

11/18

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
ON TUESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018 IGHTHAM VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Willingham (chairman), Cllr Holden (Vice Chairman), Cllr Brierley, Cllr Burgham, Cllr Cracknell, Cllr Hall, Cllr Mitchem, County Cllr Rayner, Borough Cllr Betts (arrived late), 3 members of the public and the Parish Clerk.

Cllr Willingham invited Steve Burgham to be co-opted onto the Parish Council following the resignation of Cllr John Edwards and the conclusion of the statutory advertising period at TMBC.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Cllr Edge-McKenna, PCSO Mark Thomas.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** - Cllr Willingham declared an interest in Planning Application ref TM/18/02502/FL.
3. **MINUTES** - The Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 October 2018 were approved and signed as a true record.
4. **UPDATE FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR** – Cllr Rayner said that he would participate in the relevant discussions during the matters arising. Cllr Betts gave an update on the Local Plan (see below) and reported that at the Planning Transport Advisory Board meeting, members had expressed that they were unhappy with the way that planning enforcement was working and felt that it was sending the wrong message. Often the Planning Enforcement Team come to the conclusion in enforcement cases, that if planning had been applied for and granted then they would take no action. It was agreed that this is not supporting the correct protocol and this will now be focussed on.  
Cllr Betts reported that a significant amount of s.106 money was not being spent and that there should be a schedule of expenditure which is followed up. S.106 money comes from developers and should be used to support infrastructure. The spending of this money is going to be reviewed. There is currently no s.106 money in Ightham.

5. **PUBLIC** - A member of public reported that there had been a number of break-ins in the last 7-10 days and an attempted break-in at the local supermarket today. He said that there were a lot of elderly and single people living in the village and that he felt that there should be more of a police presence. The Clerk reported that she had heard of approx 10 break-ins and had invited the PCSO along to the meeting but unfortunately it was his day off. He had sent a response today that he would be patrolling Ightham and that most of the break-ins were of outhouses which is common at this time of year.

Cllr Rayner said that policing control is no longer with the County Council, it is under the remit of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). He reiterated that this type of crime is typical for this time of year. It has been reported that there will be an additional 300 Police Officers in Kent and it was suggested that the Clerk wrote to the PCC copying our MP, requesting more of a Police presence in the village. It was agreed and Cllr Cracknell suggested that individuals write as well and those personally affected or concerned would have more of an impact.

Mr Reid from Ightham Scouts gave an update on the building project. They are now 2 months into the project; the foundations have been dug and 70 lorry loads of spoil removed from the site. The footings are in and the steel frame should be completed by Thursday of this week. Celcon have donated 10,000 bricks and the floor and walls are next to be completed. The project is progressing well. They have had to dig a hole in the footpath in order to tap into the main sewer, and they will need to apply to Southern Water to get it commissioned. O'Keefe's have agreed to do the connection and have asked for a letter from the Parish Council to dig a 3 m trench across the recreation ground. This was agreed. The ground will be repaired at the end of the project when the landscaping is done although they will try and reseed before then. Cllr Willingham said that there had been an issue with the existing cess pit but he had spoken with Harpers and this has been resolved. The Tennis Club will also be linked into the mains drainage. Mr Reid said that there had been 3 thefts from the site and now nothing is left there overnight.

Cllr Hall asked where they stood against the budget and Mr Reid said that it was all looking good; there were some small extra items but they are on a fixed price contract and there is a contingency fund.

## 6. PLANNING

**TM/18/02420/FL** - 37 Nutfields, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9EA. Bespoke single storey rear lean-to extension. "No objection."

Signed.....Dated.....

- TM/18/02491/FL** - Fresh Fields, Copt Hall Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9DT. Single storey rear extension and additional bedrooms within loft conversion. "No objection."
- TM/18/02502/FL** - Land Opposite Rose Wood, Ismays Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent. Conversion/reconstruction of redundant agricultural barn into single dwelling and demolition of existing building and construction of new garage. Due to a conflict of interest, we leave it to TMBC to determine."
- TM/18/02540/TNCA** – Charters, Tonbridge Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks Kent TN15 9AP. T1 Lime to reduce/pollard by 40%; T2 Acacia to fell, and T3 group of Pines to deadwood, remove Ivy and any damaged limbs within the canopy. "No objection providing Liz Guthrie is content." Cllr Cracknell said that she hadn't received a notification as a neighbour and as far as she could tell there hadn't been a notification posted outside the property.
- TM/18/02478/TPOC** – Sycamores, Bates Hill, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9BG. Reduce 24 lime trees to 4m in height (trees situated adjacent to the Limes on Bates Hill). "No objection providing Liz Guthrie is content."
- TM/18/02687/TNCA** Two Trees House, High Cross Road, Ivy Hatch. Reduce height of conifer and liliodendron to approx. half current height. "No objection providing Liz Guthrie is content."

#### **Planning Decisions – Approved**

**18/02043/FL** - Proposed single storey extensions to side and rear of existing house - 1 Oldbury Villas, Spring Lane.

**18/01602/MIN** - Request for prior approval to import silica (industrial) sand pursuant to condition 21 of planning permission TM/87/346 (KCC ref:KCC/TM/0414/2018) - Celcon Blocks Limited, The Ightham Sandpits. Cllr Rayner said that he would pursue and see whether the sand is being covered. It was reported that the excavation of the Eastern quarry has nearly been finished and will be completed within 6 months. A question was asked about quarrying near to Ightham Court and Cllr Rayner said that this would depend on the outcome of the Local Plan re Borough Green Gardens.

#### **Planning Decisions – Refused**

**18/02047/OA** - Outline Application: Erection of a detached dwelling - Land At Rose Wood, Sandy Lane, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks Kent.

**18/01869/FL** - Demolition of dwelling and garage and erection of dwelling - Stone Acre, Copt Hall, Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9DT.

7. **LOCAL PLAN – Borough Green Gardens** - Our submission has now gone in. Cllr Betts reported that on 12 November there had been 1,143 responses to the Local Plan with 683 objections to Borough Green Gardens (62%). On 16 November the number of responses had risen to 1,500 with 777 objections. There have also been a lot of objections to development in Kings Hill. Cllr Betts was anticipating that there would be a lot of late responses arriving on the consultation deadline of 19<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr Betts said that the submission deadline was 24<sup>th</sup> November and if accepted that Local Plan could be modified; he was unsure how long the Borough Council had to act upon the modification and how long the current housing formula would be locked in for.

#### **8. MATTERS ARISING**

**Highways Matters** – The Clerk reported that the white lines had been refreshed on the junction of Fen Pond Road and A227 following a recent accident. Cllr Willingham asked Cllr Rayner about replacing the Give Way sign with a Stop sign. Cllr Rayner said that this would require a Traffic Order and suggested that The Clerk should write to him, copying in Cllr Betts making the request so that it could be referred to the Joint Transportation Board to go onto their agenda. It was resolved that The Clerk should write a letter.

Cllr Hall asked whether it would be possible to have a parish wide 30mph speed limit. Cllr Rayner said that this would be a bit more complicated to pursue but suggested that we put it onto the next agenda.

**Potholes** – outside Wellwood and on the crossroads by The Harrow. The bollard at Seven Wents has disappeared. The hedge outside Felden Lodge is encroaching onto the highway.

**Radar survey results/ Speed calming measures/ Speed monitoring Borough Green Road/Speedwatch** – The Clerk has written to Cllr Rayner requesting a 20mph speed limit up Oldbury Lane and Spring Lane and for assistance with speed monitoring on the Borough Green Road.

**Parking in The Street** – Cllr Cracknell reported that parking in The Street has improved since the builders vans had disappeared although it was recognised that it is still an issue. There has recently

Signed.....Dated.....

been parking enforcement in Wrotham and Borough Green with people being fined. A question was raised about parking in the Square and whether it was legal. Cllr Holden said that he believe that parking in the Square could be subject to enforcement as the lines went around the Square. This needs to be clarified. Cllr Rayner said that parking used to be a County matter but it has now been contracted to the Borough.

**Scout Hut/Pavilion**– Update – Alteration of drains at the Tennis Club/Emptying cess pit – It was been agreed with the Contractors that the Tennis Club and the new scout building will be connected to mains drainage. The Tennis Club already have a meter and will be billed separately for waste water, this shouldn't amount to much each month. Under the terms of the Scout lease, The Parish Council will cover the waste water from the new building. It was agreed that some lighting would be installed on the pathway to the Tennis Club during the landscaping phase of the build.

**Footpath MR614** – Proposed diversion – The proposed diversion follows planning permission to build 2 houses on the plot through which the footpath currently runs. The footpath will be diverted to the right along Nutlands boundary. The Parish Council raised no objection to the diversion. Cllr Rayner said that he would be guided by the Parish Council and would also raise no objection.

**Ightham Cricket Club** – Update - Nothing to report.

**Busty Stream/ Flooding** – Update - Flood Action Group - Cllr Cracknell reported that she had met with Cllr Holden and The Clerk to draft a letter to riparian owners reminding them of their responsibilities to keep their section of the stream clear, it had been sent to the Flood Forum Group for approval and once approved will be sent to around 18 riparian owners. Cllr Cracknell reported that there had been no physical action since the flood but there was a proposal for a project to replace the lining of the “dodgy bridge” in order to widen it; some residents believe that a blockage here may have contributed to the flooding. KCC are willing to carry out the work but there have been some differences in opinion as to how the works will be finished. There is some grant funding available for the bridge works, which will cost around £15k however this money could be reallocated to individual properties for flood resilience work which is preferable to the Group. Cllr Cracknell proposed that the Parish Council made a contribution to the bridge works as it would be a village wide project and then the grant money could go to individual households. Cllr Rayner said that he had recently attended a Flood Forum meeting and would be happy to contribute members grant funding if Ightham Parish Council were willing to make a contribution. Cllr Holden said that in the 2 years since the flooding, no positive action has been taken by KCC and that anything that could be done now would be well received. A question was asked about getting a cheaper quote to do the works but it was agreed that it would be better for KCC to do the works and take the liability. It was also agreed that if we didn't come up with £15 k then it would be pointless and the works couldn't be completed. It was agreed that the Parish Council would contribute funding toward this project and Cllr Rayner agreed that if we put up £10k then he would contribute £2k from this years allocation and 3k from 2019 allocation. It was unanimously agreed that we would proceed on this basis. The Clerk will need to complete the grant application forms.

**Recreation Ground** –ROSPA repairs – Cllr Willingham will speak to James Hayward about doing the repairs.

**Broadband** – Update - Cllr Rayner reported that the KCC Voucher Scheme promised before the election wasn't currently viable as the Government had changed the criteria for grants to help in rural areas. The funding had originally been to fund fibre cable to the cabinet only but now it has to go all the way to the householders and the project has stalled as the cost is too great. There are some residents in Ivy Hatch with poor broadband speeds and Cllr Rayner had suggested that a meeting should be set up with those residents and George Chandler, Broadband Project Manager at KCC, to try and come up with possible solutions and costings and to discuss how best to proceed with Openreach. The Parish Council agreed to sponsor such a meeting and The Clerk said that she would try and get a date set up in December.

**School** - Winter maintenance of car park/access routes – cost of snow plough/gritter. The Headmaster had raised a concern at the beginning of the year about keeping the school open during bad weather. He will be unable to open the school if parents cannot use the car park as the majority of pupils are driven to school. Cllr Willingham had got some quotes for a snow plough (£1,942) and a gritter (£3,966). It was agreed that a snow plough couldn't be used on the surface of the car park and that salt/grit would damage the lime trees. The Clerk was asked to contact Richard McKenna to get some advice on what would be safe to use on the surface that wouldn't damage the trees.

**Defibrillator** – Taining 2019

**Allotment Leases** – Defer until December

**Bus Stop Back Lane** - Defer until December

Signed.....Dated.....

**Christmas Tree** – The Fairlawne Estate have offered a Christmas Tree for the village Square. It was agreed that Cllr Willingham would collect the tree in time for the carols in the Square on 19<sup>th</sup> December. The Clerk will email residents about decorating the tree.

**Music Festival** – 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2019

**Dog Fouling in Recreation Ground** – A resident had reported an increase in dog fouling in the recreation ground. Cllr Betts offered to raise this with the dog warden and the Clerk will get some prices for signage.

## 9. FINANCE & POLICY

**Online banking** - The forms have been signed and a cheque raised to open the account with Unity Bank.

**Data Protection** - Nothing to report.

**Financial Regulations** – Clerk to review

The following accounts were submitted for payment: Proposed by Cllr Mitchem and seconded by Cllr Hall

Parish Clerk Salary & Expenses November	£662.75
HMRC – Employer Tax (to be deducted from credit on account)	£9.40
Gel Creative - November	£50.00
Royal British Legion – Wreath + (£50) Donation	£67.00
Lucas Electrical – Repair of lights in recreation ground	£750.00
Sevenoaks District Council - Scout Hut Inspection Fee	£1,326.00
JH Estate & Gardening	£336.00
Ightham Scouts – First Installment of staged payments donation	£20,000.00

Current Account £16,166.63

Deposit Account £260,781.59

Transfer £25,000

## 10. CORRESPONDENCE

**KALC** - Chairmanship Conference 2018: 13<sup>th</sup> December

**KALC** Community Awards Scheme 2019 – Nominations due 31 January 2019.

**Highways England** consultation on its updated proposals for the Lower Thames Crossing. On the south side of the Thames, the proposed new road will link to the A2 and M2. On the north side, it will link the A13 and the M25. **The deadline is 20 December 2018.** Further details on the consultation and supporting documents can be accessed via the following weblink:

<https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/ltc/consultation/>.

**Kent County Council** Consultation on its proposed budget for 2019/2020. **The consultation closes on 21 November 2018.** [www.kent.gov.uk/budget](http://www.kent.gov.uk/budget).

**TMBC** - New Waste and Recycling Collection Service 2019 – Offer of 20 minute presentation at Parish Meetings 29<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2019. It was agreed that we should invite them to our annual parish meeting.

**KALC** - HGV Pilot Area – Suggestions for suitable site. Cllr Rayner said that this is more relevant in Mid and South Kent.

**Kent Highways** - New procedure for Road Closure Public Events – Will only require a Traffic Management Plan

**Ightham PSA** - Request to serve alcohol at School Fete – It was agreed as long as they got the necessary license.

**Leybourne Grange** – Donation – It was agreed that we would donate the same as last year.

**Darby & Joan** – Donation – It was agreed that we would donate £20.

AOB

Cllr Cracknell suggested that the new website should have a section on what the Parish Council had done.

Cllr Willingham gave thanks to Cllr Cracknell for placing the wreath on Remembrance Sunday.

Cllr Willingham gave thanks to everyone for working on the Local Plan submission.

The meeting closed at 10.20pm.

Signed.....Dated.....