

58
WEST KINGSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting held on 24th March 2021 via zoom

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

Litter:

The Clean up Sevenoaks weekend had been good around the village and many people in the Community had been out picking up litter.

Pot Holes:

Reported many Pot holes along the A20. Cllr Brazier agreed to visit the area, remedial works had taken place on some of the holes but further works would be required.

Brands Hatch

The liaison group had been cancelled and Rod Birley was hoping that Brands Hatch would set a rescheduled date

Planning Committee

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

Cllr Fothergill, Cllr Parkin. Cllr Brazier and one resident

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Gray and Cllr Christie

Declarations of Interest: No declarations declared

Plans:

SE/21/00580/FUL: Axstane House Nursery Axstane House, Hever Road:

Demolition of existing nursery building and erection of class E convenience store - Objection

SE/21/00737/HOUSE: 22 Hazeldene Close :

Single storey rear and part side extension. No objection

SE/21/00779/HOUSE: 5 The Briars:

Single storey rear extension with roof lights. No objection

SE/21/00261/HOUSE 2 Hailwood Place:

Part two single part storey side and rear extension - Objection

SE/21/00714/HOUSE: 10 Stacklands Close:

Demolition of an existing single garage and single storey timber framed outbuilding and replacing with a new single storey rear extension, No objection

West Kingsdown Parish Council Wednesday 24th March 2021

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

Cllr Fothergill, Cllr Parkin. Cllr Brazier and one resident

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Gray and Cllr Christie

Declarations of Interest: One declaration Cllr P Bosley on the finance cheque list

Minutes of Previous Meetings:

The MINUTES of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 24th February 2021 were submitted.

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

The MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 24th February 2021 were submitted.

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

The MINUTES of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 8th March 2021 were submitted.

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

The MINUTES of the General Purpose Committee Meeting held on Monday 8th March 2021 were submitted. It was moved from the Chair that they be signed as a true record.

ALL IN FAVOUR

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.

Footpaths:**Viking Way/ Oaklands Close:**

The footpath between these roads is closed and awaiting resurfacing. Cllr Brazier would check with KCC for a date when works would begin.

Correspondence:**Highways forward works programme**

Kent County Council has now published a forward works programme setting out the renewal and maintenance work which we intend to carry out to our highway network over the next five years., including works to roads and pavements, streetlights, drainage systems, traffic lights, bridges, tunnels and trees.

More information about how KCC manage highway infrastructure may be found on KCC website:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-and-policies/transport-and-highways-policies/managing-highway-infrastructure>

RECEIVED

Skate park:**An email had been received regarding a possible event at the Skatepark**

“Some colleagues and I would like to explore the opportunity of running a charity outdoor event at the West Kingsdown Skatepark (and surrounding park area) in the summer of this year (all Covid restriction guidance pending of course).

We are looking for an appropriate skate park with space surrounding, to host a family-friendly charity fundraising event including skate competition, music and food vendors. We are also in discussion with Maidstone Borough Council about using some spaces in Maidstone also.

As former residents of the village (organisers are all 35+ now!), with family still living there, we have an affinity still with the village and feel it could be a positive addition to the council’s summer plans, as well as offering some much needed positivity and PR.

With our collective experience, we are more than well-versed in the operation of such an event including security, sound/light, marketing and PR.

We’d appreciate any feedback on the concept and would love to hear from you if this is something we could explore together. James Gray”

Members discussed this proposal and asked the Clerk to find out further information regarding dates for the event itself and the charity that would be benefiting. and come back to Council **AGREED**

Kingsdown FC

The Clerk had been approached regarding fund raising projects and the plans that the football teams had for an annual event to bring the community together. It is hoped this year would be the first event of many allowed and all monies would be given back to the Parish for improvement of the Gamecock site, not just for football use but to improve all facilities. The first project would be to raise funds for the floodlights and tennis courts for an all weather pitch to allow all year round training. Any events would be closely worked with the Clerk and any permissions or ups would come back to the Council. Any further funding from hiring out the improved facilities at the tennis courts would come back to the Parish Council. Members agreed that this event could take place with the Clerk involved in the dates. Members fully supported the concept. **AGREED**

Street naming

Street Naming Consultation: Viking Way / Hever Avenue development

Sevenoaks District Council has received an application from the developers of the forthcoming housing scheme on land north of Viking Way / east of Hever Avenue, for a name of the new road in the scheme. The properties would normally be addressed as Viking Way but, as this is a gated development, the developer has requested a separate road name. SDC are now consulting West Kingsdown Parish Council for views on the new name.

The developer has suggested that the new road name be Williams Place.

SDC would appreciate comments on the suggestion, or if have any alternative suggestions that may take into consideration. SDC have on record a previous request from the Council for a potential name for consideration for any new road in the Parish, that of John Stiggers, the most highly decorated person on the Parish war memorial.

SDC encourage developers to propose road names that reflect the character, history, or features of the area around their development. There are a few key requirements on the potential choice of road names, in order to comply with national address standards (BS 7666): The names of living personalities will not be used. The name chosen must not be similar to road names already in use in the area to avoid the potential for confusion.

Following discussion, Members would not support the name of Williams Place and discussed options, Ash Tree Close had a similar situation and where the new build was then called Ash Tree Court. Members also listened to resident's suggestions of something related to racing such as Brain Jones or Murray Walker both commentators who had both recently passed away.

Members agreed that the Clerk should suggest that the name Viking Court for the four new houses or just be incorporated into Viking way as many of the homes there were named anyway. **AGREED**

Finance

The Finance papers were circulated to Members prior to the meeting and it was noted that an income of £18,835.94 had been received. It was proposed by Cllr Spencer and seconded by Cllr Richards that payments totalling £16,066.90 be paid **8 ALL IN FAVOUR**

Cllr P Bosley abstained

Minimum wage :

From first April 2021 the minimum wage rises to £8.91. The litter picker for the Parish Council is currently on £8.72 per hour. It was noted and agreed that all staff on minimum wage would raise t £8.91 from 1st April. **AGREED**

Recreation Ground:

Following Members discussion regarding updating and upgrading the recreation ground in Hever Avenue the Clerk has met with two play companies to chat about design and costs. One company had provided a plan and the second Kompan have suggested as part of the process

before plans are drawn up that a consultation with children and parents is initiated so that the community have a say in what equipment would be enjoyed by the younger users of the park. This Community engagement could then form part of any additional funds on top of the CIL money for grant applications and help with accessibility grants for disabled users. This consultation, if Members agree, could be compiled by Kompan and the Clerk and take the form of an online survey linking with the primary school.

Kompan make no charge for this and then a better idea of costs and the right equipment could be proposed to members. It is important if the Parish Council are to spend a considerable amount of money on a refurbishment/upgrade project that we get it right and consultation would help with local support for spending funds.

Members discussed and agreed that the wider community should be asked for their views and it was proposed through the Chair that the Clerk would contact Kompan and liaise with them regarding a survey and linking with primary school. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

Affordable Housing:

English Rural have updated with their progress on discussions with Mr and Mrs Heaton regarding an affordable housing scheme in School Lane, They have agreed a new proposal for 10 affordable homes and two open market sale bungalows for cross-subsidy (plus the Heatons property).

Both parties are pleased that an agreement has been reached that both parties find acceptable. It is hoped that the Parish Council are happy with the proposal. English Rural will be advising solicitors to complete the Option Agreement so that the commissioning of surveys and reports can be completed prior to full planning application. There will of course be a consultation event (currently English Rural are running them on-line) once preliminary plans have been prepared to seek comments from the wider community. **NOTED**

Allotments:

Following allotment holders clearing the vegetation and the ivy that was climbing the boundary wall members were emailed to consider the hire of a skip or a one off bonfire, controlled by allotments holders to clear the vegetation. Members indicated in favour of the one off bonfire. On a recent visit to the allotments they are being kept well and the majority of plot holders have made a start ready for this season. There were three vacant plats this year but these have all been re allocated. **AGREED**

Burial ground extension

Mr Hayes who owns land behind Springhams Cottages in Fawkham Road is happy to start discussions with the Parish Council regarding the possibility of the Parish Council purchasing an area of land to be used as a Burial Ground. Members discussed and agreed that the Clerk should have a site meeting and also ask the District Valuation office to value the said land and then bring back to Members to discuss further. **AGREED**

Oaklands Close:

As part of the Openreach providing fibre optics to West Kingsdown the Clerk has been contacted as the Parish Council owns the green at Oaklands Close. They need to dig a drench along the edge of the green to install the cables and permission has been given by the Clerk and the land will be left in the condition it was found. **NOTED**

Village Hall update during Covid and the path out of lockdown :

Remains closed but will open for limited use when government guidelines and restrictions are lifted ON 12th April.

Church Woods Update during Covid and the path out of lockdown :

Site meeting following rule of 6 arranged for 29th March

Old School update during Covid and the path out of lockdown :

Remains closed but will open for limited use when government guidelines and restrictions are lifted, Pre school going back to using the old school building after Easter

Newsletter items.

Charity event
Litter picking
Street names
Affordable housing

Matters arising:

Salt Bins – Southfield Road

This had now been put back in place and refilled

Dates of Next meetings in to held virtually

Planning and General Purpose Committee: Monday 12th April 2021 at 7.30pm

Annual Parish Meeting Wednesday 28th April at 7.30pm

Followed by Planning and Parish Council meeting: Wednesday 28th April 2021

Meeting closed at 20.40pm