

6/19

**MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2019 IGHTHAM VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Willingham (Chairman), Cllr Holden (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Burgham, Cllr Cracknell, Cllr Emmett, Cllr Fielder, Cllr Hall, Cllr Mitchem, The Parish Clerk, Borough Cllr Betts and County Cllr Rayner and 4 members of the public.

MINUTES

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - DECLARATION OF INTERESTS - None**
2. **MINUTES** - The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 May 2019 were approved and signed as a true record.
3. **UPDATE FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR** – Cllr Rayner gave an update on broadband in Ivy Hatch and said that things were moving forward and that funds could be available in the next couple of months to help with connectivity in this area. Final details are expected in September. A further scheme in Fen Pond Road is now on the list of schemes although the routing has not yet been approved.

The works to the bridge on Borough Green Road are almost complete and appear to have helped during recent heavy rainfall; Cllr Rayner is pleased with the outcome.

Cllr Rayner has received several remarks on the additional charges for recycling soil and rubble and said that there will be no charges for these materials at the Cuxton site for the next 18 months pending the new household recycling facility at Aylesford. A member of public asked whether TMBC residents were able to use the Cuxton site free of charge and Cllr Rayner confirmed that they now could although they may still charge for some items such as tyres. Cllr Betts suggested that this information should be published to residents. Cllr Rayner said that the increased revenue from charging to recycle plasterboard and rubble would be used to tackle fly tipping. £250,000 will be used towards enforcement and there have already been some prosecutions and fines issued.

4. **UPDATE FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR** – Cllr Betts reported that the Clerk had reported more fly tipping at the Ightham Village Hall but the rubbish has now been cleared. When reporting the incident, a question was raised about how frequently the recycling bins are cleaned. Cllr Betts also asked whether the 2 black bins were necessary as they seemed to attract fly tipping.

Cllr Betts reported that the new contract with Urbaser had started well and complaints were down by 48% on the previous month and missed bins down by 6%. Cllr Betts also reported that there was a service available to help elderly residents who are unable to bring their bins to the roadside. TMBC will notify us when the new recycling service will come into force as it will be phased in from September.

At the recent PPP, the poor level of service was raised in connection with thefts from outbuildings; 2 members of the council had reported such thefts and were only issued with a crime reference number as no entry was gained to the house. This is a concerning development as all burglaries should be taken seriously and the Police Officer present at the meeting confirmed that this should be the case.

Cllr Betts attended the hearing on the South Beats Festival as he is concerned about the site location and noise. A License has been granted and there will be a Safety Group who will assess the traffic. Noise may be an issue as it is in an elevated position.

Cllr Betts attended a meeting of the Economic Regeneration Advisory Board and is pleased to report that TMBC is one of the most prosperous boroughs in the Country and features high on the list for many areas within the whole country.

Cllr Betts reported that Tom Tugendhat MP had written a long letter to the Planning Department at TMBC regarding some concerns about the Local Plan.

Signed.....*R Willingham*.....Dated.....16 July 2019.....

5. **PUBLIC** – 2 members of the public who have been involved in setting up a working group to get superfast broadband in Ivy Hatch attended to give an update on progress. The group canvassed 124 residents in Ivy Hatch and now have 80 residents who are willing to be involved. They had discussions with BT Openreach and Gigaclear; Gigaclear will not be providing a service and Openreach have come up with a number of proposals; they are subject to refinement and they are currently going into more detailed engineering. The cost is in the region of £160k. The Government Voucher Scheme will offer £2,500 per household and £3,000 per business and KCC are looking at their funding as well but need to have agreement with Central Government as it is public funding – they are hopeful that these subsidies will cover the cost. In order to get the funding, the group will need to form an entity which will be a company limited by guarantee. This will enable residents to commit and apply for the vouchers and commit their own funds. A member of public reported that he was flooded in 2016 and gave thanks to the Parish Council and Cllr Rayner for the funding that had been used for the flood defence at the bridge. He reported that the Flood Forum Group are very active and that following recent work to the bridge, the water is flowing well. Cllr Rayner also gave his thanks to the Parish Council and particularly Cllr Holdden who had pushed for a decision to make the contribution.

5. PLANNING

Planning Applications

TM/19/01153/TNCA – Glenwood, Spring Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9DR. T1 3 Stem Oak - Dismantle to near ground level and T2 2 Stem Oak -Dismantle to near ground level. Both opposite No 3. “No objection.”

TM/19/01210/LDE - Land Rear Of Brookside Cottages, Ismays Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent. Lawful Development Certificate Existing: Landscapers/builder yard with associated storage and distribution. “Ightham Parish Council objects to this application for the following reasons: We believe that the site has never been used as a builders yard but has been used for storing landscaping materials such as broken paving, rag stone etc. There used to be an open fronted building on the earth, with no proper base. The site was used to store items for burning which used to be at least 2-3 m high.”

TM/19/01160/FL - Land Rear Of Brookside Cottages, Ismays Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, Construction of new dwelling and detached garage.” Ightham Parish Council objects to this application on the basis that it is not linear development. It is in an area of AONB and metropolitan greenbelt and there are no special circumstances.”

TM/19/01164/TNCA - Land Adjoining Upper Spring Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, T1 and T2 Norway Spruce – fell. “No objection.”

TM/19/01217/FL - Half Acre, Coach Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0PF. External swimming pool. “No objection.”

TM/19/01218/TPOC - Former Redland Tileworks, Redwell Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9EH. T46 Oak Tree - remove the dead wood, two standing dead stems of Silver Birch within the woodland section - fell, two trees on top of a steep bank in the woodland edge to the south of No. 42 - reduce the height of the trees by at least 50%, two fallen trees hung up on the bank to the rear of No 16 - fell, T9 and adjacent Ivy covered Oak - remove significant deadwood and sever ivy, Dead Oak trees x2 adjacent to T16, (No 22 Nutfields) - fell, Dead Willow rear of No 22 Nutfields - fell, T34 - remove dead branch above the bank and T57 and adjacent tree - remove significant deadwood.” Ightham Parish Council has no objection to the above application subject to your approval but also requests that the hedges at the boundary with Ismays Road are cut back at the same time as they are overgrown.”

TM/19/01219/TPOC - 19 Nutfields, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9EA. Large Oak outside the garden of 19 Nutfields - reduce the crown back from the property extension by approx 2m (not to the boundary) and remove dead wood that may affect the property.” Ightham Parish Council have some concerns about felling an Oak for reasons due to shading but leave to your discretion.”

Signed.....*R Willingham*.....Dated.....16 July 2019.....

TM/19/01222/RD - Church Of St Peter, Fen Pond Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, Details of condition 3 (watching brief) submitted pursuant to planning permission TM/18/02086/FL (Single storey extension of the existing church centre to provide an enlarged hall and kitchen, a new office and an additional WC. New double doors leading to an enlarged external paved area). "No objection"

TM/19/01237/LRD - Harrow Cottage, Common Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9EB. Details of conditions 2 (Joinery), 3a (Timber Floor), 3b (Timber Decay), 3c.(Timber Decay), 3d (Masonry), and 3e (Roofs) pursuant to Listed Building planning permission TM/19/00353/LB (Listed Building Application: Proposed repairs and refurbishment consisting of timber roof member treatment repairs and alterations; internal timber treatment throughout cottage generally; chimney stack partial reconstruction; first floor joist structural integrity improvements; first floor sound proofing improvements; replace modern concrete ground floor with a new floor and under floor heating; structural tie/restraint to north flank/internal cross walls; underpins to existing foundations at north east flank walls, and replacement of all rotting timber windows and modern main entrance door). "No objection"

TM/19/01254/FL - Fir Bank, Coach Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks Kent TN15 0PE
Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of a replacement dwelling with associated parking and amenity space. " No objection"

Planning Decisions – Approved

TM/19/00963/TNCA - T1 - Eucalyptus - Pollard to a height of approximately 8m. - Preston Fields, Tonbridge Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9AN.

TM/19/01061/TNCA - T1 Sweet Chestnut - reduce by 2m and dead wood, T2 Sycamore - re-pollard by 1m below old cuts and T3 Poplar - re-pollard to old cuts – Charters, Tonbridge Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9AP.

TM/19/00886/FL - Single storey rear extension. Single storey side extension to provide link to existing outbuilding (re-submission of TM/16/01752/FL which is due to expire in September) - Redwell House. Redwell Lane. Ightham. Sevenoaks. Kent. TN15 9EE.

TM/19/00954/TPOC - Leylandi x 2 - complete removal and White Willow, bunching of 6 - complete removal of the bunch of 6 (trees located in Farley Cottage) - Farley Cottage, Copt Hall, Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9DT.

TM/19/00921/LB TM/19/00920/FL - Listed Building Application: Raised terrace to be attached to recently built garden room extension - Holly Tree Cottage, Redwell Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9EE.

6. **LOCAL PLAN – Borough Green Gardens Update** – Cllr Betts said that TMBC is not currently meeting its housing supply and the new methodology of calculation has exacerbated this. As soon as the local plan is adopted this will be addressed. A long letter has been sent from the Inspectors to TMBC and it is on the TMBC website along with the response. One of the issues that was raised was that the responses to the consultation aren't easy to identify and therefore it is difficult to assess the submissions. TMBC have cited GDPR as the reason for redacting the submissions. In addition, the relief road has been given as the "special circumstances" for the Borough Green Gardens development, however the relief road is necessary to facilitate the development. If the plan is rejected, the concern is that we will end up having to find additional housing to meet the new government figures. The plan can however be amended so that the figures can stay the same.

7. MATTERS ARISING

Highways Matters – New signage has been ordered for the bottom of Bates Hill, Borough Green Road and Rushmere Court. Potholes on Sandy Lane by the woodland, pothole by Windy Ridge, Keep Left sign on A25 by Crown Point has fallen off. It was also reported that there had been some flooding at the end of Tebbs Way but the blocked drains had been cleared.

Village Traffic Matters - Les Henry Associates - We have now received the Traffic Report from Les Henry Associates. In summary, he supports the suggestions put forward by the Steering Group and he has come up with some additional suggestions for traffic calming. Some speed surveys had been carried out on Borough Green Road and results indicated that the average speeds are high enough for Kent Highways to take note. Cllr Rayner suggested that we approach KCC with a priority list and an offer to contribute some funding. In addition, we should approach the Joint Transportation Board (JTB) with our list of requests. It was decided that the Steering Group should meet with Les Henry, if

Signed.....*R Willingham*.....Dated.....16 July 2019.....

possible, to go through the report and draw up our list of priorities. Ultimately the decision will be with the Cabinet Members for Highways who has a series of criteria for supporting schemes; if it has passed through the JTB, has the support of a Highways Officer and an offer of funding available, it is more likely to be looked at more favourably. A member of public said that he has spoken to the police about speeding on Borough Green Road they said that they could send out a mobile speed van if the speeding was an issue. The Clerk will contact them with the speed data that we have to see if they will come out. The member of public also asked whether the data from Les Henry was sufficient for Kent Highways to take the traffic calming suggestions seriously. Cllr Rayner said that he was very well qualified and respected. He also asked whether it was possible to have speed calming on an "A" road and Cllr Rayner said that this was now possible. One of the traffic calming suggestions is to have a roundabout at Oldbury Lane and Cllr Rayner said that the Parish would not be expected to offer funding towards such a large scheme. He also reported that the accident figures had dropped off recently, it is thought that the car park at the recreation ground has helped.

The Steering Group will meet and put together a list for Cllrs Betts and Rayner to go onto the JTB Agenda. The next JTB meeting will be 23rd September.

Parking on The Street - It was reported that Traffic Wardens had been out and ticketed cars on The Street; they will be making repeat visits to target the cars parking on the double yellow lines. A member of public had queried the parking restrictions at the Village Hall Car Park; The Clerk confirmed that cars can only park for 23 hours in a 24 hour period, this is to prevent people parking long term and using the spaces for storage. A question was raised about introducing parking permits and this should go onto the list of discussion items for the Steering Group.

Accident on Leathercote Corner – The stone cairn, village sign and street sign were recently damaged in a car accident. We have a crime reference number and have reported the incident to our insurance company and are waiting for quotes to make the necessary repairs. It was suggested that the cairn should be rebuilt as it was but the village sign should be shortened by 2 feet. Cllr Willingham had some prices for repairs: £1,260 to rebuild the cairn, £300 to hire a cherry picker to fix the sign and £80 to shorten the sign.

Scout Hut/Pavilion – Update - The Clerk reported that she had sent a schedule of Parish Payments to the Scouts. The Scouts said that the scheduled completion date is the end of July and we are awaiting an update on the budget and fundraising position.

Tennis Club Lights – Update – nothing to report.

Ightham Cricket Club – Update – The Cricket Club had been in touch with Cllr Mitchem to say that they were carrying out drainage works which would cost £4,500; they have requested some matched funding. It was suggested that we asked them to put their request in writing as we are still awaiting details on ownership and whether we can register the ground and pavilion as a community asset.

Busty Stream/ Flooding – Update - Flood Action Group - Bridge Works – It was reported that the culvert has now been installed and the brickwork will be repaired when the water levels drop.

Emergency Plan – Cllr Cracknell, Cllr Holden and the Clerk had met with members of the Flood Forum including Katia and representatives from the Environment Agency (EA) to discuss how to prepare a Flood Plan which will become an appendix to our Emergency Plan. Templates have been sent to the Clerk who will prepare a first draft. The Flood Forum are monitoring the section by the BT bridge and the EA have suggested that we get together a list of people that would be able to remove large items from the Stream that would be too risky for residents/riparian owners to remove– it was suggested that we ask James Hayward.

Recreation Ground – Pitch Levelling – Cllr Holden had met with a Consultant and James Hitchcock; the pitch has a height difference of 2.5 metres. The Consultant will be providing a report on the quality of the pitch. They have also suggested that the pitch is cut weekly and required a feed and weed.

Once we have a report we can get a quote. It is only the second team that currently use the pitch. The ROSPA Inspection is due to take place in July. Damaged wetpour – we have had one quote and will wait for the Rospa report to see what they pick up so that we can get a comprehensive quote for repairs. The PSA have contacted us about the School Fayre following our email about parking on the rec; they have asked whether a few cars could park on the ground to tether the hot air balloon, an ice cream van and a police car – this was agreed. The Clerk will circulate the flyer.

Broadband – Update - see above

Bus Stop Back Lane – Update – Nothing to report.

Malcolm Ravenhill Memorial Stone – Update – We have now had permission for the stone from KCC. Cllr Emmet reported that the museum were trying to get a Hurricane to do a fly over. It is likely to be installed next Easter to coincide with the opening of the season.

Website – Upgrade and Change of host – The Clerk reported that a cheque has been raised for a deposit.

Signed.....*R Willingham*.....Dated.....16 July 2019.....

Village Hall Car Park- access – The Clerk had drafted a letter that is currently with Warners for approval.

Crime Report/Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Holden had circulated a list of recent break ins.

Climate Change - Farm Waste – Cllr Betts reported that the National Farmers have a recycling service that is free of charge to sign up to.

Litter Pick – 29 June – The Clerk reported that she will pick up some equipment from TMBC next week.

8. FINANCE & POLICY

8.1 Annual Review – The accounts have been audited by our internal auditor. The annual review has been carried out and was duly signed off.

8.2 Internal Audit AGAR – Sign Off – The accounting statement was approved and signed off.

8.3 Bank Mandate signatures – The Clerk will print off the new mandate for signature by Cllr Burgham, Cllr Fielder and Cllr Emmett.

8.4 The following accounts were submitted for payment: Proposed Cllr Hall, seconded Cllr Burgham.

Parish Clerk Salary & Expenses June	
HMRC – Employer Tax (<i>nil to pay as credit on account</i>)	£666.22
Gel Creative - June (OLT)	£40.00
Gel Creative – Deposit for website redesign (OLT)	£285.00
JH Estate & Gardening Services – Grass cutting May	£1,416.00
Anthony Edwards – Churchyard	£924.43
Anthony Edwards – Parish Council Maintenance	£480.08
Ferncroft – Annual Parish Audit (OLT)	£288.00
Ightham Village Hall	£270.00
Latitude – Professional Fees Scout Hut	£2,940.00
KALC – Dynamic Councillor Training – Cllr Fielder	£60.00
EDF – Electricity Ightham pavilion (OLT)	£85.62
Abstract – Engineering Fees Scout Hut	£720.00
Rialtas – Software License	£145.20
Glass repairs – Village Hall	£105.60
GA Willingham – Flytipping remove	£240.00
R Willingham – Labour Fly tipping removal	£30.00
On Call Carpets – New lino for Scout Hut	£1,200.00
Wrotham Parish Council – Local Plan Professional Fees	£764.07
Deposit Account: £217,274.15	

9. CORRESPONDENCE –

Request for donation – Kenward Trust & Citizens Advice – It was agreed that we would donate £100 for each charity.

Town & Parish Councils – VE Day 75 - 8th May 2020 – No events are currently planned.

Representatives for the Joint Standards Committee – No interest.

KCC Leader announces new household waste site and funding to tackle flytipping – Reported above.

KALC - Councillors Conference Thursday 18th July 2019, Ditton Community Centre.

10. AOB

Cllr Willingham reported that floor repairs were necessary in the village hall toilets and would cost £1,730 for new tiles and £760 for decorating. Cllr Mitchem and Cllr Cracknell suggested that more substantial refurbishment should be considered and agreed to come up with some suggestions.

Cllr Fielder asked about HGV signage on Oldbury Lane – it was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 10.20pm

Signed.....R Willingham.....Dated.....16 July 2019.....