

WEST KINGSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning and General Purpose Committee held Monday 12th April 2021

Conducted via Zoom due to Covid 19 starting at 7.30pm.

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

Chairman opened the meeting with the following statement

"On the sad passing of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, the Parish Council conveys to Her Majesty the Queen and members of the Royal Family our Members condolences and gives thanks for the life long service the Duke gave to our country.

We therefore started this meeting with a minute silence."

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Holdstock and Cllr Christie

2 Declarations of Interest: None

3. Plans:

SE/21/00940/FUL: Homestead 38 Ashen Grove Road:

Demolition of existing dwelling house and erection of a one 4 bed dwelling house - Comment

SE/21/00989/HOUSE: 5 Hailwood Place School Lane:

Erection of Pergola - Objection

SE/21/00971/HOUSE: 5 Hailwood Place School Lane:

Replacement garage and erection of orangey with roof lights - Ojection

SE/21/00911/CONVAR: Knatts Valley caravan Park. Knatts Valley Road

Removal of condition 6 (Soft Landscaping within 3 months) and 7 (surface water, external layout, storage of refuse and recycling, amenity building erected with 6 months of the date of this decision shall be implemented) of 20/02635/FUL to proposed creation of an additional 3 gypsy traveller pitches - objection

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

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Holdstock and Cllr Christie

2 Declarations of Interest: No declarations declared

Royal Family _ Due to Covid restrictions the book of condolences would be online through the Royal website

Footpaths:**BR291:**

It was noted that a further extension had been granted by KCC and the Clerk was asked to confirm the reason for extension. Also noted that there appeared to be works taking place at Highfield Piggeries and the Clerk was asked to get an update from Planning enforcement,

Correspondence:**Buses**

We had received a letter from a resident regarding the buses at the furthest end of the village and Cllr Richards has responded to this. The clerk has also checked with KCC and asked why the buses terminate at the Portobello. The reason given is the numbers using that end of the village does not financially justify running the service further along the A20. This service was stopped several years back and this is the first comment received. Cllr Richards had written in response to the letter received.

Precept:

Members have had one request to explain why the precept has risen by 3.9% as it was commented with everything shut down what expenditure would have taken place and therefore the Council would have saved monies. The Chairman will respond to the letter and ask the Clerk to send.

Burial ground:**A. Extension:**

The Clerk met with the land owner offering land as a possible Burial ground. The Land measures approximately 200m x 80/90m wide. It has one tree and is currently grass. Access would need to be made from the road and paths created but very limited clearing works. The landowner is going to confirm the actual size of the plot he is prepared to sell to the Parish and then the Clerk has advised him that the Council will need to go to the District valuation office for a valuation before discussing the cost of the purchase. It was a positive meeting. The Clerk confirm the sizes were awaited from the landowner before a District Valuer could be instructed, It was also discussed that a pre planning meeting to be held with SDC in conjunction to see if the new land would be granted the benefit of change of use otherwise there would be no benefit to having the land if it could not be used for Burials.

B. Wooden Cross Memorial

One of the memorials that had recently had a full permanent memorial had kept the temporary cross on the plot. However this has been concreted into the ground and the cross bolted to that concrete. Its erected behind the permanent headstone and therefore is above regulation height by a considerable amount The Clerk has written to the family in February and asked for its removal and a second letter had been sent to the family (who live locally) requesting the cross is removed by a certain date otherwise the Council will have to remove it. It was agreed members would look at the next working party to consider its removal.

C. Memorials

Recently when clearing Christmas wreaths the Clerk had noted a lot of pots, compost, tools in some cases that are being left behind headstones. This will make it increasingly difficult for the grounds contractors as they start the season. It is suggested by the Clerk for Members to consider that a small working party meets (Adhering to Covid Guidelines and moves the items onto the grave space (7x3), if a laminated note was left with those moved items it would explain why the items have been moved and asking families to take home those items. This would be completed at the next working party Wednesday 21st April

Recreation Ground

An inspection is due of the recreation ground. Two Members are required to meet and inspect. Cllr Land kindly attended this week to replace a missing bolt on the swings. Cllr Land and Cllr I Bosley to completed the inspection. The Clerk would drop off the inspection sheet to Cllr I Bosley.

The Community Cupboard building:

Planning permission had been granted for the extension to the building and the Community Cupboards are in the process of obtaining quotes for these works to take place. The front door that is not secure as the door will not shut or lock is being looked at and it is hope that the door can be replaced as part of the improvements to the building but making the entrance wider and disabled access available.

The graffiti project that is at the back of the building from its days as a youth hut has remained and has currently a black curtain in front of it. It divides a void that is behind that is a small loft space, originally when it was thought the building may have a due use of Cupboard project and youth work that was why the curtain was put there and the graffiti left. However as the project as evolved and the youth services funding not been available members are asked if although not to remove entirely the graffiti but whether perhaps insulated boarding could be erected in front on that wall.

1. So that the full wall can be used for racking,
2. To help with keeping the heat and reducing the bills could be considered.

Members were happy for a wider entrance and the door and wider entrance Members also were happy for boarding to go in front of the graffiti project to help insulation and also to aid an additional blank wall for racking and additional storage

9. Gamecock Pavilion:

Football resumed last week and the caretaker opened for the use of the toilets only half hour before and half hour after the game at their request and in line with Covid guidelines. The caretaker was present and cleaned after. Hand sanitiser was also provided with one door being used to limit the spread of Covid. Football teams have asked that changing rooms start to reopen from Monday 12th April. Members are asked to discuss before a response is given to the football teams. According to stage 2 of the pathway out of Covid indoor leisure inc. gyms for individual use. Organise indoor sport is under step 3 starting May 17th .

Members are asked to consider

FA website quote “Changing rooms can be used as part of step two of the Government’s roadmap out of lockdown. However, participants should minimise their use of changing facilities where possible. Toilets will be allowed to open, 30 minutes before and 30 minutes after training and/or matches.”

Members have to consider this is not a football ground only and is a public building. The rooms do not allow enough space to social distance and there is a concern for being able control numbers in the building. The Football club have said they could just use 6 players in a changing room but also want more than one changing room open. The rule of 6 is outside meeting is outside only and others groups for that building and the Parish office all are required to remain closed.

Members discussed the request to open the changing rooms and in line with Government guidelines and Covid restrictions it was agreed the building would not be opened other than the use of the toilets to the footballers until the 17th May as this was under stage 3 of the pathway out of Covid guidance.

AGREED BY ALL

Dates of Next meetings in April 2021

Burial ground working party Wednesday 21st April at burial Ground 1.30pm

Annual Parish Meeting: Wednesday 28th April 7.30pm via Zoom

Planning and Parish Council meeting: Wednesday 28th April 7.30pm via Zoom

Mays meetings to be confirmed when clearer guidance is given regarding virtual meetings currently being challenged as the extension to this was not grated after 7th May.

Meeting closed at 20.47