

2/19

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON TUESDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2019 AT IGHTHAM VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Mike Holden (Chair), Cllr Brierley, Cllr Burgham, Cllr Cracknell, County Cllr Rayner, The Parish Clerk and 7 members of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr Willingham, Cllr Mitchem, Cllr Hall, Cllr Edge-McKenna, Borough Cllr Betts
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** - Cllr Burgham declared an interest in Leathercote House.
3. **MINUTES** - The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 January 2019 were approved and signed as a true record.
4. **UPDATE FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR** – Cllr Rayner reported that he had spoken to the Cabinet Member in general terms regarding retaining the hours at Borough Green library. No decision has been taken yet and officers are working through replies to the consultation. There have been many responses regarding Borough Green library and there is a possibility that the library may be reclassified which may mean that the hours will remain as they are without any need for financial input from Parishes.
 Bus consultation- Changes to the 404/405 services will take effect at the beginning of the summer; the services will no longer go through Ivy Hatch, Plaxtol and Shipbourne. Cllr Rayner has asked for this to be given further consideration at the Scrutiny Committee as he is concerned that this will lead to isolation of the elderly.
5. **PUBLIC** – Members of the public raised a concern about speeding through Ivy Hatch on Stone Street Road; the boundary between Sevenoaks and TMBC is 30mph and then it goes to a national speed limit. The residents would like to see a 30mph limit throughout the whole area which is used by cyclists, dog walkers and walkers. The roads are narrow and nowadays the cars are larger and there are no pavements so there is a safety concern.
 Cllr Holden said that the Parish Council shared the same view and that they would like to see a 30mph limit throughout the whole village and that there is now a working party who are trying to take this forward.
 Cllr Cracknell said that even if we get the speed limit, enforcement is a problem and that we have tried to set up Speedwatch in the past but haven't had enough volunteers; the evidence would be very useful to give to the Police and Kent Highways as in the past they have said that there is not enough data to warrant action.
 A resident said that she had done Speedwatch for Seal Parish Council and one of the issues was finding somewhere safe to do it and this would also be an issue with installing a radar as often the safe location doesn't pick up the speeding data that you need to prove that there is an issue.
 Cllr Holden said that the Parish Council have agreed to engage the services of a Traffic Consultant with our "wish list" that we would like to take forward to Kent Highways. This will be a long term project and the gathering of any speeding data will help our cause. The Parish Council have also agreed to fund white gates at entrance points to the village which will hopefully encourage drivers to slow down when driving through the village.
 Cllr Cracknell said that the Police need a lot of data before they will do a site visit as they are a stretched resource. She suggested that a log is kept of accidents/incidents/photos as evidence that there is a problem. Residents were also encouraged to write to the MP, Borough and County Councillor with concerns.

Cllr Rayner said that there were plans for some A25 closures at Wrotham Heath, further details to follow.

A member of public reported that the MR418 footpath had been altered but signage hadn't been put up and he had written to Maria McLoughlin at PROW about it. The Clerk was also asked to write.

A member of public reported that there was a leaning conifer outside Saxum Casa – Clerk to report.

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

6. PLANNING

TM/19/00081/FL - 3 Oldbury Cottages, Oldbury Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9DE. Proposed loft conversion with 2 link pitched dormers to rear elevation and 2 conservation style rooflights to front elevation. "No objection."

TM/19/00099/TNCA - The Old Forge, Sevenoaks Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9AA. Mature Leyland Cypress - fell 8 trees from house to low wall. "No objection providing Liz Guthrie is content."

TM/19/00142/FL – Leathercote House, Fen Pond Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9JD. Single storey extension to detached garage to create games room. "No objection to the extension but neighbours have raised concerns about potential noise and we would like to see a planning condition about the games room being restricted to domestic usage only."

TM/19/00189/LB – Ightham Place, The Street - Listed Building Application: Removal of one internal staircase and associated alterations, external window refurbishment to the rear elevation, 2 x internal replacement windows, 1 x new window and refurbished driveway gates. Refurbishment of existing driveway entrance gates. "No objection."

Kent Waste & Minerals Plan (KWMP) – Consultation – Parish Response – Cllr Rayner reported that Ryarsh Quarry had disappeared from the KWMP as the preferred site for mineral extraction is in Lenham. Lenham will still need to go through the commercial process to get planning consent and if it doesn't go ahead, Ryarsh may come back onto the agenda. A question was asked about Celcon as it isn't on the KWMP and Cllr Rayner explained that the silica sand quarried at Celcon falls outside the KWMP and that an application for silica sand extraction would go through KCC separately. In the light of this information, it was decided that Ightham Parish Council doesn't have any comment to make on the KWMP.

Planning Decisions – Approved

TM/18/02540/TNCA - 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 - Field House, Tonbridge Road.

TM/18/03002/TPOC - G7 and G5 - 11 Limes to be cut back overhanging branches to 2m and G11 - Remove 11 Lime Trees – Sycamores, Bates Hill.

TM/18/02818/FL - Garage conversion and single storey rear extension - 7 Oldbury Close.

TM/18/02715/FL - Demolition of existing outbuilding and new replacement outbuilding - Selected Plants Nursery, Ismays Road.

TM/18/02958/FL - Replace conservatory with extension - The Chase, Jubilee Crescent.

TM/19/00115/NMA - Non Material Amendment to planning permission TM/16/02720/FL: Addition of an external recess to house an air source heat pump, plus two new timber clad access doors within the facade to access the plant, relocation of existing double access doors into the side of the main hall, moving the doors nearer the rear of the hall and change of the approved polycarbonate cladding from Opal finish to Clear finish - The Pavilion, Ightham Recreation Ground.

Planning Decisions – Refused

TM/18/02834/FL - Proposed replacement single storey extension - The Barn, Ightham Court.

TM/18/02977/FL - Demolition of existing property and garage and erection of a replacement dwelling - Fir Bank, Coach Road.

TM/18/02990/FL - Replace the roof design of original proposal with a hipped roof – Dimber, Mote Road.

LOCAL PLAN – Borough Green Gardens - Update – Cllr Rayner reported that an Inspector had yet to be appointed.

7. MATTERS ARISING

Highways Matters – Resurfacing programme of Back Lane and Common Road starting March 2019; Closure of Common Road outside Rosewood from 18 March for 5 days; Resurfacing of The Close from 11 March for 2 days.

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

WW2 Memorial Stone for Malcolm Ravenhill – The Clerk had met with 2 representatives from Shoreham Aircraft Museum to look at possible locations for the stone and they had identified the current War Memorial site as the most preferable location. Some Councillors thought that it may look uneven with our existing memorial and asked for a mock up to see what it would look like and asked the Clerk to revisit the idea of it being on Leathercote Corner or opposite the church wall.

Village Traffic Matters - Traffic calming, 30mph Zone, parking – The Clerk has put together a wish list of traffic improvements which is ready to send to the Traffic Consultant. Cllr Rayner confirmed that he would have availability in around a weeks time and the Clerk was asked to contact him.

Scout Hut/Pavilion – Update - Closure of car park, lights – Cllr Holden reported that the scouts were installing a ground source heat pump to the new building. There have been further break-ins at the pavilion and consideration is being given to types of security. A planning application has gone to TMBC for external lighting.

Tennis Club Lights – Update – Cllr Cracknell suggested that we consider solar lighting. It was agreed that this would be a good idea but we will wait to see what happens with the external lighting on the new scout building. The Clerk was asked to get some ideas from Andrew and check the planning status.

Ightham Cricket Club – Update - Nothing to report.

Busty Stream/ Flooding – Update - Flood Action Group - Bridge Works – We have been awarded Grant Funding of £3,000 from Cllr Rayner which will be used to improve the dodgy bridge and are waiting for a response from the contractor about the start of the works. Cllr Cracknell reported that there was going to be a walk through of the Busty on 20th February with a representative from KCC to get some guidance on riparian responsibilities.

Recreation Ground –ROSPA repairs – The Clerk had been in contact with James Hayward about repairs to the fence. Cllr Betts had provided some dog fouling signs and it was decided that some should go on the railings and some should go near to the dog posts. A member of public offered to help to put them up. The salt bins are now in and filled with salt available for members of public to use. The idea of a haha had been discussed to prevent people from driving onto the recreation ground but had been discounted for a number of reasons. It was suggested that we looked at a simple post and rail fence behind the beech hedge once the scout hut is finished.

Car Park – Pot holes and future resurfacing - Cllr Holden reported that we have received further requests to have the car park tarmaced. We are unable to have a hard surface due to drainage issues and the planning condition for preservation of the lime trees and cost. The Parish Council has reserved funding for pothole repairs and maintaining the existing surface.

Broadband – Update - Nothing to report, we understand that the residents are taking this forward.

Defibrillator – Training 2019 - An advert has gone into the Parish magazine to see what interest there would be in having another training session.

Allotment Leases – It was agreed that we should continue with the existing arrangements and that updated leases should be sent with the payment reminders.

Bus Stop Back Lane – Nothing to report.

Waste & Recycling - A representative from TMBC is coming to talk at the annual Parish meeting on 25th April to talk about the new collections.

Litter – Great British Spring Clean 22 March to 23 April 2019 – it was decided that we would organise a village litter pick on Saturday 30th March at 10am and it will finish at 11am and be followed by coffee in the George & Dragon or village hall. Advert to go into the Parish magazine and Clerk to contact TMBC to get some kit and organise collection of the rubbish.

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

School Summer Fayre – 13th July 2019 12-5pm Ightham Recreation Ground – We have received an email from the PSA at Ightham School asking whether they can use the recreation ground for a village summer fayre and charge an entrance fee. It was agreed that this would be okay and the Clerk was asked to respond accordingly.

8. FINANCE & POLICY

Online banking – Unity Bank is up and running and the first standing order has been set up by the Clerk and Cllr Cracknell.

NALC Financial Regulations – Approval – Cllr Holden had checked the Financial Regulations and the Clerk had made the suggested amendments. They have been largely unchanged save for some changes to the thresholds. The Clerk was asked to circulate so that they can be dated and approved at the next meeting.

Data Protection & Email addresses – Cllr Holden reminded everyone that under the new GDPR regulations, Councillors should use a separate email address for Council business. The Clerk said that she had met with a Computer Consultant who had advised that Googlemail for business would be suitable and will set up individual emails for Councillors following the elections; there will be a small monthly charge.

The following accounts were proposed and seconded for payment:

Parish Clerk Salary & Expenses February	£638.60
HMRC – Employer Tax (nil to pay as credit on account)	£9.40
GritBin (M&S Bank)	£212.06
Gel Creative - January	£40.00
Gel Creative – February (Unity Bank Standing Order)	£40.00
Village Hall Insurance Policy	£2,524.75
Samaritans – Donation	£100.00
KALC – Planning Conference 15 March	£72.00
Planet Plants – Grit/Salt	£244.50

Current Account: £23,951.24 Deposit Account £215,898.99

Unity Bank £500.00

The Bank Mandate was signed by Cllr Burgham following a resolution that he should be added as an authorised signatory. Ex Cllr Edwards should be removed.

EDF – Renewal of contract for electricity at the pavilion– We have been sent a letter about renewing the contract for a fixed fee but will need to be tied in for 12 months. It was agreed that we let the rate become variable until the demolition of the pavilion.

9. PARISH ELECTIONS – 2nd May 2019 – Timetable and nomination forms – Nomination Forms have been circulated and information put onto noticeboard and the Parish website. Cllr Brierley said that she would not be standing at the next election. Ightham Parish Council will have 9 vacancies that will need to be filled. An election will only be called if the number of applicants exceed the number of places.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

KCC – Brexit Preparedness – Partnership Pack – Circulated

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

KALC Minutes from 10 January 2019 – Circulated

PPP Minutes from 7 February 2019 - Circulated

The Counselling Centre – Request for donation. It was agreed that we would donate £100.

Letter from Kent Police & Email message from Police regarding recent crime – Circulated.

KALC - The Committee on Standards in Public Life has published its report on ethical standards in local government. The Full report is now available on their [website](#).

KALC - Resilience and Emergency Planning – Information available on TMBC website. The Clerk will look at updating the Emergency Plan.

AOB:

A black bin has been left at the Old Lane junction for several months and this has been reported to Waste Services.

The Clerk was asked to chase up the gas works at the end of Rectory Lane.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

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