

Minutes of the Meeting of Newenden Parish Council held on 1 February
in the village hall at 7.00 pm

Present

Councillors

Mr A Nilsen (chairman)

Mr B Livesey

Mrs J Eldridge

Mrs R Edmonds

Clerk

Mr J Leeves

Members of the Public

None.

Apologies for Absence

1. Apologies were received from Councillor C Turnbull.

Declarations of interest

2. None.

Minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2010

3. It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting on 30 November having been circulated be signed as a correct record.

Matters arising from minutes of meeting on 30 November

4. Councillor Livesey asked the clerk if he had yet found out from the insurance company the cost of insuring the speed indication equipment that it was proposed to rent from Rolvenden Parish Council. The clerk said that he thought he had been in contact with the insurance company and had circulated an e-mail to Councillors before Christmas. The insurers had commented that the arrangement being proposed between Parish Councils was common and that the cost would be £30.00 to £40.00. There were two different areas to insure the equipment itself and public liability if the equipment were to cause an incident. The clerk agreed to check his records and find the e-mail.
5. It was agreed that the Council would rent the equipment in May when there would be more traffic on the roads. Councillor Livesey would contact Rolvenden Parish Council and ask how to operate the equipment and decide exactly where it should be located.

Public Adjournment

6. No members of the public were present.

Reports

Highways

7. The chairman reminded Councillors that a parish visit from Kent Highways had been arranged for 8 March at 10.30 am in the White Hart car park. The clerk asked Councillors to make a list of issues they wanted to raise and send it to him about a week before the meeting. At present there were the following problems: several large potholes, drainage a dangerous curbstone outside of Brook House and overhanging vegetation from Battery bank.

8. The chairman mentioned that Mr Gould in the village had a conveyance that established that ownership of part of Battery bank had been transferred to the County Council. The clerk remembered that he had contacted the County Council about ownership and been told that the landowner of Battery Bank was Mr Kenney. The clerk asked for a copy of the conveyance so that he could draw the County Council's attention to it and their responsibility to cut trees and bushes obscuring the vision of road users.

9. Councillor Edmonds reported that the large bag of salt at the end of Lossenham Lane had been moved by Mr Bourne to a more suitable location and stored in a barn. There had been a further accident at the junction with the Tenterden road outside of Little Frogs.

10. Councillors asked about the bus stop sign at the beginning of the Tenterden road. The clerk reminded them that he had written to the bus company Coastal coaches who had told him they did not own it and it was unused. Coastal coaches would not be concerned were it to be removed. Councillors accepted that the sign could be removed but they would have to ask for help to do so.

Planning

11. There had been no planning applications since the last meeting. Councillor Eldridge remarked that the sign advertising the kebab van had gone although the sign for Country Kids remained. It was agreed that Country Kids should be asked to remove the sign when the nursery was not in use.

Police matters

12. There were no specific police matters to report but Councillor Livesey said he would remind residents at the township meeting about the problem of theft of home heating oil from domestic storage tanks.

Drainage Lossenham Lane

13. Councillor Edmonds reported that there had been no further difficulties with drainage as the amount of run off was less in consequence of drier weather. Councillor Eldridge had tried to establish the position of drains, but reported that Southern Water charged for the supply of maps of drainage systems.

Clerk's Report

14. There was nothing to report. All routine correspondence was in the diplomatic bag.

Finance

Financial Statement for 1 February

15. It was resolved that the financial statement to 1 February be approved and a copy is attached to these minutes. A transfer of £500.00 from the deposit account would be necessary before the precept was received at the end of April. The clerk reminded Councillors that the concurrent functions grant for the coming year had been increased to around £600.00.

Accounts for payment.

16. The following accounts were approved for payment:

Kent Association of Local Councils	conference fee	£72.00
Mrs R Edmonds	petty cash litter picker's wages	£150.00

Appointment of internal auditor

17. The clerk reported that he had asked the clerk at Pluckley for the name of his internal auditor but had had no response. He had enquired from the clerk of Hawkhurst Parish Council who used an accountant in the village. The clerk was meeting with the clerk next week and would find out details.

Any other business

18. The chairman mentioned that he was considering another day of action when residents undertook minor tidying tasks around the village. A date would be arranged later.

Dates of next meetings

19. The next meeting of the Parish Council would be on 17 May (Annual Parish Council meeting) in the village hall. The Annual Parish meeting would be on 22 March in the village hall.

Chairman.....

Date.....