

6/17

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 20th JUNE 2017 AT IGHTHAM VILLAGE HALL AT 7.15pm

Present: Cllr Willingham (Chair), Cllr Brewer, Cllr Brierley, Cllr Cracknell, Cllr Edwards. Cllr Hall, Cllr Holden, Cllr Mitchem, The Parish Clerk and 8 members of the public.

- 1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr Betts and Cllr Edge McKenna
- 2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** - None
- 3. **UPDATE FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR** - Cllr Betts had sent a report to the Parish Clerk to say that the Borough Green recycling site at the railway station is due to resume imminently and we will all be advised as soon as that is operational. Co-Op have agreed to host the facility and legal terms are just being finalised. In the meantime TMBC are carrying out additional cleansing and emptying at Ightham but to let them know if any problems are encountered. More positively TMBC are currently putting plans together to provide door to door recycling collections of the more common items.
- 4. **UPDATE FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR** - None
- 5. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Planning Applications

TM/17/01193FL – Glebe Cottage, Oldbury Lane – replacement of existing single concrete framed double garage. “No objection.”

TM/17/01268/FL – Barnfield Cottage, Stone Street Road – Part demolition and works for the conversion of the existing riding arena building as a dwelling with removal of sand school and associated external alterations to the building, engineering works, access, parking, landscaping and ecological enhancement works. “No objection”. The owner of the property was given an opportunity to speak and said that they are reusing the current structure buut reducing it by a third. Access will be via the existing driveway. There is a significant planting scheme which will shield the property from the bridlepath and will enhance biodiversity. The current structure is cement and asbestos and will be reclad in timber. It has been unused for 50 years.

TM/17/01322/FL – Cricketts Farm, Borough Green Road – Change of use for barn 5 from class B1 (Office) to class D1 (sports injury clinic). “No objection but we would prefere any signage to be discrete.”

TM/17/01355/LB - Harrow Cottage, Common Road – Listed building application: Restoration of existing listed property comprising minor alterations internally and externally, cosntruction of two storey rear extension, construction of a replacement garage and construction of a new gate and boundary wall. “No objection.”

TM/ 17/01416/FL Midsummer Meadow, Sevenoaks Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9AD. Erection of front and rear dormer windows to provide first floor accommodation and conversion of outbuilding to provide annex (Resubmission of TM/15/02656/FL). Cllr Mitchem to review.

TM/17/01387/FL Sandyridge, Pine Tree Lane, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0NJ. Proposed re-cladding, re-modelling and extension of existing dwelling including the raising of the roof level. Proposed conversion of concrete frame barn to become residential annex. Cllr Edge-McKenna to review.

TM/17/01191/FL Trycewell House, Trycewell Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9HN. Turn the oak framed garages and bedsit into a 3 bedroom house and divide it off from Trycewell House. Cllr Mitchem to review.

TM/17/01170/FL Styants Farmhouse, Styants Bottom Road, Seal Chart, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0ET. Construction of a traditional oak framed detached garage with new vehicular access and driveway with some minor engineering/excavation works to facilitate the proposal. “No objection but we have a concern that the access will be across the bridlepath.”

TM/17/01466 70 Nutfields, Ightham, Sevenoaks, TN15 9EA. Reduce the overall height of birch, ash and oak trees by 20ft. Cllr Hall to review.

A member of public asked for an update on Fen Pond Road. His concern was for children walking along Fen Pond Road to go to school as there are no pavements and cars continue to speed along the road despite the extended 30mph limit. Cllr Willingham said that there is little that can be done and recommended that residents got together and wrote to the new County Councillor. He said that there are lots of roads within the village and in surrounding villages that have the same issue. The residents said that a lot of the verges were overgrown and by cutting them back, it would help a little. Cllr Willingham said that the verges are the responsibility of the neighbouring owners but KCC would enforce cutting back if necessary.

Cllr Hall said that Cllr Harry Rayner had suggested taking some of our highways issues to the Joint Transportation Board and that we should pursue the 30mph village blanket speed, this should go a way towards alleviating some of

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the speeding issues in the village. It was agreed that the residents and Parish Council would write separately. We have received costings for a radar survey, this will be discussed later in the meeting.

The member of public also asked whether there was an update on broadband; he had attended the meeting organised by Tom Tugendhat and had been in contact with BT but had had no response. He understood that there was some funding available to households experiencing poor speeds. The Parish Clerk confirmed that this was a government initiative and that there were some details on our website.

Another member of public wanted to speak about the MR418 footpath diversion; whilst he was happy with the decision from KCC not to divert the footpath, he was disappointed that the Parish Council didn't support the neighbours in opposing the diversion. He also said that notices about the proposals were not displayed and many local residents were not aware of them. The Chairman said that this was the responsibility of KCC. In addition, the sign for the footpath has disappeared and he thought that the Parish Council had said that they would contribute to the cost of reinstating it. The Chairman asked the Parish Clerk to check with KCC about the signage and if they wouldn't put a sign up then the Parish would put one up.

Gill Averill attended the meeting to say that she would be organising the Open Gardens for 2018 on 1st July next year. She has already met with the representative from the Hospice in the Weald and has booked the village hall. Four of the existing gardens have signed up, 3 new ones have agreed to take part and she is waiting to hear from a further 3. She asked whether the Parish Council would support the initiative and it was agreed that they would.

James Hitchcock from the Football Club asked about the goal posts which are damaged. Cllr Willingham has taken the damaged one down. They thought that they were cemented into the ground but ideally they should be taken down after every game and stored behind the pavilion. The problem is that children are swinging on them so they are potentially dangerous and the FA has some strict guidelines regarding this. Jamie to check whether they can be removed and will come back to us. It is likely that they have rusted and will need to be cut off. The football club has some fund reserves if they need replacing. James also reported that the shower in the pavilion hasn't been working for some time, Cllr Willingham will look into this.

Planning Applications Approved

TM/17/00551/LB - Listed Building Application: Replace secondary glazing in front windows with new secondary glazing. Stone House, The Street, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9HH.

TM/17/00922/FL - Proposed single storey flat roof rear extension. Styants Cottage, Styants Bottom Road, Seal Chart Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0ET.

Planning Applications Withdrawn

TM/17/01066/FL - Proposed new detached garage. Half Acre, Coach Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0PF.

H&H Celcon - Update – Cllr Brewer reported that the PFA at Celcon hadn't been dampened down in the hot weather. Mike Taylor is monitoring this and is trying to set up another meeting with them. An environmental survey will be carried out.

6. **MINUTES** The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2017 were approved and signed as a true record.

7. MATTERS ARISING

Kent Highways – items to be reported. A lot of roads in and around Ightham have recently been resurfaced by KCC.

Road Closure - Styants Bottom Lane, Seal Chart Flood Works- 6 July 2017,

Stone Street Road, Ightham – from 26 June 2017 for up to 3 days between 09.30hrs and 15.30hrs

Highways Matters – Update - Accident log. Radar Survey. The radar will need to be mounted on a post, 2m high. It was agreed that we would go ahead. We need to establish 2 suitable locations and check the number of days that the radar would operate for. Fen Pond Road and Bates Hill are the chosen sites and the radars will need to be located within the 30mph limits.

Proposed Public Footpath Diversions at Longstead Cottage, Old Lane MR418 – KCC have sent us their decision which said that the footpath would not be diverted. This can come off the agenda once the sign has been reinstated.

Proposed new Scout Hut/Pavilion– Update - Cllr Holden said that he hadn't received a final figure for funds raised at the music festival but it looked positive. The Scouts are now keen to get the lease sorted and have asked us to provide a marked up version. Cllr Holden and the Parish Clerk will get together to put a revised draft together. Cllr Holden had spoken to the Scouts about the start of the project; they operate within the Scout Association guidelines which operates on a personal liability basis so this means that all funding would need to be in place before any building works could start. The current proposed draft lease runs for 125 years and the Parish Council would look to reduce this term however if the build cost is high, ie in the region of £500k + then a long lease would be appropriate. The Scouts will be

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asking the Parish Council for a contribution towards the build as the building will have requirements other than solely a Scout building. It was suggested that the Parish Council should cap the amount that we should commit to, having spent in the region of £35k already. We should factor in the cost of demolishing the existing pavilion and have earmarked funding for this in the 2017/8 budget. There was a discussion about the build and practicalities of getting an accurate build cost for a build that may not start for a few years. It is understood that there is an offer of some matched funding on the table but we don't know the exact details and whether it would include any funding from the Parish. The Parish Clerk was asked to circulate the revised application. There were some concerns raised about whether the project would eventually go ahead given the level of funding required and it was suggested that a more simple structure that wasn't built into the ground may be more attainable. Cllr Holden thought that as long as the funds could be raised then it wouldn't be an issue, the project has already been significantly scaled back from the original proposal and has a sympathetic design. For clarity it was decided that Cllr Holden would invite representatives from the Scouts to one of the next meetings so that they could give us an update on where they are with their funding, likely cost of the build, timescales and to let us know what they are expecting the Parish to contribute so that we can give it due consideration in terms of our practical and financial support.

Ightham Cricket Club – Update - Nothing to report.

Busty Stream/ Flooding – Update on Flood Forum. Cllr Holden and Cllr Cracknell are attending a meeting on 21st June that has been co-ordinated by the Flood Forum between residents, The Environment Agency, KCC Highways, The Flood Prevention Agency and Southern Water.

Lease for Tennis Club - Update - Nothing to report.

Car Park Extension in Recreation Ground – Update –Lights – Monday 10th July – The lights are due to be activated on 10th July. Cllr Willingham to check that all necessary preparation works have been carried out as an electrician was booked to put in the hockey stick but the Parish Clerk thought that it had been done already.

Broadband – Update - Nothing to report.

Tree Survey - Update – We have received a report about a lot of dead wood by skips following a recent storm. We are still waiting for a second quote, Cllr Willingham to chase up.

Parish Alliance – Update – Cllr Hilden had informed Cllr Taylor that Cllr Willingham was now Chair. No further meetings have been organised at this stage. Cllr Taylor has recently sent an email to Robert Body about speeding and operating hours. Ightham Parish Council didn't add anything. Cllr Taylor is awaiting a response.

Recycling & Fly Tipping – Lower Village Hall – See above. Cllr Cracknell also reported that there was rubbish left by the black bins. Parish Clerk to report to TMBC.

Sign off Annual Governance Statement – The Parish Clerk had spent some time with the Internal Auditor going through our accounts and procedures and is happy that everything is in order. Parish Clerk to circulate auditors report. Our annual Governance statement was duly signed by the Chairman.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Request for funding for Borough Green School – Swimming pool project – Cllr Willingham had received a request from Borough Green School about a contribution towards their swimming pool project as they have a shortfall of £11k. Cllr Willingham had approached the Head of Ightham Primary School to ask whether they would use it and he said no. It was agreed that we wouldn't contribute as we have other commitments and not enough people from Ightham would benefit. Cllr Cracknell agreed to publicise the advert on crowd funding on the parish magazine. Cllr Willingham to reply accordingly.

Village Hall Archive – Opening date– We have received an email from Jean Stirk about a formal opening of the archive in September. It was agreed that there was no clash and that it would be something that the Parish Council would be happy to support.

Request for contribution towards defibrillator for Ightham Primary school – We have received a request from Ightham Primary school about contributing to a defibrillator which would be at the school and available for local residents to use. They have raised around £400 and the defib and cabinet cost around £1,500. It was agreed that the Parish Council would be willing to make a contribution but suggested that the school look to KCC and the County Councillors members fund for additional funding. Parish Clerk to respond accordingly.

9. FINANCE

Annual Review - Sign off accounting statements – The statements were signed by the Chairman.

The following accounts are submitted for payment: Proposer Cllr Hall, seconded by Cllr Brewer

Parish Clerk Salary & Expenses

£606.96

EDF – Electricity Pavilion

£29.03

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Gel Creative - Website	£35.00
JH Estate & Gardening Services – Cutting grass in rec and verges	£820.00
JPCTCG – Membership 2017/8	£50.00
KALC – Good Councillors Guides	£7.54
EDF Ightham Village Hall - Electricity	£300.00
Robert Lee Amies – Work at Recreation Ground and War Memorial	£582.43
Anthony Edwards – Churchyard	£827.70
Anthony Edwards – Parish Work	£117.95
All Polished (Cheque to S Huseyin to do online transfer)	£220.00
R Burgess Ltd – Replacement window in the village Hall (inc VAT)	£745.13

Financial position at 31 May 2017: Current account: £3,071.01 (excluding unrepresented cheques of £684)
 Deposit account: £139,879.83

AOB

Cllr Hall suggested that the postbox at Harrow Cottage could be moved at the same time as the one in Back Lane. The Parish Clerk said that she had been in contact with the Property Dept at the Post Office and the Post Box at Back Lane will be moved as it is in a dangerous position however was advised that it would be a lengthy process.

Cllr Willingham reported that part of the fence had collapsed in the recreation ground behind the tennis courts and asked the Parish Clerk to check that it belonged to us.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

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