

**NETTLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A REMOTE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
1ST OCTOBER 2020 AT 7.30PM**

Members Present

Cllr David Meredith – Chairman
Cllr Jackie Bennett joined at 8.00pm
Cllr Anita Van-Hensbergen – Vice-chairman
Cllr Emily Salter

Also, in attendance – Mrs Michelle Rumble, 1 member of public

1. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Alison Green, Cllr David Thomas

2. **Declaration of pecuniary or personal interest in any item on the agenda**

Where any councillor has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (as defined in the Members' Code of Conduct) in any matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council, a committee, sub-committee or joint committee, they must withdraw from the meeting room during the whole of the consideration of that matter and must not participate in any vote on that matter unless a dispensation has been obtained from the Monitoring Officer.

Cllr Meredith declared an interest in item 14 Planning, as the planning application in question is next door to him and is also owned by a relation.

3. **Minutes last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd SEPTEMBER 2020 were reviewed, approved, and signed as a true and correct record, **RESOLVED** by all members present.

10.1 KGV Goal posts: This item was brought forward.

The meeting was adjourned to hear from a resident, Mr Jeff Goodyer, who attended to speak on behalf of residents in Bishops Close about the positioning of the goal posts adjacent to their properties.

Mr Goodyer stated that some of the boys are climbing over fences to get back their footballs which is causing damage, footballs are being lost and they are approaching neighbours to try and retrieve their balls. The frequency of this is variable, but during lockdown it was happening very frequently. Since the children have gone back to school, activity during the week is quieter, but it is still busy during the weekend.

There are concerns regarding the balls hitting residents and children visiting the residents' homes. Mr Goodyer had spoken to both residents and footballers, and it was thought that reorientating the pitch (so that the goals were at the top and bottom of the field) would not present a safety issue for those using the fitness equipment, as there was sufficient space. But it was acknowledged that this would involve considerable expenses, particularly if the protective netting was to be moved. This however was not a preferred option in the recent survey done by the parish council.

Cllr Meredith asked Mr Goodyer if he felt that some of the balls that were being kicked over the fence was accidental or intentional. Mr Goodyer felt that it could be a mixture of both but could not say for certain.

Mr Goodyer also mentioned the idea (put forward by one of his neighbours) that moving the goals closer to the existing netting might greatly reduce the accidental kicking of balls into the gardens in Bishops Close.

Mr Goodyer stated that he and another resident would be prepared to move the goal posts at their own cost, and they could possibly move the netting as well, but this would need more research. Cllr Meredith stated that they would be treated as a contractor so they would need Public Liability Insurance. Mr Goodyer confirmed that their companies had full insurance cover. Mr Goodyer would like to research the proposal more thoroughly.

A quotation had been received to expand the existing protective netting. However Mr Goodyer was not keen on this option. The Clerk would also seek a further quote from Maiford Fencing to make the netting behind the Goal posts higher and wider.

Cllr Meredith proposed, and it was **RESOLVED** by all members present that Mr Goodyer go ahead and research the option of moving the goal posts closer to the protective netting. Mr Goodyer will come back to the Parish Council at the next meeting in November. Mr Goodyer was thanked for attending the meeting of the Parish Council.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes and action points

New website

The Clerk reported that unfortunately Cantium had been unable to produce a website for the Parish Council, and the Clerk had sought one quote but will now seek a further two quotes.

Flood Warden

Cllr Meredith updated members that the Chairman of the Joint Parish Flood Group (JPFPG) had been in contact with the two potential Flood Wardens in Nettlestead and explained what the role entailed. The two new Flood wardens will be carrying out online training for this. It was hoped that they will then be able to formally accept the roles.

The Chairman of the JPFPG will also meet with Ken Gough from Yalding Parish Council and the Chairman also hoped to be attending this meeting.

5. Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Salter reported an attempt theft of a Motor vehicle along Maidstone Road.

6. Police report

PCSO Nicola Morris was not in attendance and no report had been received. However, it was confirmed that she had taken action in respect of cars parked on the pavement near to the junction of Bishops Close and Maidstone Road.

7. Chatterbox

Cllr Bennett was in attendance and gave her report. Cllr Bennett had spoken with the new owners of the Hop Pole and they are quite happy for Chatterbox to continue to take place there. It was noted that due to Covid 19 there will be no Father Christmas Sleigh this year.

8. Parish magazine

The Parish magazine had been distributed, and Dr Berty Van Hensbergen was thanked for the useful article about scamming.

9. Village hall

The Village Hall will remain closed and will only open when it is safe to do so.

10. KGV FIELD

Goal Nets

This has already been covered.

Grass cutting

The Field was looking good after having its most recent cut.

GM Contract

The Grounds Maintenance contract was up for renewal in 2021. This was discussed and it was RESOLVED by all members present that it was felt that the new specification will have 15 cuts instead of 19, with the addition of extra cuts if required. The Clerk will amend this and send it off to potential Grounds maintenance contractors.

Trees

The Clerk informed members that the trees on the Maidstone Road will be cut back on the weekend of the 10th October weather dependant.

11. CHURCHYARD

No update since the last meeting.

12. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

Footpaths

The Clerk reported the signs after the last meeting, but it was noted that they had not been repaired/replaced. The Clerk will chase this with KCC.

Report a Fault reference number 523310

Report a Fault reference number 523318

Highways

The Clerk was asked to contact the owner of Quince Cottage as their vegetation is overhanging the footpath making it difficult to walk pass.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

14. PLANNING

20/504312/FULL	2 Old Quarry Cottages, Gibbs Hill Nettlestead Erection of a single storey side and rear extension. It was RESOLVED by all members present to give a NO COMMENT
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DECISIONS MADE BY MBC

None

Planning Correspondence

The Clerk had circulated prior to the meeting the powers for Planning and that a Parish Council has the right to be Consulted and be notified and has an obligation to respond to Planning applications.

15. FINANCE

15.1 To note Budget monitoring report to October 2020

Noted by all members

15.2 To resolve that the cheques presented can be signed

RESOLVED by all members that the cheques are approved and will be signed at the end of the meeting.

NPC - Cheque List - October					
Cheque No	Gross	VAT	Nett	Supplier	Details
022122	£87.99	£4.19	£83.80	Eon	Street lighting energy - August
022123	£138.47	£2.99	£135.48	Mrs Michelle Rumble	Expenses
022124	£471.04	£78.51	£392.53	Capel Groundcare	GM Contract - September
022125	£175.00	£0.00	£175.00	Hadlum Design & Print	Parish magazine
022126	£240.00	£40.00	£200.00	PKF Littlejohn	External Audit fee
022127	£202.43	£33.74	£168.69	Streetlights	Contract 2 of 4
022128	£13.40	£0.00	£13.40	Mrs Michelle Rumble	Tax refund
022129	£59.99	£9.99	£50.00	Mrs Michelle Rumble	Office 365
S01001	£8.40	£1.40	£7.00	Sage Payroll	Payroll fee
DD1001	£554.67	£0.00	£554.67	Mrs Michelle Rumble	Salary - October
	£1,951.39	£170.82	£1,780.57		

15.3 External Audit Report

The Parish Council had received the External Audit report and its contents were noted. The Clerk will display the Notice Conclusion Audit on the website and Notice board.

16. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- KGV Field Goal nets - quotes
- Footpath signage
- Flood wardens
- Website
- GM Contract
- Budget
- Trees – Maidstone Road

17. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council meeting will be on the 5th November 2020 at 7.30pm - this will be a remote meeting of the Council

There being be no further business the meeting closed at 21.20pm