



5/21

## MINUTES

**Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday May 18<sup>th</sup> 2021 at Ightham Village Hall** to transact the undermentioned business.

**Present:** Cllr Willingham (Chairman), Cllr Holden (Vice Chairman), Cllr Burgham, Cllr Clark, Cllr Emmett, Cllr Fielder, Cllr Hall, Cllr Hogarth, Cllr Mitchem, The Parish Clerk, County Cllr Rayner and 3 members of the public.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Election** of Chairman - Cllr Willingham

**Election** of Vice Chairman – Cllr Holden

**Election** of Working Groups and Representatives:

Budget Committee – Cllr Hall, Cllr Holden and Cllr Willingham

Highways Working Group – Cllr Hall, Cllr Mitchem and Cllr Willingham

Financial Oversight – Cllr Holden

Flood Forum Representatives – Cllr Clark and Cllr Holden

Footpaths – Cllr Emmett and Cllr Fielder

Ightham Primary School - Cllr Hogarth

Ightham Tennis Club – Cllr Mitchem

National Trust, Ightham Mote – Cllr Emmett

Playground - Cllr Clark and Cllr Mitchem

Recreation Ground/ Football Club – Cllr Holden and Cllr Willingham

Scouts Representative – Cllr Holden

St Peter's Church - Cllr Hogarth

Trees - Cllr Burgham

Village Hall Representative - Cllr Willingham

Meetings - PPP/KALC/JPCTCG – Cllrs to attend on a rota

### MONTHLY MEETING

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Cllr Betts
- 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** - None
- 3. MINUTES** - The Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 April 2021 were approved and the Clerk agreed to print off a final version for signing.
- 4. UPDATE FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR** - Cllr Rayner reported that there is currently a Boundary Review of Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council. This review is in two stages – the first stage, which considers Council Size, was completed in April 2021 and concluded that the LGBC is minded to recommend that 43 councillors should serve Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council in the future. This is 11 fewer than the current number of councillors.

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The second stage of the Boundary Review, which gives consideration to future warding arrangements in the Borough started on 11 May, when the Local Government Boundary Commission for England launched a 10-week consultation and are accepting opinions and comments from the public on where ward boundaries should be in the Borough. Currently, Ightham Wrotham and Stansted are in one ward. Cllr Rayner was unsure what the split would be but the new boundaries would be operational from September/October 2021. Cllr Rayner reported that he had been re-elected and sworn in. The new Cabinet has been announced by the Committees have yet to be appointed.

**5. PUBLIC** – Cedric Read was in attendance on behalf of Friends of St Peters’, a new charity in Ightham with a focus on supporting the Church but also supporting the community with social events. 80 households have registered as members and 2 events have been planned: The Ightham Olympics on 11<sup>th</sup> September and permission was sought to use the recreation ground – agreed. The second event is the Coxcombe Fair on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2022 which coincides with the Platinum Jubilee and the 900-year anniversary of St Peters’. The Friends of St Peters’ requested that the Parish Council pay the application fee and for signage to close the road, estimated at around £2,100 including VAT. Cllr Willingham said that we would discuss this under Finance.

A member of public raised concerns about the increasing number of food vans in the layby. He said that the issues were predominantly around the noisy generators and lights. Some of the vans are “festival vans” and some of the local residents are becoming fed up with the disturbance. The Clerk confirmed that there were no trading permits required although the vans must register for a food hygiene certificate with TMBC (there is currently a 1-year delay which doesn’t impact on the ability to trade). It was reported that there was a 2 hour wait limit in the layby which was being contravened by some of the traders.

Cllr Rayner said that the issue around environmental Health and parking enforcement would be within the remit of TMBC. Cllr Rayner confirmed that there is no licensing scheme and asked whether the Parish Council wanted to go down that route? He said that it would be a lengthy process. A discussion was had around this as it would give us an element of control however it would also encourage several vendors which we would not want. It was suspected that most of the vendors would cease trading here once the Covid restrictions were fully lifted.

Cllr Rayner suggested the Clerk emailed him outlining all the issues around lights, litter, smells and noise complaints and he would ask Cllr Betts to follow it up with TMBC. This was agreed.

A member of public asked whether there were any questions from the Parish Council about the Music Festival on 26<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr Willingham asked whether the organisers had sorted an electricity supply as the quote to connect to the village hall supply had been high. The member of public said that they had come up with an alternative solution.

## 6. MATTERS ARISING

**Highways & PROW Matters** - Accidents A25 – The Clerk reported that there had been at least 2 accidents in the last week at the junction A25/Oldbury Lane/Sevenoaks Road where police and ambulance were in attendance – possibly due to the diversion in place from Borough Green Road. This highlights the challenges that we face at this junction. Cllr Rayner asked the Clerk to email him with details of the accidents so that they could be passed onto the Vision Zero Team to ask for a safety review and whether it could be one of their first projects. The Clerk reported that the crash barrier on the pavement was damaged at both ends and said that this loss of safety was a concern with school children using the route to get to school.

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Footpath MR614 – Cllr Fielder confirmed that he had spoken to the owners about the barbed wire and another diversion but there is a two and a half year backlog.

Footpath Maps – The Clerk has yet to order these.

Mirror junction Stone Street – The Clerk confirmed that we didn't need permission for a mirror on private land, the only thing we should be mindful of is the positioning so as not to spook horses. Cllr Willingham said that he would speak to the Plough about putting a mirror on their land.

Sharing Gritter with other Platt & Plaxtol PC – The Clerk has spoken to Cllr Palmer at Platt PC and has agreed to put it on the agenda for discussion in September.

Cllr Fielder reported an ongoing issues with horse manure on the pavements near to the recreation ground – Cllr Mitchem confirmed that the horses shouldn't be on pavements.

Potholes: Oldbury Lane, Spring Lane, High Cross Road – all reported.

A25 verges – overgrown vegetation – Cllr Emmett said it was no mow May.

Sewer works on Borough Green Road - There has been an ongoing problem in Borough Green near the Black Horse with the pipework and software, the sewer line is 100 years old and at capacity. The Borough Green Road in Ightham is now closed due to a crack in the pipe and sewerage is currently having to be taken away by tankers that are queuing on Haul Road. Cllr Hogarth said that the works were due to be completed at the end of the week but if the system broke again it could take months to fix. Cost estimate is around £50,000 per day.

**Village Traffic Matters** – Update – The Traffic Group have a meeting with Les Henry next Tuesday at 11am to discuss the Highways Improvement Plan.

**Scout Pavilion** – Defibrillator – Nothing to report.

**School/ Old Scout Hut** – Update – Lease – The Clerk reported that the terms have now been agreed and Warners were preparing engrossment copies for signing. The work to install the fire safety equipment has now been completed. An EPC survey has been carried out and the building is rated as category E.

**Skips** - Work to exterior cladding - Cllr Willingham reported that he was waiting for a quote for plastic cladding to cover some of the rotted timber. The Clerk has informed our insurance company.

**Ightham Football Club** – Pitch Levelling – Awaiting quote.

**Tennis Club** - Update – Lights – Cllr Willingham to contact the electrician about converting the lights to sensor activated,

**Busty Stream** - Maintenance - Cllr Holden reported that he had contacted the National Flood Forum representative about getting the Ightham Flood Forum meetings up and running again. Cllr Holden will brief Cllr Clark who will replace Cllr Cracknell and will try and set something up for June.

**Recreation Ground & Car Park** – Resurfacing – The Clerk has emailed the Architect but has yet to receive a response. Cllr Hall said that we should raise the question as to why the current surface was recommended as it had failed. Cllr Willingham has been in touch with Penfolds to say that we would revisit resurfacing next year.

Cllr Fielder asked about the edges being strimmed on the right of the recreation ground path – Cllr Willingham said that he would talk to James Hayward.

*Cllr Rayner and members of the public left the meeting at 8.45pm*

**Village Hall** - Update - CCTV – The Clerk was asked to email Cllr Taylor about costings for Cameras. Defer to next meeting.

**Crime Report/Neighbourhood Watch** - Update – Cllr Holden said that there has been reports of a car break in and an intruder on Next Door. Cllr Burgham reported an abandoned car on Fen Pond Road – Clerk to report.

**Trees** - Allotments – The Clerk reported that TreeAbility had been instructed to carry out the work recommended under the Visual Tree Assessment but they were currently operating on a 16 week lead time. Chapel Farm – Trees haven't yet been replanted and this is with the Forestry Commission. It was reported

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that Liz Guthrie has now retired from TMBC. Leathercote Corner – The Clerk reported that a Land Registry Search from KCC was inconclusive and asked Cllr Burgham to see if he could find any information about ownership of the boundary hedges on his Deeds.

**Bus Shelters** –Tonbridge Road – Cllr Mitchem suggested replacing the shelter with a wooden one – TMBC would pay for it but would hand it over to us as an asset. A discussion was had around visibility and safety and asking the local landowner to use some of his land so that it could be situated further back from the road but it was decided that we should try and clean the current shelter first.

**Memorial Stone** – New arrangements - The Clerk reported that she has met with Cllr Willingham and Doug Parry to discuss the location of the memorial stone which would be installed imminently. The memorial service will be postponed until the autumn when restrictions are lifted and we can have a proper ceremony.

## 7. PLANNING

### 7.1 Planning Applications

*It was noted that the TMBC Planning Portal was down and some of the recent applications were inaccessible, it was agreed to defer decisions for these until properly viewed.*

**TM/21/01161/LD** - The Chase, Sandy Lane, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0PB.

Lawful Development Certificate Existing: use of building as a dwelling house and building works in the form of a glazed link. “We question whether this falls within lawful development given the timescales of the various uses of the building.”

**TM/21/01188/FL** - The Coach House, Upper Brooms, Common Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9ED. Demolition of existing dwelling, replacement dwelling, associated landscaping and temporary access track. *Cllr Holden to look at this once the portal is up and running*

**TM/21/01199/FL** – Felgarth, Coach Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0HD. Proposed single storey rear and two storey side/rear extensions, front porch, internal alterations and garden patio alterations. “No objection, however, the Parish Council does object to the high fence that has been erected.”

**TM/21/01275/TNCA** – Copthall Cottage, Ismays Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9BB T1 and T2 Silver Birch - Remove as too close to neighbouring wall. *Cllr Mitchem to look at this once the portal is up and running*

**TM/21/01095/TPOC** - The Bothy and Forge Fen Pond Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9JF. Western Red Cedar T1 located in Ightham Court:, reduce height by approx. 40% and lightly trim (30cm) remaining crown to keep tree a reasonable size in its surrounding. “No objection.”

**TM/21/01152/FL** - Gibbons Lodge, Tonbridge Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9AP. Alteration to roof to enclose outside store as domestic floor space, enlarged window and replacement side porch. “No objection”

**TM/21/01191/TNCA** - The Old Forge, Sevenoaks Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9AA. Elderberry tree T1 - Fell and grind out stump on left hand boundary with Farriers Field to enable a concrete spur to be attached to existing boundary fence. “No objection”

### 7.2 Planning Applications - APPROVED

**21/00685/LB** - 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 - Ightham Mote, Mote Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks Kent TN15 0NT.

**21/00634/FL** - Erection of a summerhouse - 6 Nutfields. Ightham. Sevenoaks. Kent TN15 9EA.

**21/00752/TNCA** - Beech T1 - Fell to ground level – Corners, The Street, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9HH.

**21/00663/TPOC** - Split Oak T3 - fell to near ground level and cut up fallen stem - Stone Acre, Copt Hall Road, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9DT.

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**20/00438/LDE** - Lawful Development Certificate for Existing Use: Part of the house has been made into a flat - The Playroom, Oldbury Farm House, Oldbury Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks. Kent TN15 9DE.

### 7.3 Planning Appeals

Reuth's Nursery 20/00006 ENFNOT – Virtual Hearing opening 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 10am

### 7.4 LOCAL PLAN – Borough Green Gardens Update - Update

## 8. FINANCE & POLICY

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

### Online Transfers - Unity Trust Bank

Parish Clerk Salary – (Standing Order)	£684.40
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

### Cheques

Parish Clerk Expenses	£33.55
JH Service & Gardening – Grass Cutting	£792.00
EDF – Old Scout Hut	£592.87
EDF – New pavilion	£406.49
Ightham Primary School – Fire & Wifi installation	£4,207.23

It was agreed that we would also pay for the road closure for the Coxcombe Fair (All donations permitted under S.137 Local Government Act 1972)

## 9. CORRESPONDENCE

NALC Chief Executives Bulletin

Kent and Medway Covid-19 vaccine updates

KALC News May 2020

KALC CEO Bulletin May 2020

Request for donations: Neighbourhood Watch & Hospice in the Weald – It was agreed that we would donate £50 to Neighbourhood Watch and £100 to Hospice in the Weald.

**10. AOB** – Cllr Holden reported tree planting campaign “The Queen's Green Canopy” to mark The Platinum Jubilee in 2022 and said that we should look into this for our tree project.

Cllr Fielder reported the erosion of the bank at the junction on Spring Lane and Upper Spring Lane.

Cllr Fielder reported a camper van on a SORN on Chapel Row.

Cllr Hall reported that some of the delivery lorries for Selected Plants were getting stuck in the narrow lanes.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm and went into Part 2

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



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