

NEWDIGATE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for Annual Parish Council Meeting

Held on Monday 16th May 2023 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Mr William Harmsworth (Chairman) Mr Peter Perdue, Mr John Sage,
Mr Richard Tyson-Davies.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Jackie Tyrrell (Clerk) plus 3 members of the public &
Cllr Lesley Bushnell

1. SIGNING OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE by ALL COUNCILLORS

Councillors present signed and submitted their Acceptance forms to the clerk.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN for 2023/24

William Harmsworth expressed his interest in continuing as Chair of the Council and this was proposed by PP, seconded by RTD and approved by all present.

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR for 2023/24

Phill Crutcher had expressed his interest prior to the meeting to continue as Vice-Chair of the Council and this was proposed by RTD, seconded by PP and approved by all present.

4. APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Phill Crutcher, Bill Kear, Sarah Macdonald

5. REGISTER OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

Councillors PP and RTD submitted their completed forms to the clerk. Councillors were reminded that they have a period of 28 days to complete and return to the clerk for submission to MVDC.

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on 11th April 2023 were agreed and approved by all present.

7. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Planning Committee – PC WH BK SM JS RTD

Finance Committee – PC WH BK JS RTD

8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Q1. Cllr Lesley Bushnell commented on the flooding in Kingsland. Investigations have been made with Surrey County Council and British Telecom but unfortunately, the source is unclear and could possibly be an underground stream.

9. CONSIDER CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS

William Harmsworth advised that we have two vacancies on the Parish Council following the Election on 4th May and warmly encouraged residents to consider joining. Anyone interested were invited to email the clerk who would be able to provide a New Councillor Pack full of information that would give him or her an insight into the role.

10. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT

Peter Perdue will be reporting to the PC on a monthly basis but this month's news had not been received.

11. CLERKS REPORT

- 11.1 The clerk circulated the training courses available to all Councillors on a variety of topics. William Harmsworth advised that he found the Chairman training course very useful and encouraged others to attend any topics of interest.
- 11.2 The next planning meeting will be held on Monday 5th June at 7.30pm.
- 11.3 Councillors discussed the change of start time for the Full Parish Council meetings and it was decided that this would revert to the later time of 8pm with immediate effect.

12. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION

- 12.1 A Kings Coronation gift was presented to all the children of Newdigate Primary School and nursery by Phill Crutcher on behalf of the Parish Council.
- 12.2 Councillors discussed community engagement and the possibility of setting up a Parish Council page on Facebook. Presently the PC submit an article to the Parish Magazine monthly and the website is updated with news and information on a regular basis. Other possible options include circulating information to residents by email and/or hold a monthly pop up clinic in the hall where visitors can drop in with any issues. This will be discussed further at the next Full Council meeting in June.
- 12.3 Information was circulated to all Councillors from Marc Slegg at Fingerpostsigns. These signs would enhance the village but costs were a concern by some councillors. The clerk will make further enquiries into funding that may be available.

13. FINANCE

- 13.1 The bank balance as of 16th May 2023 of £26,472.66 was approved and agreed by all present.
- 13.2 The following cheque payments were approved for payment:

PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
Zurich Municipal	Annual Insurance Premium	£404.12
HMRC	Clerk Tax April	£148.20
HMRC	Clerk Tax May	£148.20
Roland Allen	Email & Website support	£120.00
Trophiesplusmedals	Kings Coronation Gift – Primary & Nursery Children	£118.80
Clerk	Sundries for Coronation Gifts	£58.00
Mulberry & Co	Clerk Planning Training	£60.00
Mulberry & Co	Internal Audit Fee 2022/23	£180.00

- 13.3 Councillors reviewed and approved the Internal Audit carried out by Andy Beams from Mulberry & Co and approved.

- 13.4 It was noted that the Allotment Tenancy agreement will renew on 1st June and the clerk will arrange a visit to meet with the allotment holders as two residents are currently on the waiting list.

14. PLANNING

- 14.1 The Planning minutes from May 2023 who approved by all present and the declaration of interest noted from WH on planning application MO/2023/0510.
- 14.2 Planning applications received on 12th May 2023 were considered as follows:
MO/2023/0655 – to be considered at next planning meeting.

15. HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC CALMING

- 15.1 The speed watch team are out on a weekly basis (subject to the weather) at one of the four designated sites, 21 vehicles have been recorded as travelling over the permitted speed limit. Peter Perdue advised it is project EDWARD this week (Every day without a road death) whereby police monitor and check closely mobile use, speeding and wearing of seatbelts by motorists to reduce deaths on our roads. Reduction to reduce the speed to 30mph in both Broad Lane and the top of Parkgate Road are being pursued.
- 15.2 Although the three posts are now in place to position the VAS signs, a further site meeting is required to decide on the best way for these to be powered. Hopefully this will be in the next few weeks.

16. FOOTWAYS/ROW/BRIDLEWAYS

- 16.1 No update to report regarding the Brickworks.
- 16.2 No update to report regarding Trig Street progress.

17. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

Meeting ended 8.49pm

Chairman..... Dated.....