

WEST KINGSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 16th December 2020 via Zoom due to Covid.

Members of the Public and Councillors who wish to raise matters.**Litter;**

It was reported a larger amount of litter in Fawkham Road thought to have been generated by the mini Mart. Clerk to report to SDC Environmental Health.

Scrathers Lane:

Back of Brands Hatch there had been some flytipping on public land in Scrathers Lane in lay bay – Clerk to report to SDC Environmental Health for them to clear.

Business Grants:

Mr Birley reported he had not received replies to enquiries about business grants during pandemic, Cllr Harrison asked for the information to be forwarded and she would, contact SDC to assist.

Cllr Parkin:

Reported she was working with SDC and parliament regarding the laws on fireworks and the use of Chinese lanterns and would keep members updated

Brands Hatch: It was reported that there would be no Resident's Day in 2021 due to unprecedented times. Brands Hatch would still run resident's passes and information would be circulated on how to apply. Mr Birley was trying to organise a Zoom meeting for the Brands Hatch Liaison group. Brands had had to make some redundancies and 80% of their staff were currently furloughed.

2022 Extra Bank holiday to celebrate the 70th year of the Queens reign.

Parish Council noted the date and would discuss any celebrations nearer the time, the date of the additional bank holiday would be 2nd 3rd Jun 2022

Village event:

Cllr Richards suggested that the Parish Council considered a village event as the resident's day at Brand hatch had been cancelled in February 2021

This would be diaried and considered later in the year depending on covid restrictions after current Lockdown.

Kingsingfield Road/ Gamecock

Cllr Richards asked if properties in Kingsingfield Road backing onto the Gamecock Field were allowed to have their own entrances onto the Field, Cllr P Bosley and Cllr Richards would take a look when Covid restrictions allowed a site visit.

SD267: Meadow bank /A20

Flooding when it rained was still taking place across the path that leads to Meadow bank making it impassable. The Clerk would report to KCC.

Planning Committee

Members present: Cllr J Watchorn (Chairman), Cllr I Bosley (Vice-chairman), Cllr Mrs P Bosley, Cllr Gray, Cllr G Christie, Cllr D King, Cllr D Land, Cllr Mrs M Richards, Cllr R Spiller & Cllr L Spencer

Cllr Parkin and one Member of the public

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Holdstock, Cllr Fothergill and Cllr Brazier

Declarations of Interest: None declared

Plans:

SE/20/03409/LDCEX; 3 Abbotswood Bungalows London Road;

Confirmation that the existing outbuilding garden/ store is lawful for use ancillary to the main house. Objection

SE/20/03386/HOUSE: Medina Bankside Kingsingfield Road ;

Hip to gable roof alterations to incorporate rear and front dormer loft conversion and ground floor rear extension. Objection

SE/20/03242/HOUSE: 80 Ash Tree Avenue:

Revised plan without Juliet Balcony. No objection

To be ratified

SE/20/03375/HOUSE : 4 Hailwood pace School Lane: Erection of a wooden summerhouse.

Objection

SE/20/03371/HOUSE: Ashenden. 20 Ashen grove Road: First floor dormer extension. Objection

SE/2003078/HOUSE: Site: Langmede Knatts Valley Road: Replacement of a rear conservatory with the same footprint and headroom.

Appeals:

APP/G2245/D/20/3261588 - SE/20/02094/HOUSE: 37 Oaklands Close:

Part demolition of existing garage, erection of detached double garage and landscaping

West Kingsdown Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting - Wednesday 16th December 2020

Members of the Parish Council: Cllr P Bosley (Chairman), Cllr G Christie (Vice-chairman), Cllr Gray, Cllr I Bosley, Cllr King, Cllr D Land, Cllr Mrs M Richards, Cllr Spiller & Cllr L Spencer Cllr J Watchorn .

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Holdstock, Cllr Fothergill and Cllr Brazier

Declarations of Interest: None were declared

Minutes of Previous Meetings:

The MINUTES of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 25th November 2020 were submitted.

It was moved from the Chair that they be signed as a true record. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

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Any Urgent Business

The Chairman ruled that any business received since the despatch of the Agenda, by reason of special circumstances, be considered, in order to avoid any undue delay and have up to date information.

Diary Item: There were no diary items

Footpaths: There were no footpath matters raised

Correspondence:

Hever Road Shops:

Works will take place to remove the grid and tree protectors and to relay some of the paving slabs surrounding the trees outside the shops that are uneven. Wood chip bark would be placed around the trees

Grants

Letters had been received from Boxing Club, Racers and the school thanking the Parish Council for the grant they had received

Finance

It was proposed by Cllr Land and seconded by Cllr King that cheques totaling £5,158.12 should be paid **ALL IN FAVOUR**

English Rural Affordable housing

Members noted the emails circulated to Members prior to the meeting. The Clerk confirmed that the layout and decision about affordable and open market homes had been presented to the Parish Council in February 2020 and not been something that the Parish Council had stipulated. Therefore the Clerk was asked to reply to Mr and Mrs Heaton and Rural Housing as it appear this was something that the two parties needed to discuss. **AGREED**

Knatts Valley Traffic Survey:

A traffic survey was carried out in Knatts Valley and Members has been circulated with the full report.

At sites 2 and 3, average vehicle speeds indicate that drivers are travelling significantly below the national speed limit and indeed below 30mph. At site 1, average vehicle speeds are again well below the national speed limit and indeed also significantly below 30mph.

When setting new speeds limits, KCC work to guidance set out in the Department for Transport circular 01/2013 'Setting Local Speed Limits' to help ensure that any speed limits are evidence-led and self-explaining, with the aim to encourage self-compliance. The key factors that should be taken into account in any decisions on local speed limits are:

- history of collisions;
- road geometry, environment and engineering;
- road function;
- composition of road users (including existing and potential levels of vulnerable road users);
- existing traffic speeds;

The recent safety record along this stretch of the road is excellent with only one recorded injury collision within the last three years (up to 30th June 2020).

The road is rural in nature and property density is very sparse, with those present being set back from the road. The low vehicle numbers suggest that the road isn't used as a through road and is probably predominately used for access. The road is very narrow with a number of accesses along it but few bends or junctions. There are no footways or street lighting present. There is some evidence of cyclists using this road.

KCC must also bear in mind that the vast majority of the rural road network is subject to the national speed limit of 60mph on single carriageway roads. On many of these roads, the majority of drivers are travelling below, sometimes significantly below the speed limit, as they are at this location, because of the geometric characteristics of the road, which includes narrow carriageway widths, bends, junctions and accesses. Drivers will often drive to what they can see on the road ahead rather than up to the national speed limit and there are only terminal signs at each end of the speed limit, with no repeater signage throughout. This would change with a reduction in the speed limit and there is a risk that drivers may believe that it is safe to travel at higher and therefore more inappropriate speeds. In the past we have seen instances where a reduction in the speed limit has led to an increase in vehicle speeds as drivers choose to drive to the new speed limit rather than the actual road conditions.

Taking all these factors into consideration, KCC would suggest that at the current time a reduction to a 30mph speed limit is not necessary as the traffic data has ultimately evidenced that the average speeds are already below this. Members noted the content and agreed no need for further action, due t6o date received.

ALL IN FAVOUR

Village Hall update:

No further update as the hall remained closed except for the boxing gym in accordance with government legislation.

Church Woods Update

The Church Wood Management Committee had been successful with the stewardship grant and would receive £2,000 a year. Recently fires had been started, found and been put out. An amount of rubbish including beer cans and bottles had been left. This had been happening on Friday and Saturdays and Police and Community Warden had been notified.

Old School update:

No further update as the site remains closed except for preschool, in line with government regulations

Newsletter items.

Church woods
Traffic survey
Community cupboard
Villager day and residents passes
Flood defences

Matters arising:

No matters arising

Dates of Next meetings in to held virtually

Planning and General purpose committee Monday 4th January 2021 if required

Precept - Finance Committee Monday 11th January 2021

Planning and Parish Council meeting Wednesday 27th January 2021

Meeting closed at 8.40pm