



4/21

MINUTES

Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday 27 April 2021 via Zoom

Present: Cllr Willingham (Chairman), Cllr Holden (Vice Chairman), Cllr Clark, Cllr Emmett, Cllr Fielder, Cllr Hall, Cllr Hogarth, Cllr Mitchem, The Parish Clerk, County Cllr Rayner, Borough Cllr Betts (arrived late after attending TMBC meeting) and 2 members of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Cllr Burgham
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** - Cllr Fielder declared an interest in 4 Old Cottages.
3. **MINUTES** - The Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 March 2021 were approved with a couple of amendments. The Clerk agreed to amend them and pass to Cllr Willingham to sign.
4. **UPDATE FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR** - Cllr Rayner reported that the elections were taking place on 6th May 2021 and he was standing for re-election. Cllr Rayner reported the cessation of use of Manston Airport for vehicle control for the Port of Dover. Regarding the Local Plan, TMBC are awaiting a definitive report from the Inspectors recommending that the Plan does not go forward.

The Clerk asked Cllr Rayner about a couple of issues raised by a resident in Old Lane. One to do with the poor surface and drainage and the other about an ongoing parking problem at the junction of Old Lane and A25. It was confirmed that Old Lane was owned by KCC. Cllr Rayner said that he wouldn't be able to do anything until he is re-elected. If he is re-elected he would investigate the drainage maintenance. In relation to the parking, he has already spoken to the Head of Ightham Primary school and asked him to remind parents not to park at the junction. As a long-term solution, Cllr Rayner said a Traffic Regulation order would be needed to put double yellow lines on the junction which would then require enforcement by a TMBC Traffic Enforcement Officers. This will take some time.

UPDATE FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR – Cllr Betts reported that discretionary grants were now available from TMBC for businesses that have been impacted by Covid. Details have already been passed to Shipbourne Farmers Market. Regarding litter, Cllr Betts reported that Urbaser, who have the waste services contract, have been impacted by Covid, with tonnages going up by 70%, which has meant that resources have had to be diverted impacting the day to day street cleansing schedule. Litter has increased in villages and the mobile lane litter team has just restarted. There are mobile lane closures to access the inaccessible verges and last week TMBC employed an additional sub-contractor to clear the litter. Fly-tipping is the usually the responsibility of TMBC however KCC will intervene if a road is blocked as happened recently at Crowhurst Lane and. Fly tipping is particularly bad in Wrotham and Stansted and Cllr Betts said that this needed to be addressed. TMBC are awaiting confirmation of additional resources to deal with surveillance and gathering evidence that leads to prosecution. Cllr Emmett asked what TMBC are doing to address the litter? Cllr Betts said that much of the litter is thrown from cars and TMBC are spending around £1 million to clear it up, there is a program of litter clearing. Unfortunately, there has been a change in people habits during Covid and litter has increased. Cllr Emmet asked whether we should be taking our own initiatives? Cllr Betts said that currently these initiatives would not be Covid compliant but normally communities have litter picking projects that have also been adversely affected. Cllr Betts asked us to make him aware of any problem areas so that TMBC could allocate resources to clear them. It was reported that some of the bins were not being emptied frequently enough and now that we have several food vans operating in the area there has been an increase in food packaging waste. Cllr Betts said that this should be reported to the Waste Services Team. Cllr Emmet said that Maidstone District Council are trialling a

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dash cam system to deal with fly-tipping and Cllr Betts said that TMBC are liaising with them and will use a similar service if it is effective. Cllr Mitchem said that money would be well spent on educating not to litter in the first place and asked whether there were any programmes with local schools? Cllr Betts said that he would follow this up.

Cllr Betts left the meeting at 20.30

5. MATTERS ARISING

Highways & PROW Matters - Footpath MR614 – The Clerk reported that she had received the amended map for the footpath from PROW this morning. Cllr Fielder and Cllr Mitchem reported that they had met with the Land Agent in March who had indicated that they would remove some of the barbed wire near to the Scout field even though they weren't legally required to remove it all. Cllr Mitchem will chase this up as it hasn't yet been done and the Scouts are now using the field. The land owners are also looking to reroute part of the footpath to the original footpath and PROW had indicated that this would take 2/1/2 years.

Footpath Maps – The Clerk has yet to re-order the maps.

A resident had requested a **highways mirror** on the junction of Stone Street and Coach Road as the sight lines are obscured by a hedge. We would need to seek permission from the landowner, possibly the Plough and Cllr Willingham said that he would speak to them. Cllr Rayner confirmed that KCC wouldn't get involved but suggested that the Clerk checked with Mark Simmons at KCC.

It was reported that the condition of **Common Road** is still very poor, the Clerk has reported multiple pot holes. Potholes reported on High Cross Road near Beech Trees.

Sharing Gritter with other Parishes - It was agreed that it would be a good idea to share a gritter with other Parishes and the Clerk agreed to email Cllr Palmer at Platt PC to find out what it would involve.

Village Traffic Matters – Update from meeting with Ian Grigor. Kent Highways – Cllrs Willingham, Holden, Mitchem and Hall and the Parish Clerk met with Ian Grigor to go through out Highways Improvement Plan. Ian Grigor agreed that his Team would come back to the Parish with their comments and they will also be conducting further speed checks throughout the village. The Clerk has circulated the comments on our Plan and we have been asked to respond. Initial suggestions are that most of the speed limits in the village are correct and therefore should remain as they are. Cllr Rayner suggested that we should contact Les Henry Associates again to help with our response, especially in relation to the technical issues and pushing for a 30mph village wide limit. Cllr Mitchem said that the Parish had offered to fund the changes but some funding may be available through Vision Zero which we should investigate. Cllr Rayner said that Vision Zero would be up and running in June however the more money the Parish was able to put forward, the more we would attract from KCC. Cllr Holden said that there are many other villages in Kent that had blanket 30mph limits and we should make a note of these for our response to Kent Highways. It was agreed that the Clerk would set up a meeting with the Traffic Group and Les Henry to put forward our response to KCC.

Scout Pavilion – Defibrillator – Nothing to report. Electricity Bill – a query was raised about changing the terms of the lease regarding our payment of the electricity bills at the new pavilion which are much higher than the old pavilion. The agreement to pay the electricity bill was on the basis that the Parish Council had covered the bill at the old pavilion but the cost was only around £25 per quarter, compared to an average of £600 per quarter now. It was reported that the additional costing was due to the new HSE requirements around legionnaires, and this was similar to other new buildings such as Potters Mead. Cllr Willingham will speak to Cllr Taylor.

School/ Old Scout Hut – Update – Lease – the lease is almost finalised, and a final version has been circulated, The Clerk asked for any comments so that she would respond to the lawyers. We are

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Leathercote Corner – Ownership and hedge cutting – KCC have now suggested that the hedges may need to be cut back to improve the sight lines. We are awaiting confirmation of ownership.

Bus Shelters –Tonbridge Road – Cllr Mitchem suggested that we replace the bus stop with a wooden shelter to resolve the maintenance issue and agreed to pursue the matter. The Clerk will forward the correspondence.

Memorial Stone – New arrangements – The Clerk said that she would set up a site meeting for the installation of the memorial stone on the verge opposite the Church. The service will be held at a later date once the Covid restrictions are lifted.

6. PUBLIC

7. PLANNING

7.1 Planning Applications

TM/21/00825/FL - Land Opposite Styants Farmhouse, West of Styants Bottom Road, Seal Chart Sevenoaks, Kent. Construction of stable block with ancillary tack, hay and feed rooms, 40x20m sand school, muck heap and permeable access road/paving area. "No objection"

TM/21/00973/FL- 25 Upper Spring Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9DP. Rear infill ground floor extension. "No objection subject to TMBC's approval"

TM/21/00975/RD - Fir Bank, Coach Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0PE. Details of condition 3 (Site Plan) and 5 (Watching Brief) submitted pursuant to planning permission TM/20/01747/FL (Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and the erection of replacement dwelling). "No objection"

TM/21/01027/FL - 7 Durlings Orchard, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9HW. Extension of a 3 bedroom semi detached dwelling; a bedroom built above what is currently the garage, a single storey garden room to the rear, and a new, enclosed porch to replace the existing awning. "No objection"

TM/21/00707/LB - 2 Bank Cottages, The Street, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9HG. Listed Building Application: replace the window and metal frame in the dining room and 2nd bedroom. "No objection"

TM/21/00855/FL – Longcroft, Oldbury Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9DE. Section 73 Application: Removal of condition 3 (lattice screen) pursuant to planning permission TM/20/01413/FL (Single storey rear extension and patio). "No objection"

TM/21/00934/FL - Tarn Hows. Sandy Lane. Ivy Hatch. Sevenoaks. Kent. TN15 0PB. Proposed demolition and replacement of existing garage with a new two storey double garage to include home office and additional storage. "We strongly object on the grounds of over development in metropolitan greenbelt and AONB"

TM/21/00692/LDE – Birchwood. Ismays Road. Ivy Hatch. Sevenoaks. Kent TN15 0PA. Lawful Development Certificate Existing: Single storey rear extension used as a kitchen and utility room completed in 2013. "No comment"

TM/21/00817/FL - Mulberry Hill. Rectory Lane. Ightham. Sevenoaks. Kent TN15 9AJ. New portico and entrance steps to the north east facing elevation with associated landscaping. "No objection"

TM/21/00824/LDP – Ragstones. Mill Lane. Ightham. Sevenoaks. Kent TN15 9BH. Lawful Development Certificate Proposed: Construction of new garden room with associated landscaping. "No comment"

TM/21/00861/TPOC - 61 Nutfields. Ightham. Sevenoaks. Kent. TN15 9EA. Various tree works. "No objection"

TM/21/00932/TNCA - The Old Rectory, Rectory Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9AL. Various tree work. (Cllr Holden said that he would do a site visit)

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TM/21/00783/TNCA - 4 Old Cottages, Spring Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9DL. Norway Spruce T1 - fell because of excessive shading and low amenity value replant with birch in similar position. "No objection."

TM/21/00634/FL - 6 Nutfields, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9EA. Erection of a summerhouse. "No objection"

TM/21/00663/TPOC - Stone Acre, Copt Hall Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9DT. Split Oak T3 - fell to near ground level and cut up fallen stem. " No objection providing Liz Guthrie is content."

TM/21/00685/LB - Ightham Mote, Mote Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0NT. Listed Building Application: Replace two lengths of gutter and one downpipe to improve management of rainwater run off from roof and reduce damp penetration of masonry and drainage of South East Courtyard. "No objection."

TM/21/00752/TNCA – Corners, The Street, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent ,TN15 9HH. Beech T1 - Fell to ground level. "No objection providing Liz Guthrie is content."

7.2 Planning Applications

APPROVED

21/00369/LDP - Lawful Development Certificate Proposed: replace the front door and add a feature window over; replace two ground floor windows with one wide; replace patio doors with wider adding a window and cutting back the eaves overhang above – Reuters, Common Road, Ightham. (certifies)

21/00861/TPOC - Crab Apple T1 on front boundary: reduce back to vicinity of previous reduction points removing no more than 1m. T2 Fig on rear left hand boundary: reduce by no more than 1m and remove crossing and rubbing branches where possible. T3 Ornamental Cherry with limb growing over green house: reduce by maximum of 1.5m being sure to reduce to suitable secondary growth points. T4 Liquid amber on rear boundary: remove four hangers and make good tear points being sure not to remove any more growth. Reason for work: to keep trees within their current parameters given their location within the garden - 61 Nutfields. (Permission not required)

20/02831/LB - Listed Building Application: Installation of new services, internal walls, insulated wall/floor/ceiling linings, windows, glazed and solid doors, wood stove and flue to North West Range with associated minor landscape works; remedial works to existing building fabric - Mote Farm.

21/00120/FL - Demolition of existing bungalow, garage and outbuildings and erection of a replacement dwelling and garage – Ragstones, Mill Lane.

8.4 LOCAL PLAN – Borough Green Gardens Update - Nothing to report.

9. FINANCE & POLICY

The following accounts were submitted for payment, proposed by Cllr Mitchem and seconded by Cllr Clark.:

Online Transfers - Unity Trust Bank

Parish Clerk Salary & Expenses – (April)	£802.92
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	£953.92
R Fielder – Labour – planting at Chapel View	£40.00

Cheques

HMRC	£7.20
JH Service & Gardening – Grass Cutting	£756.00
EDF – Old Scout Hut	£39.17

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Peter Clark – Tree work at the scout hut	£3,600.00
TreeAbility -VTA	£504.00
Warners – Legal Fees	£4,927.20
R Willingham - – Labour – planting at Chapel View & Plants	£45.99
E-on – unmetered supply agreement	£55.19
BHIB – Parish Insurance Policy	£2,088.53
KALC Membership	£971.38
Selected Plants – Hedging at Chapel Row	£411.60
Laddingford Engineering - Gate repairs	(tbc)
Parish Clerk - Reimbursement No parking signs	£9.21

At the end of March 2021 - Current Accounts £106,921.68, Deposit Account £86,256.80

9.1 GDPR – Quote for Data Protection Officer – Defer to the next meeting

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

NALC Chief Executives Bulletin
Kent and Medway Covid-19 vaccine updates
KALC News April 2020
KALC CEO Bulletin April 2020
Notice of PCC & Kent County Council Elections – 6th May

11. AOB

It was reported that a motorhome had been parked on Dark Hill Road for several weeks and the Clerk was asked to report to the PCSO.

Cllr Mitchem reported that the road would need to be closed for the Coxcombe Fair in 2022 and she would get prices.

It was decided that the annual meeting would be deferred until September once the restrictions have listed. The AGM will be in May at the start of the Parish meeting. Face to face meetings must resume after 6th May.

The meeting closed at 22.08.

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