

WEST KINGSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd January 2019 at School Lane West Kingsdown.

Members of the Parish Council: Cllr M Stoneham (Chairman), Cllr A Illingworth, Cllr I Bosley, Cllr Mrs P Bosley, Cllr G Christie, Cllr V Codling, Cllr Miss J Holdstock, Cllr A Illingworth, Cllr D Land, Cllr Mrs M Richards, Cllr Mrs J Watchorn. One member of the public and Cllr Brazier.

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

Cllr P Bosley reported that inconsiderate parking in Gillies road was making it impossible for a resident to ride on her disability scooter without having to go onto the road. Clerk would report to PCSO and ask if something can be done to resolve the problem.

Millfield Road. There was a van parked opposite 72 Millfield Road making it difficult for other neighbours to get in and out of their drives. Again the Clerk would ask the PCSO to investigate.

London Road abandoned Van:

Mr Birley reported there had been a van parked in front of his property on London road. Had been reported to police, DVLA and now has a sticker on it. Expected to be removed by SDC within the next week.

Land behind Catholic Church Fawkham Road:

Shop owners in Fawkham road had been approached by a developer regarding plans to build a retirement village, starter homes and provide a car park for residents and to help school traffic. The Chairman replied that the PC had received no information or formal application for planning permission and until any formal application was made the Council would make no comment.

Household waste:

Cllr Brazier reported that KCC would be charging for the disposal of rubble and earth at a rate of £4 per bag and £6 per bag for plasterboard. He had voiced his view that the consultation had not been in support of this and he had spoken at KCC that this will in fact increase the flytipping problem but this concern was not supported by Kent County Council and they will be implementing these charges.

Planning Committee**Apologies for Absence:**

Declarations of Interest: Cllr I Bosley for planning as Member of the Planning development committee.

Cllr Christie for item relating to Unit 9 as lived nearby.

Plans:

SE/118/03818/HOUSE:15 Warland Close: Demolition of garden outbuilding. Erection of a single storey rear and side extension. Demolition of porch. Objection and comment

SE/18/03951/FUL: Unit 9 Clearways Industrial Estate. New First floor to create Office Space. Comment.

Cllr Holdstock arrived

SE/18/03743/CONVAR: Tyro, St Clere Hill Road: Variation of condition 2 of application 17/02970/FUL: to continued use of lawful building as a residential dwelling including demolition of outbuilding with the amendment to demolish building 7 and retain building 9. Objection and comment

West Kingsdown Parish Council Wednesday 23rd January 2019

Parish Council Meeting**Apologies for absence.**

Declaration of Interests relating to items on the Agenda: There were no declarations made

Election of a vice Chairman of the Parish Council Chairman and the Chairman of the General purposes Committee.

These vacancies follow the resignation of the positions from Cllr Yarnold.

It was proposed through the chair and seconded by Cllr Watchorn that Cllr Illingworth would become the vice chairman of the Parish Council.

It was proposed by Cllr I Bosley and seconded by Cllr Land that Cllr Illingworth should be Chairman of the General purposes committee.

There were no other nominations for these positions and Cllr Illingworth was declared elected.

AGREED

To The MINUTES of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 10th December 2018 were submitted.
 It was moved from the chair that they be signed as a true record. **ALL IN FAVOUR**
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 To The MINUTES of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 7th January 2019 were submitted.
 It was moved from the chair that they be signed as a true record. **ALL IN FAVOUR**
 The MINUTES of the General Purposes Committee held on Monday 7th January 2019 were submitted.
 It was moved from the chair that they be signed as a true record. **ALL IN FAVOUR**
 The MINUTES of the Finance Committee held on Monday 7th January 2019 were submitted.
 It was moved from the chair that they be signed as a true record. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

Rulings:

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:**Maplescombe Farm:**

Farningham Parish Council have copied the Parish Council into an email they have sent to SDC asking for an update, as yet no response has been received. This matter would be diared for March. **DIARY MARCH**

Footpaths: No footpath matters were raised

Correspondence:**19/01 Police and PCSO cover**

An email has been received from Sargent P Ballard after the Clerks forum that commented about the lack of visits and visual presence the Parishes were reporting.

His e mail is as Follows

I am contacting you in relation to some feedback about a lack of contact recently with your local officers.

It has been a very demanding period for us within the community safety team and unfortunately our staffing numbers of operational PCSO's has taken a hit recently.

To give you an idea of the issues, we should have an establishment of 12 PCSO's, 4 at each operational station of Swanley, Sevenoaks and Edenbridge.

We currently have 9, and of these, 1 is on paternity leave and another injured and not expected to return to full operational duties for some time.

Taking into account rest days, annual leave and training/courses we find ourselves having only 2 or 3 officers working on any one day and having to cover each other's workloads across the whole of the Sevenoaks district.

As I'm sure you can appreciate the officers workloads have therefore increased as they deal with the everyday demands of their areas, their colleagues areas, the general tasks generated in house as well as the calls coming in constantly from members of the public. As such they haven't been able to maintain the contact we would ideally like with you all.

I can assure you the issue has been raised within our organisation and new officers will be appointed to us during March, there will be a period of operational training and once this is complete we should be back to a full establishment of 12 officers in April/May where I fully expect everything to be as it should be. In the interim we are also receiving support from Maidstone community support officers to deal with general call handling as and when they have suitable officer numbers to supply us.

In the meantime can I please ask for your understanding. I have requested that your PCSO's make contact with you via email on a fortnightly basis and likewise please contact them should you need to discuss any issues, I must stress however that you should not contact the PCSO's via email to report a crime or other issue which requires immediate attention due to the potential that it may not be addressed or recorded in the correct manner, please continue to use 101 or the Kent Police website.

Cllr P Bosley had met the Chief Constable and he has confirmed he has no intention of reducing the number of PCSOs or Officers in Kent. **RECEIVED**

Church Woods Management Committee:

The weekly work parties continue. At the moment this involves clearing around the young trees planted in 2015. The annual survey has been carried out and the contractor has just started on the safety work.

The committee has agreed to have a new management plan drawn up in order to get into the latest grant scheme.

RECEIVED**Old School – Water supply**

Members will be aware that there had been problems with the water supply and leaks in the old pipework that had caused large water bills. A new supply was put in last summer to the old Main Building. Following the recent burst it is now proposed to renew the old pipework to the middle of the car park area, to a manhole in which the supply was taken when the new buildings were built in 1999/2000. This will then mean that the whole site has water being supplied in new pipework.

An estimate has been received from the contractor who put in the new supply to the main building, Macmole of Maidstone, quoting a sum of between £3500 - £4000 plus VAT.

The Old School Management Committee therefore requested the Parish Council to consider this project in order to ensure a safe and reliable water supply to the whole site. The Parish Council agreed that the works needed to take place and that as owners of the site they would meet the cost from the property funds.

AGREED

Finance It was noted that income totalling £1,311.73 had been received and it was proposed through the Chair that cheques totalling £17,428.56 should be paid.

ALL IN FAVOUR**Land to the rear of 15 Warland Road:**

A resident from 15 Warland Road had asked whether the Parish Council would consider selling a piece of land at the rear of his home that is managed by Church Woods Management Committee. The Parish Council has in the past refused the sale of such land. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Watchorn and seconded by Cllr Codling that the Council will not sell the land in question. The Clerk would inform the resident.

ALL IN FAVOUR**Affordable Housing:**

An update has been received from Tessa O` Sullivan following her correspondence with potential land owners and a list will be tabled for Members.

Liz Crockford has emailed to inform the Council that she is waiting for the Planning Department at SDC to give their responses to possible land not be used for affordable housing but currently the Planning team at SDC are extremely busy with the local plan, which closed to the public on 3rd February and will be submitted to the full SDC council on 26th March. It is unlikely that any comments from them will be received back whilst the local plan is running.

Once a site is secured, Hastoe will draw up a layout of the site and specify number and size of units for the Parish Council's comments. Once that has all been agreed a public consultation event will be held in the parish for residents of West Kingsdown to view and comment on – it will be a drop-in event rather than a public meeting. After that, Hastoe would apply for planning but won't actually purchase the site until planning permission has been achieved (this is agreed between the landowner and Hastoe). Hastoe's contact John Lefever is retiring at the end of March and when a replacement is appointed will we be informed

DIARY MARCH**Bollards Hever road Shops:**

The Clerk would ask Cllr Yarnold when he is expected to complete the work to the bollard and the loose step at the Hever Road shops

RECEIVED**Boules Pitch:**

Kiara had enquired about using the Boules pitch, we would need to have it weeded and sprayed and possibly more chippings/stones onto the pitch to make it playable. The Clerk had asked Abel Landscaped for a quote for these works. The Boules pitch would require considerable work to bring it to a level of being able to be played on.

The Clerk would contact Mr A Porter and ask how frequently Kiara would be using the pitch. This would be bought back to Council for consideration of an agreement and charge to be made if any.

Elections:

An email had been circulated to members laying out the timetable for election taking place on 2nd May. An article was also being published in Sekam for the March edition.

Sevenoaks District Fun Days:

Bookings have opened for summer fun days provided from SDC. The Clerk had booked Friday 2nd August and also Friday 12th April as there were 4 Easter slots being offered. The Village Hall has been provisionally booked for the Easter session.

To date the Summer Play scheme cheque had not been chased and it is thought the scheme may not run this year but that is yet to be confirmed. The grant may be returned and can be used for youth activities.

Recreation ground fencing repair:

Weatherly fencing had quoted to repair the damage that had occurred on the front gates of the recreation Ground in Hever Avenue. They will need to replace both rails and the necessary palings, the costing to carry out these works would be £420.00 + Vat. It was proposed through the Chair that the council accept the quote and authorise the Clerk to inform Weatherly Fencing to carry out the works.

AGREED**Newsletter items.**

Elections

SDC Fun Days

Matters arising:**Defibrillator**

The Clerk has been liaising with Community heartbeat, they have contacted BT regarding re installing the power supply.

Hayes Farm

Cllr I Bosley had chased SDC for an update. They are awaiting a statement from enforcement officer and then they can then issue legal action.

Village Hall

Sound reduction panels had been installed to one hall and had made a difference to the acoustics, Thank was given to Cllr Brazier who had awarded a grant from his Members fund. The Management committee had been awarded a grant of £9,000 which meant they would now be able to put the sound reduction into the second hall.

Pavilion heaters

It transpired that a different type of heater would be required for the pavilion and office, these would be able to be on a timer for the days when the rooms are used, the cost of these would be £1,071, It was agreed that the additional cost to change the heaters would be accepted this was proposed by Cllr P Bosley and seconded by Cllr Stoneham that the works should go ahead and the Clerk would be able to contact the electrician, Dave Allaway to start work to replace and improve the heating at the pavilion.

ALL IN FAVOUR**Flytipping and rubbish rear of the Co op**

Due to weather conditions the clear up in the car park at the rear of the co op had had to be cancelled and a new date was set for 4th February at 8.30am

Dates of Next meetings 2019

Monday 11th February 2019 -7.30pm at Old School Hall - General Purposes Committee

Wednesday 27th February 2019 – 7.30pm Old School Hall - Parish Council

Meeting closed at 8.51pm