

4/17

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 18th APRIL 2017 IGHTHAM VILLAGE HALL AT 7.15pm

Present: Cllr Mike Holden (Acting Chairman), Cllr Sue Brierley, Cllr Cracknell, Cllr Edge-McKenna, Cllr Edwards, Cllr Mitchem, Cllr Willingham, The Parish Clerk, Cllr Harry Rayner and 5 members of public.

Cllr Holden asked members of public to raise any concerns at the beginning of the meeting. A member of public asked why the Parish Council had disregarded the wishes of residents by not rejecting the changes to footpath MR418. He gave some background information on the history and usage of the footpath and asked the Parish Council to reconsider their opinion. Cllr Holden said that the Parish Council had discussed the proposal at length at the last meeting and that his comments were noted.

Another resident asked whether the Parish Council could revisit the issue of speeding in Fen Pond Road as the new signage to increase the 30mph zone has made little difference. He had been in contact with other Parishes including Kemsing who are proposing a 20mph limit (which isn't enforceable) and Penshurst where they are undertaking Speedwatch. Cllr Holden reported that we had recently met with Kent Highways and mentioned the issue of speeding in Fen Pond Road. As there is currently no accident data in the location we were advised that our best option would be to lobby our new County Councillor. We have also been looking into carrying out our own speeding survey and have recently received a quote for a radar survey which we will be discussing later in the meeting. Cllr Cracknell reported that the Parish Council had tried to get a speedwatch team together in the past but hadn't received any volunteers (we need a minimum of 6). She urged that people come forward and are proactive. We will gather some data in the first instance and then decide on the best course of action.

A member of public reported that a hedge between Upper Spring Lane and the Tower House was very overgrown. Parish Clerk to write to the owners.

- 1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Cllr Brewer, Cllr Hall
- 2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** - None
- 3. **UPDATE FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR** - None
- 4. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN** – Deferred to next meeting

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

TM/17/00836/TNCA - Ightham Warren, Tonbridge Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9AP. T1 Yew tree to section fell. "No objection."

TM/17/00551/LB - Stone House, The Street, Ightham, Sevenoaks Kent TN15 9HH. Listed Building Application: Replace secondary glazing in front windows with new secondary glazing. "No objection."

TM/17/00655/LDP - Oldbury House, Oldbury Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9DE. Lawful Development Certificate Proposed: Erection of a timber clad garden building. *(Information only)*

TM/17/00664/FL - 2 Fen Meadow, Ightham, Sevenoaks Kent TN15 9HT. Single storey side extension to form utility room. "No objection."

TM/17/00774/TPOC - 13 Fen Meadow, Ightham, Sevenoaks Kent TN15 9HT. T1 Oak to lift crown by removing two branches, T2 Oak to lift the crown by removing three branches, T3 and T4 Oak to remove epicormic growth on main stem by approximately 4.5m, T5 Oak to remove deadwood, T6 Oak to fell to near ground level and T7 Oak to remove deadwood. "No objection."

TM/17/00472/RD Crown Point Nursery, Sevenoaks Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0HB. Details of conditions 3 (materials), 4 (curtilage), 8 (levels), 9 (vehicular access), 11 (watching brief) and 12 (sustainable measures) submitted pursuant to planning permission TM/13/01382/FL (Erection of new agricultural/nursery dwelling and demolition of existing buildings). *(Information only)*

TM/17/00537/LDE - The Groom Chart Farm Styants Bottom Road Seal Chart Sevenoaks Kent TN15 0ES. Lawful Development Certificate Existing: Siting and use of a mobile home for in excess of 10 years as an independent residential dwelling. "No comment, we leave it to TMBC to determine."

TM/17/00546/FL - Nutwood House, 9 Durlings Orchard, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9HW. Proposed single storey rear kitchen extension. "No objection."

TM/ 17/01043/TNCA - Holly Tree Cottage, Redwell Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9EE. Holly - Dismantle 2 large stems to fence height leaving the smaller stems on the other side to develop into a new tree. Cllr Hall to review.

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TM/ 17/00934/TNCA – Eaglehurst, Bates Hill, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9HB. T1 Yew Tree to reduce protruding branches, remove low dead stubs and lift crown by removing 5 - 6 branches. T2 Laurel to reduce back to provide 1.5 - 2m of clearance. T3 Goat Willow to reduce crown by 25% - 30% and remove 3 - 4 previously reduced branches. T4 Sycamore to reduce by 25% - 30%. T5 2x Holly trees to reduce by 1 -1.5m. T6 Sycamore to reduce by 25% - 30%. T7 Hazel to reduce back to previous points. T8 3x Lime trees to repollard/reduce back to previous points whilst reducing the sides to bring into shape. Cllr Brewer to review.

TM/ 17/00858/TPOC - Cob Tree Cottage, Sevenoaks Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9HA. Beech Tree - Prune branches on Cob Tree Cottage side only, to give approx. 2.5m clearance over house. Not yet received.

Planning Applications Approved

17/00505/TPOC - Coppice area of woodland covered by Tree Preservation Order No.2, 2002. Land at Rose Wood Sandy Lane, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent.

17/00273/FL - Removal of existing external cladding and addition of new brick external skin to ground floor and tile hanging to first floor. Erection of pitched roof porch to replace existing flat roof porch. Tarn Hows, Sandy Lane, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0PB.

17/00277/TNCA - T1 Silver Birch - Fell to ground level and replacement with ornamental tree . The Well Springs, Rectory Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9AJ.

17/00245/TPOC - Remove smaller branches of overhanging trees to previous reduction to give approx 2 to 3 metre clearance to garage. Oak tree to lightly crown lift, Oaks to the side of the property to remove regrowth to the vicinity of the previous reduction on the house side. Over the gate, remove two lower branches to a suitable growing point - 20 Nutfields, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9EA.

17/00222/FL - Demolition of existing house and the erection of a replacement dwelling with detached garage and change of use of agricultural land to residential curtilage. Beaconsmount Close, Pine Tree Lane, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0NJ.

17/00211/FL - Erection of outbuilding for use as residential annex . The Bungalow, Ismays Road, Ightham Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9BE.

17/00121/RD - Details submitted pursuant to conditions 2 (materials) and 3 (construction for building) of planning permission TM/14/03507/FL (Demolition and replacement of existing dry storage shed) - Selected Plants Nursery, Ismays Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent.

17/00029/LB - Listed building application: Reinstatement of first floor to create a third bedroom. Resubmission of existing consent TM/14/00695/LB . Old Laundry Cottage, Mote Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0NT.

TM/17/00496/FL - Proposed garage conversion to habitable accommodation, construction of single storey rear extension and side porch, Insertion of new dormers to existing game room above garage with internal alterations, insertion of 3No sun tube and change window to door on the rear elevation. Chestnut End, 1 Tebbs Way, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9BJ.

TM/17/00565/FL - Removal of existing rear conservatory and replace with an orangery in the same location. 6 Fen Meadow, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9HT.

Planning Applications Refused

TM/17/00370/FL - Demolition of existing side and rear extensions and erection of new two storey side and rear extensions and front porch. 10 Common Road, Ightham Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9DY.

Cllr Cracknell asked the Parish Clerk to check whether there had been a change in policy in approving change of use of premises to residential as we have seen a couple recently.

H&H Celcon - Update. A letter has been sent to TMBC on behalf of the Parish Alliance raising a concern about the storage of PFA and dust pollution. TMBC have responded fully but Mike Taylor has sent a further letter to which we are awaiting a response. We have heard nothing further from KCC. H+H Celcon have also recently published a blog which states that they have sourced enough PFA for the foreseeable future, this is inconsistent with their proposals for the Western Extension which were based upon the short supply of PFA and need to quarry for sand.

Dark Hill/Gracelands Development – Update – the owner of Gracelands approached Cllr Mike Taylor to ask whether the development of Gracelands could come back onto our agenda. Cllr Cracknell suggested that it would serve no purpose until we know what the school's position is as the school is the enabler. It was concluded that it would be inappropriate to hold such a meeting and that any future development proposal should go through the normal channels. We have received a note from the OpenArc to say that our comments in relation to the recent proposals were noted. In addition, Cllr Holden expressed the view that in the light of the potential H+H Celcon development and our increased knowledge of materials and processes and potential pollutants, it seems inappropriate to build a school opposite it.

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6. **MINUTES** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 March 2017 were proposed by Cllr Willingham and seconded by Cllr Brierley. They were signed and dated accordingly.

7. **MATTERS ARISING**

Kent Highways – items to be reported. Temporary Road Closure – Ismays Road, Ightham from 24 April 2017 for up to 3 days. The road will be closed outside Fir Tree House. The alternative route is via Common Road, Sandy Lane, Coach Road and vice versa. The closure is to enable a new connection to the water main to be carried out by South East Water.

Highways Matters – Update - Mill Lane, fly tipping of builders refuge opposite the orchard and a small pot hole at entrance to Mill Lane just off A227. Blocked gully at the bottom of Pine Tree Lane, by Cob Tree House on Oldbury Lane, outside no’s 2 and 3 on Spring Lane and the soakaway outside Glenwood is blocked. Parish Clerk to call property team at the Royal Mail about moving the post box on Back Lane.

Cllr Holden reported that there had been another accident at the A25 Oldbury Lane junction. Given that Kent Highways only collect data on serious accidents, we’ve decided to keep our own accident log book. Residents are encouraged to email the Parish Clerk if they have been involved in or know of any accidents at that location within the last 5 years.

Radar Survey – Cllr Brewer has received some information on a radar that could monitor traffic speeds over a 2 week period. The cost based on 2 locations is £750. It was agreed that we would go ahead and use Fen Pond Road and Bates Hill as roads to monitor.

Proposed Public Footpath Diversions at Longstead Cottage, Old Lane MR418 – Update – We have now received a map of the proposed diversion and request for our comments from KCC PROW. Following some discussion and noting the challenge from a parishioner earlier in the meeting, Cllr Holden suggested that the information was circulated by email for us to make a final decision by deadline of 5th May (deadline subsequently extended by KCC).

Proposed new Scout Hut/Pavilion– Update - Nothing to report. The Scouts will give an update at the annual parish meeting next week.

Ightham Cricket Club – Update - We have requested a meeting with the Cricket Club and invited them to give us an update at the annual parish meeting next week.

Busty Stream/ Flooding – Update on Flood Forum – The KCC flood report has now been completed and circulated to residents. The next Flood Forum meeting is on the evening of Friday 21 April. The next stage is to produce an action plan and once finalised there will be a meeting between the Flood Action Group and various stakeholders/agencies.

Lease for Tennis Club - Update - Nothing to report.

Car Park Extension in Recreation Ground – Update –Lights – Cllr Holden and the Parish Clerk had a meeting with Latitude and UK Power Networks and it was agreed that the lights could now be connected despite the tree root. Latitude to liaise with the electrician to get the necessary works completed before the connection can take place. We queried why the lights were so tall and it was explained that the sizing of the lights was to cut down on the number of lights required and that they were intended to light the entire pathway. We will see how they last with a view to transferring them to the Tennis Club path and replacing them with lower level lighting if they get knocked over. We have kept back a retainer pending the completion of the works.

Broadband – Update - Cllr Holden had attended an event hosted by Tom Tugendhat MP and representatives from BT and Gigaclear but Tom had been disappointed that they hadn’t sent the right people along to field questions. Openreach and BT have now separated which should open to market to other suppliers and make it easier for people to have access to better broadband. Originally the Government committed to 95% population having a minimum broadband speed of 3mpbs, Tom is campaigning for everyone to have access to broadband but the consensus at the meeting was that 3mpbs wasn’t adequate. He had scheduled a meeting with the Chief Executive of OpenReach. In Ightham most of the village now has access to broadband although residents in Ivy Hatch still have a poor service, people still experiencing problems should write to: tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk

Tree Survey - Update – Cllr Brierley had looked at the tree survey and recommended that we should carry out the work recommended although nothing is urgent. She suggested that we don’t have any ivy removed until birds have finished nesting. The Parish Clerk was asked to obtain a quote from TreeAbility and James Hayward and carry out the work on a priority basis.

Parish Alliance – Update – The Parish Alliance are currently focused on Celcon. No meetings are scheduled at the moment.

Annual Parish Meeting 27th April - Parish Clerk to invite parishioners and organise the drinks.

New email address – The Parish Clerk has a new generic email address: ighthamclerk@gmail.com. It was decided that all future emails should be directed via the Parish Clerk and that personal email addresses for Councillors should be removed from the Parish website. We will also reorganise the areas of responsibility at the AGM in May.

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8. CORRESPONDENCE

Annual Review – Due June 2017 – The Parish Clerk has set up a meeting with the Internal Auditor on 15th May, this will give us time to sign off our accounts and complete the annual review by the deadline of 26th June. Parish Clerk to summarise what's included in the annual review and circulate.

KALC – Membership 2017 – It was agreed that we would continue with our membership and that KALC was an invaluable resource.

9. FINANCE

The following accounts are submitted for payment: Proposed by Cllr Willingham and seconded by Cllr Mitchem.

Parish Clerk Salary & Expenses	£540.93
Easily Renewal – Domain Name	£29.99
Gel Creative - Website	£35.00
Citizens Advice - Donation	£100.00
KALC Annual Subscription	£847.34
JH Gardening – Work in recreation ground	£100.00
Latitude – Scout Hut Fees	£2,640.00
Abstruct – Scout Hut Fees	£1,680.00
Total for April	£5,973.26

Income

TMBC – Precept – 1 st Installement	£58,474.50
Skips - Rental	£587.50

Financial position at 31 March 2017: Current account: £5,344.72 (including unrepresented cheques £1,246)

Deposit account: £91,402.27

10. AOB

Cllr Cracknell reported that there is a Christian Aid Bring and Buy Sale at the Rectory on May 13th.

Cllr Willingham reported that there has been an attempted break in at the village hall and a window sash needs replacing. The cost of replacing the sash will be £250 or alternatively we would but a new UPVC window for £650 which would need no further maintenance. It was agreed that we should replace the window with a UPVC window as it would be more cost effective in the long run.

Cllr Willingham reported that TMBC had confirmed that the plastic is collected from the recycling bin twice a week. We are getting frequent reports of the the bins overflowing since the closure of the Borough Green collection site. The Parish Clerk has reported this to TMBC.

Cllr Brierley reported that the footpath sign had reappeared on Oldbury Lane.

Cllr Edge McKenna asked whether we could ask Bob to water the beech hedging in the recreation ground.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

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