



2/21

MINUTES

Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday 16 February 2021 via Zoom

Present: Cllr Willingham (Chairman), Cllr Holden (Vice Chairman), Cllr Burgham, Cllr Clark, Cllr Emmett, Cllr Fielder, Cllr Hall, Cllr Hogarth, Cllr Mitchem, County Cllr Rayner, Borough Cllr Betts and The Parish Clerk.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - None
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – Cllr Emmet declared a potential interest in the planning application for The Copse as he is a neighbour.
3. **MINUTES** - The Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 January 2021 were approved as a true record.
4. **UPDATE FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR, COUNTY COUNCILLOR** – Cllr Rayner reported that regarding Brexit, the queues with ferries and shuttles that had been expected hadn't come about and that traffic was around 25% down on what was historically expected. They are looking to close Manston lorry park as soon as possible.

The number of Covid infections have come down significantly and numbers last week were below 45 per 100,000. Hospitals are emptying in West Kent. A mass vaccination centre has opened at the Angel Centre in Tonbridge and Tonbridge and Malling are now well covered for vaccinations and compliments have been received on the service provided.

Cllr Rayner reported that KCC were proposing a 4.999% increase in Council Tax and he voted against it as he didn't think it was justified.

Cllr Willingham asked about the suggestion by Cllr Palmer of Platt PC, following recent heavy snowfall, about purchasing a gritter to share between Parishes. Cllr Rayner said that Wrotham and Borough Green Parishes had jointly purchased a gritter a few years ago and the arrangement worked well.

Cllr Willingham asked Cllr Rayner about his thoughts on the letter sent from TMBC to the Planning Inspector regarding the Local Plan asking the Secretary of State to intervene. Cllr Rayner thought it unlikely that the Secretary of State would get involved as it was a legal matter. Cllr Rayner mentioned an alternative Local Plan B from TMBC; no further details were given. Cllr Mitchem asked whether the current plan could be rectified, and Cllr Rayner said that he thought not as it was unlawful having been rejected on Duty to Co-operate. Cllr Betts said that even if the Duty to Co-operate was overcome, he could not see how the Plan could go ahead however we will have to wait and see what happens.

Cllr Rayner asked about replanting the hedges at Chapel View as there was an issue with waste being dumped in the ditch which needed to be resolved before any replanting took place. Cllr Willingham said that he would speak to the neighbours. Cllr Rayner said that if there was no co-operation then it would be reported via the usual channels.

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



Cllr Betts reported that the mass vaccination centre had opened at the Angel Centre which was proving to be a good location for local residents.

Due to the snow some of the rubbish collections were missed and Urbaser will be catching up this week. The closure of Dunbrick and inability to access Allington on Sunday has delayed collections further. Cllr Rayner said that KCC are handling significant increases in refuse and would be happy to ask about smooth running of services in bad weather. Cllr Hall asked why delivery trucks managed to gain access but refuse trucks were unable to? Cllr Betts said that the refuse trucks are considerably bigger and the queues at Allington and North Farm had caused difficulties. In addition, staff were redeployed to clear snow at the vaccination sites.

Cllr Betts said that there were more Covid grants available to support businesses that had been compelled to close. £3million in grants went out last week and Cllr Betts asked to promote the grants to local businesses that may have suffered.

Cllr Fielder asked why TMBC couldn't use some funding for 20mph limits in the rural villages? Cllr Betts said that the money was to be spent on sustainable travel (ie walking and cycling) and this was more geared towards towns. Cllr Rayner said that the criteria for the grant was that money had to be spent quickly, ie schemes were ready to go and that they were looking for maximum value per capita. Cllr Rayner recommended that this was taken up with our MP.

Cllrs Rayner and Betts left the meeting at 20.14.

5. MATTERS ARISING

Highways & PROW Matters - Barbed wire at Longcroft Lodge footpath – Cllr Fielder reported that there was a planned site meeting with PROW at the footpath MR614 to look at the fence, the rerouted footpath and signage. The Parish Clerk reported that she had been in touch with Explore Kent about upgrading the 2 Footpath Maps and they have asked for measurements. New salt bins required at Oldbury Lane/Spring Lane, Trycewell Lane and refilling various bins following recent snowfall. Various potholes on Common Road and road breaking up in places, blocked drain on Mill Lane, potholes on Styants Bottom – Clerk to report. Mud on pavement surface on footpath near the footbridge – Cllr Fielder offered to clear and Cllrs Emmet and Clark offered to help. Footpath from Common Road to the Farm shop needs clearing – Clerk to report to TMBC. Southern Water. Cllr Mitchem said that she had been in contact with Cllr Mike Taylor and the land-owners at Stangate Quarry about the large amount of fly tipped rubbish and the broken fence. Cllr Burgham said that there was also fly tipping on Fen Pond Road near to the motorway bridge and would send the Clerk some photo's. Report of parked car continually parking on double yellow lines on The Street – The Clerk said that photographic evidence is not accepted by Enforcement Officers although would let the Officer know. Report that the Southern Water pumping station on Ismays Road had flooded onto a residential property. Cllr Willingham reported that there had been an electrical fault in the pump but this had now been fixed. The Clerk was asked to alert Cllr Rayner to ask if there was any way of checking that Southern Water are adequately checking their alarm systems.

Village Traffic Matters – Update - The Clerk reported that the PCC was hosting a meeting and suggested that we asked him for an update on speed enforcement through rural villages.

Scout Pavilion – Defibrillator - Nothing to report.

Old Scout Hut – Lease – The Clerk reported that she had sent our comments on the lease and that a query had been raised about granting a right of way across the public footpath. Warners are negotiating with KCC's lawyers. No update on the fire and broadband installation although this has now been noted in the correspondence between the parties.

Ightham Football Club – Pitch Levelling – Nothing to report.

Tennis Club - Update - Cllr Mitchem reported that the water pressure seemed to be slightly better since the investigative works last week. Cllr Willingham reported that we had received a quote for 8 path lights for £2,775 and a digger £400 (plus VAT). Cllr Holden asked whether we could get a quote for some smaller lights, similar to those at Tonbridge Sports Centre, before making a decision.

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



Ightham Cricket Club – Update – works have now been completed and this can come off the agenda.

Busty Stream - Maintenance - Cllr Holden said that he had been co-opted to become a member of the Kent Flood Action Forum who have a remit to lobby KCC and local MP's. Cllr Burgham reported that the new flood measures seem to be working well and Cllr Holden said that the Flood Action Group do a good job of looking after the Busty.

Recreation Ground –Cllr Willingham said that he had asked Tyrells for a quote for a new fence along Arboret boundary. New bin – to be ordered.

Village Hall - Update - Cllr Willingham reported that a further Covid grant had been received. The Hall is still closed.

Crime Report/Neighbourhood Watch - Update – Nothing to report.

Climate Change - Update – The Clerk was asked to find out about installing an electrical charging point following recent correspondence from KCC. Cllr Mitchem asked about Tree Planting in the village and it was decided that a Committee would be set up to put forward ideas. Cllr Mitchem, Clark and Hogarth put themselves forward.

Allotments behind Common Road - The Clerk reported that we were awaiting the Visual Tree Inspection.

Chapel View – Replanting - hornbeam/ hazel – Cllr Willingham said that he would make contact with the owners. Cllr Willingham said that he thought that 6 plants would be needed and would speak to the local Nursery.

Chapel Farm - Replanting - The Clerk reported that this had been chased up with the Forestry Commission who said that enforcement action would be taken if replanting hadn't started by the end of the planting season.

Leathercote Corner – TreeAbility had quoted to cut back the hedges on 1/3rd of the bank. Some of the property owners wanted to do the cutting back themselves and wanted to keep the height for screening. The hedging set back from the road is not a highways issue however traffic control would be necessary to carry out the work. It was thought that the hedging should be tidied up along the whole length of the bank however there was some discussion about ownership and therefore whose responsibility it was. The Clerk was asked to do a Land Registry search before making a decision.

6. PUBLIC

7. PLANNING

7.1 Planning Applications

TM/21/00056/RD - Barnfield Cottage, Stone Street Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0NH. Details of condition 2 (external materials), 10 (bat and badger surveys) and 11 (roof light) submitted pursuant to planning permission TM/17/01268/FL (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 (Resubmission of TM/16/00776/FL). *No comment.*

TM/21/00078/LDP - 5 Chapel View Chapel Row, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9AQ. Lawful Development Certificate Proposed: erection of an outbuilding in the rear garden to be used for recreational use which is ancillary to the main dwelling house. Garden maintenance storage, children's play room, family leisure. The proposed building is a timber framed, flat roofed and timber clad building at the rear of the garden. The building has a total height of 2.5 metres. The total area of the building does not exceed 50% of the total area of the land around the dwelling house. The building will sit on a 100mm thick reinforced concrete slab. *No comment.*

TM/21/00079/FL – Felgarth, Coach Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0HD.

Proposed two storey side and rear extension with raised roofline, two storey front porch atrium, roof and internal alterations, garden patio alterations and garden outbuilding. *"No objection"*

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



TM/21/00083/FL – Brackenwood, Pine Tree Lane, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0NJ. Conversion of existing residential outbuilding to provide a single dwelling, including access, landscaping and parking. “Objection on grounds of harm to openness of greenbelt and inappropriate development in greenbelt.”

TM/21/00120/FL – Ragstones, Mill Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9BH. Demolition of existing bungalow, garage and outbuildings and erection of a replacement dwelling and garage. “No objection.”

TM/21/00324/TPOC - The Copse, Common Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9DY. Beech T1 - Crown reduce to previous pruning points, T2 Oak x3 – Crown reduce height by approximately 3m and sides to balance and remove suckers up to approximately 20 feet. “No objection providing work is done sympathetically”

TM/21/00356/LDE - 1 New Cottages, Ismays Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0NX. Lawful Development Certificate Existing: Change an area of land adjacent to my property from agricultural to residential garden use, it has been used as garden for thirty years. “No comment. However Cllr Willingham will speak to the owner”

7.2 Planning Applications

Approved

20/02974/TNCA - Yew Tree Cottage, Trycewell Lane - Reduce crown T1 Yew Tree, removing 25% of foliage and shape remaining crown.

20/02875/NMA - Fir Bank, Coach Road - Non Material Amendment to planning permission TM/20/01747/FL: Creation of level area of lawn to the west of first floor terrace, change layout of yard to the north of the house and minor adjustments to driveway layout.

20/02776/FL - 9 Common Road - Single storey side and rear extension.

20/02728/FL - Longcroft Lodge, Oldbury Lane - Variation of conditions 2 (materials), 3 (approved plans), 9 (access road) and 11 (stable building) pursuant to planning permission TM/20/01604/FL (Erection of 2 no. four bedroom houses, installation of an access road and demolition of stable block /outbuilding in woodland area to the rear (as an alternative scheme to that approved under TM/18/00668/FL).

20/02898/TNCA - Oldbury House Oldbury Lane - Removal of 10 Cobnut trees; Norwegian Fir and Blue Spruce trees to be felled and replant the area with fruit trees.

20/02764/FL - The Old Rectory, Rectory Lane - Removal of conservatory and restoration of facade with two new windows. Construction of single storey orangery, detached garage and internal modifications which include two new dormer windows.

20/02762/FL - Old Rectory Cottage, Rectory Lane - Subdivision of the plot to separate Old Rectory Cottage from The Old Rectory. Construction of a new single storey orangery, internal modifications to create four bedroom dwelling including removal of one chimney and hipped dormer, the addition of five new dormers, three conservation roof lights and alterations to the fenestration.

20/02703/RD - Longcroft Lodge, Oldbury Lane. Details of Condition 4 (landscaping) and Condition 11 (arboricultural report) submitted pursuant to planning permission TM/20/01604/FL (Erection of 2 no. four bedroom houses, installation of an access road and demolition of stable block /outbuilding in woodland area to the rear)

20/02650/FL – Barnmead, Styants Bottom Road - Proposed flat roof single storey side extension .

Refused

20/02670/FL - Hope Farm, Sandy Lane, Replacement of existing garden storage/garaging detached outbuilding and hard-standing with oak framed garden storage/garaging/pool/home office detached outbuilding -

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



8.4 LOCAL PLAN – Borough Green Gardens Update - Update The Clerk asked whether Ightham PC would support Shipbourne Parish Council in writing to KALC to ask them to write to TMBC to find out what was being done to get a new Local Plan underway.

9. FINANCE & POLICY

The following accounts were submitted for payment: Proposed by Cllr Mitchem, Seconded by Cllr Burgham.

Online Transfers - Unity Trust Bank

Parish Clerk Salary & Tax February – (Standing Order)	£652.00
Gel Creative - February (Standing Order)	£50.00
Zen Internet - Business Full Fibre 2 (Standing Order)	£46.20
Smurfit Kappa – Newspaper Bin rental village hall (standing Order)	£54.00
Anthony Edwards – Churchyard and Parish Maintenance	£1,721.50
Wrotham Parish Council – Balance Professional Fees	£734.34

Cheques

Parish Clerk Expenses	£34.82
JH Service & Gardening – Grass Cutting	£720.00
EDF- Electricity Scout Pavilion	£610.42
EDF- Electricity Scout Hut	£55.28
Village Hall Insurance	£2,288.44

Current Accounts: Unity £28,576 NatWest £58, 582 Deposit Account: £116,254

Concern was raised about the very high electricity bills for the Pavilion and this will be raised with the Scouts.

9.1 Quote for Internal Audit – £400 - Approved

9.2 Clerk salary review – The Chairman proposed that the Clerks salary would be increased to level 27 of the NALC salary scale, an increase of £0.92 per hour. This was agreed and will take effect from 1st April.

10. CORRESPONDENCE – (Please email Clerk if you would like to receive information)

KALC – New Section 137 limit for 2021/22 £8.41 per elector

NALC Chief Executives Bulletin

Kent and Medway Covid-19 vaccine updates

KALC News January 2020

KALC CEO Bulletin January 2020

KCC Consultation - Various Roads in the Borough of Tonbridge and Malling - Experimental Order - 20mph speed limit – Deadline 3 March 2021.

KCC - Dunbrik Waste Transfer station in Sevenoaks will close again for essential works from 2nd February to 1st March 2021

KALC/ KCC Event: Vision Zero Strategy Consultation – Towards Safer Roads, Towns and Villages in Kent”. – Deadline 15th March

KCC Member Briefing - Environment Update January 2021

KALC Strategic Meeting with Matthew Scott PCC and Kent Police 18th March 2021 – See above. Cllr Hall reported that at the PPP meeting it was evident that the Police are surrounded by red tape as regards speeding enforcement and there was a lot of frustration from local Parishes about lack of this. The meeting closed at 21.54

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