastal area and that she would resubmit the same objection on behalf of the Parish Council.
 - 17.2 To consider request from NEASSA to install 1-2 memorial benches at the Playing Fields** – This was agreed.
- 18. Items for next agenda –**
None

The meeting closed at 7.56pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

Mrs E Reece, Clerk to the Council
newickpc@newick.net – 07521 511643