

2/17

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON TUESDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2017 AT IGHTHAM VILLAGE HALL AT 7.45pm**

Present: Cllr Holden, Cllr Brierley, Cllr Edge-McKenna, Cllr Edwards, Cllr Mitchem, Cllr Willingham, The Parish Clerk, Borough Councillors Betts and Coffin.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Cracknell, Cllr Hall

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

3. UPDATE FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Cllr Coffin reported that the budget cycle had been completed and that TMBC had raised their precept by £5 per Band D household per annum, amounting to a 2.6% increase. The shortfall in funding from the Government amounts to £1 million therefore some services will have to be cut back/changed accordingly. The County Council have raised their rates by 4.99%.

Cllr Betts reported that the bollards on Sevenoaks Road junction still hadn't been fixed and he thought that they may eventually get replaced by reflective bollards as they are more cost effective. We may not see these until the new financial year.

Cllr Betts reported that the rules regarding members site inspections in relation to planning had been tightened up. The ruling allows parish representatives to attend the meetings.

There is likely to be an appeal for against the planning decision for 2 Willows on Jubilee Crescent.

4. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY - UPDATE

Cllr Holden and the Parish Clerk had met with 4 candidates, all of whom would be suitable to fill the vacancy. We only have 1 vacancy to fill at the moment and Cllr Holden asked existing members of the Parish Council to consider letting us know whether they are thinking of standing down in the near future as we would like to keep all candidates in mind should a vacancy/vacancies arise in the short term. Cllr Holden and the Parish Clerk will provide a summary of candidates and will make a recommendation of their preferred choice for the current vacancy. An email will be circulated with a view to making a decision.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

TM/17/00211/FL - The Bungalow, Ismays Road, Ightham. Erection of outbuilding as use for residential annex. "No objection."

TM/17/00222/FL - Beaconsmount Close, Pine Tree Lane, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0NJ.

Demolition of existing house and the erection of a replacement dwelling with detached garage. Applicant: Mrs Carole Tees, Cloverley Farm, Brissenden Green, Lane Bethersden, TN26 3BJ. "No objection."

TM/17/00273/FL - Tarn Hows, Sandy Lane, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0PB. 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. Applicant: Mr & Mrs D Moon. "No objection."

TM/17/00277/TNCA - The Well Springs, Rectory Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9AJ. T1 Silver Birch - Fell to ground level and replacement with ornamental tree. Applicant: Ms Camilla Sagemo. "No objection providing Liz Guthrie is content."

TM/17/00370/FL - 10 Common Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, TN15 9DY. Proposed replacement side and rear extension, alterations and modernisation of existing dwelling. Cllr Holden took the application to consider, Cllr Willingham to review.

Planning Applications Approved

TM/17/00022/TNCA - T2, Silver Birch - Fell in sections to near ground level, Crown House, High Cross Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0NR.

TM/16/03532/RD - Details of condition 2 (materials) pursuant to planning permission TM/15/01351/FL (Extension to existing house, enlargement of existing garage, relocation of outdoor swimming pool and the widening of driveway access (resubmission of TM/15/00035/FL)) - Kelen Croft, Mill Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9BH.

6. MINUTES - The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2016 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

7. MATTERS ARISING

Kent Highways – items to be reported. A resident from Hazlebourne Avenue, Dark Hill Road had reported that there had been a number of accidents on Dark Hill Road and had enquired about the procedure for applying for street lighting. The Parish Clerk was asked to send a response to say that Ightham Parish has no street lighting but would raise the issue with Kent Highways at the next meeting. A section of this road falls within Ightham Parish.

Letter from Residents about HGV Signage – Following the Minutes from the last meeting we have received some correspondence regarding HGV Signage. A local business in Ismays Road questioned the need for a ban on HGV's as it would affect deliveries and requesting that we consider all the surrounding roads, the matter will be discussed with Kent Highways and it was thought that it would be better to have an advisory signage rather than a blanket ban. We have also received a report that a HGV knocked over a pylon on Spring Lane having ignored the HGV sign. We will also raise with Kent Highways.

Fen Pond Road – Progress report – The 30mph signs have now been moved.

Bates Hill/ Tonbridge Road Traffic calming – Update –SIDS – The Parish Clerk and Cllr Holden have a meeting with Kent Highways on 6th March and will go through the list of outstanding highways issues including those mentioned above; the proposed 20mph speed limit in Oldbury Lane, repositioning of post box on Back Lane, the Oldbury Lane Junction with A25 (including bollards).

Proposed Public Footpath Diversions at Longstead Cottage, Old Lane MR418 – Update – Nothing to report.

Proposed new Scout Hut/Pavilion– Update – Cllr Holden is attending a fundraising committee meeting on 22nd February. The build costs are estimated at £500-£600k and scouts are awaiting a revised architects drawing before going to tender. Cllr Holden has asked the scouts to send the parish council a formal funding request and also a paper outlining the need for a separate scout building. This document has already been sent to Cllr Holden and will be circulated to Parish Councillors. The scouts have taken some financial advice and VAT will potentially be incurred if the building is used for commercial gain. This needs to be taken into consideration in the funding provisions and terms of the lease. The Parish Council await a funding proposal request before making any decisions.

Ightham Cricket Club – Update – Works have started on the mower store and refurbishment of the pavilion. The Parish Council are contributing a maximum of £15,000 towards the works and will provide a breakdown of payments to date.

Busty Stream/ Flooding – Update – Max Tant, KCC had sent an update to the Parish Clerk to say that the draft report is almost complete. KCC are working with the National Flood Forum (NFF) to support Kent Communities at risk of flooding and the officer from NFF has arranged a meeting with Cllr Cracknell and Cllr Holden on 24th February to help to coordinate community activities. KCC have also been talking to a contractor about an outline design for a trash screen but this is only to get a costing, not necessarily proceed with this course of action.

Lease for Tennis Club - Update – Request for pathway lighting – The Tennis Club are speaking to their local LTA coordinator about the lease. The Parish Clerk has yet to obtain costings for the pathway lights.

Play Ground - Update – The astroturf for the section by the gate has been ordered is due to be installed this week.

Car Park Extension in Recreation Ground – Update –Signage, Lights, Salt Bin, Trees – The signage has arrived and the Parish Clerk and Cllr Edge-McKenna will meet with Cllr Willingham to decide where to install it along with the new noticeboard. The lights are due to be connected this week. We have received a request for a salt bin in the new car park following the recent snowfall. Cllr Brierley reported that the use of salt, even in small quantities would cause extensive damage to the trees. With this in mind, and the infrequency of the weather condition which caused the surface of the car park to ice over, it was decided that we wouldn't go ahead with this. Parish Clerk to respond accordingly.

Broadband – Update – Tom Tudgendhat MP is hosting a meeting with various service providers on Friday 24th March at Leybourne Village Hall to find solutions to poor broadband speeds. Those wishing to attend should email tom.tugendhat.mp@Parliament.uk Notice to go into the parish magazine and on the website.

H&H Celcon – We have been sent a link to the scoping opinion but have been unable to access it. We are still waiting for a planning application which we understand will be sent in Spring 2017. Cllr Holden asked whether the Parish Council would support any application as he is due to attend a Parish Alliance meeting and wanted to put forward our views at the meeting. The general consensus was that Ightham Parish Council should wait to receive a Planning Application before forming a view but would report to the Parish Alliance that we are aware of a lot of opposition from residents.

Dark Hill/Gracelands Development – The Parish Council had a presentation from Open Arc ahead of this meeting to outline the proposals for development at Dark Hill which includes a new 2 form entry school, elderly and affordable housing, a MUGA pitch and a mix of housing. This proposal will go onto the agenda for the next meeting for consideration.

Parish Alliance – Meeting 24th February 2017 – Cllr Holden to attend.

Tree Survey The tree survey has now been done by Treeability and we are awaiting the report.

Pentecost Picnic – 4th June Recreation Ground – This has now been cancelled.

Accident at Village Hall – A gentleman had recently injured himself on the village hall railings. Cllr Willingham and the Parish Clerk had been in touch with him to discuss improving the visibility of the railings. Cllr Willingham had bought some reflective strips and the lights above the doors have now been fixed as one of them had been out when the incident occurred.

Registration of War Memorial and triangle of land by the Plough – Defer to the next meeting.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Great British Spring Clean – KCC have organised a Great British Spring Clean. Advert to go onto the website www.greatbritishspringclean.org.uk

Freight Action Plan – Tim Shaw Letter re J5 Slips – Tim Shaw has drafted a letter for Parishes to request that the J5 Slips are included in the Kent Freight Action Plan. It was agreed that we would support this and would respond accordingly to the consultation.

Nat West Borough Green – Update – Tom Tudgendhat had received a letter from RBS to say that the decision to close NatWest in Borough Green would stand.

Invitation to Lord Lieutenant of Kent Annual Civic Service – 14 March – No volunteers to attend.

9. FINANCE

The following accounts are submitted for payment:

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| Parish Clerk Salary & Expenses | £547.96 |
| Gel Creative - Website | £35.00 |
| Cricket Club Works | £3,000.00 |
| Cricket Club – Building Regs Fee | £168.00 |
| Ightham Village Hall – Rental November 2016-January 2017 | £240.00 |
| KALC – Seminar Fees (inc VAT) | £72.00 |
| Village Hall Insurance Renewal | £2,301.51 |
| Warners – Legal Fees – Registration of Recreation Ground (inc VAT £220) | £1,530.00 |
| Cricket Club – Interim works and tree stump removal | £3,700.00 |
| South East Water – Water bill for pavilion | £28.58 |
| St Peters Church – Annual contribution for parish magazine printing | £40.00 |
| RBC Electrical Contractors – Fixing lights at village hall | £94.44 |
| SJ Sharp Joinery – New parish noticeboard | £900.00 |
| American Express – Paper and printing ink | £35.73 |

Paid before meeting

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| LJ Marsh – New Lighting in Recreation Ground (inc VAT £1,613) | £9,678.00 |
| Play Cubed – Deposit for astroturf by gate | £280.50 |

Income

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| Allotment Fees | £450.00 |
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Financial position at 31 January 2017: Current account: £1,751.00 (including unrepresented cheques £9,998.50)

Deposit account: £116,401.40

10. AOB

Cllr Brierley reported that the footpath sign on Oldbury Lane has been stolen, Parish Clerk to report.

Cllr Holden reported that the music festival would be on the 10th June 2017.

The meeting closed at 10.25pm